**Tal Lee Anderman**

Tal Lee will graduate with a Bachelor degree in Sustainable Development in May 2012. While studying International Development at the University of California, Los Angeles Tal Lee moved to New York City and enrolled in the Alvin Alley School of American dance to pursue her dream of becoming a professional dancer. However, her passion for engaging complex problems and a desire to become more directly involved in poverty alleviation inspired her to apply back to school.

Tal Lee is a founding board member of the Student Union for Sustainable Development, and acts as the Liaison to the Earth Institute as well as Head of Finance. She can be found working alongside mentors Prof Ruth DeFries and Lamont Scientist Roseline Remans on her Senior Honors Thesis, analyzing the impact of changing from subsistence to cash crop farming on households in the Millennium Village of Bonsaaso, Ghana and at a regional scale in Peru, by measuring tradeoffs in well-being such as nutrition, food security and the provision of ecosystem services. In the summer of 2011 she also participated in the Global Honors College in Singapore. Tal Lee’s dedication to her studies has earned her achievements such as Dean’s list, a place in the Honors Society, and two awards of the Global Fellows in Sustainable Development, a grant from the Earth Institute provided to support work abroad.

**JD Capuano**

Areas of expertise/interest: **Sustainability Strategy and Operations**

JD Capuano is a 2nd year Masters student in Sustainability Management. His studies are interdisciplinary in nature, integrating sustainability with management, science, economics, policy, and finance. JD is the co-founder and co-CEO of Closed Loop Advisors, LLC, a start-up that both provides sustainability strategy and operations consulting services to medium-sized businesses and non-profits, and is developing web-based sustainability management tools for small organizations. He serves on his school’s class gift committee and is active
in the Sustainability Management Entrepreneur Club. JD holds a Bachelors degree in Business Administration from the University of Pittsburgh.

JD’s interest in the Earth Institute is rooted in a passion for translating how the application of cutting-edge knowledge and principles produced by Earth Institute scientists can help businesses transform and grow.

**Tyler Carson**

Areas of expertise/interest: **Urban hydrology; low-impact development; geo-environmental applications; beneficial reuse of waste and recycled materials**

Tyler Carson is a 1st year PhD student in Civil Engineering. His research focuses on the application of green infrastructure to improve water management; a part of this research includes the development of novel green roof substrates from recycled and waste materials to optimize performance and cost. Tyler’s research, advised by Dr. Patricia Culligan, is funded by the National Science Foundation Grant #0928604, the National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Fellowship and other private organizations, such as ConEdison. He is a member of Columbia University Engineers Without Borders, a student organization which partners with underprivileged communities around the world in an effort to provide sustainable solutions for water, energy, sanitation and other infrastructural problems. Tyler holds Bachelor’s degrees in Civil Engineering and Architectural Engineering from Drexel University, as well as a Master’s degree in Civil Engineering from Columbia University.

Tyler’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from his desire to engage students in a range of disciplines in an effort to develop interdisciplinary approaches to topics related to water.

**Marshall Cox**

Areas of expertise/interest: **Electronics, Optics, Energy Efficiency**

Marshall Cox is a 4th year PhD student in Electrical Engineering. His research, which focuses on organic electronics and thin-film systems integration, is funded by the Department of Energy for the development of new renewable energy technologies. Marshall is a founder and acting CEO of two Columbia University startups: Chromation, a company developing a novel miniature spectrometer, and Radiator Labs, a company commercializing a radiator retrofit for building heating efficiency. He is an InSITE Fellow and a Student Leadership
Fellow, two organizations that concentrate on entrepreneurial excellence. Marshall holds a Master’s and Bachelor’s degree in Materials Science from Cornell University.

Marshall’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from his experience and research in renewable energy, and his desire to become more involved in the policy associated with these issues.

**Briana Dema**

Areas of expertise/interests: **Environmental Law**

Briana Dema is a 3rd year J.D. student at Columbia Law School. Her primary areas of study include environmental and climate change law. Briana is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law*, one of the leading environmental law journals in the country. She is an Environmental Law Society Board Member and has participated in the Columbia Environmental Law Clinic for the past two years. She is also a student member of The Explorers Club, where she has served on the Youth Activity Fund Committee. Briana graduated *cum laude* from Columbia College with honors in History.

Briana’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from her desire to be part of an interdisciplinary community dedicated to solving the many complex environmental challenges facing our world today.

**Robert S. Eshelman**

Areas of expertise/interests: **Climate Change, Environment, Energy**

Robert S. Eshelman is a student in the Graduate School of Journalism’s Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Program in Health and Science Journalism. Robert is a writer and holds a degree in Arabic and Middle Eastern studies from Columbia University.

Robert’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from his journalist work and desire to interact with others who work in academic disciplines related to the climate, environment, and sustainable development.

**Rowan Finnegan**

Areas of expertise/interests: **Family Business Dynamics, Sustainable Asset Management, Food and Cooking**
Rowan Galway Finnegan is a senior at the Columbia University School of General Studies. His focus is on economics and sustainable development. Rowan comes from a background in the arts, and is intent on applying non-linear thinking to a career in sustainability-focused investment management. He is especially interested in renewable energy, electronic mobility, and cradle-to-cradle and family businesses.

Rowan’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from his exposure to the refreshing and clarifying perspective of hard science and research taught by the professors of the Earth Institute.

**Adiel Gavish**

Areas of expertise/interests: **Sustainability, Biomimicry, Systems Thinking, Cross Sector Partnerships**

Adiel Gavish is a student in the Master of Science in Sustainability Management. Adiel is currently developing innovation and design workshops based on biomimicry, a science that studies nature's transcending principles and strategies of sustainable, regenerative design and applies them to create sustainable solutions. She has 7 years of non-profit experience as the program director of a grassroots environmental advocacy organization. Adiel currently works with the Green Breakfast Club, organizing monthly networking and resource exchange events for social and green entrepreneurs to help accelerate their startups.

Adiel’s interest in the Earth Institute, having conducted research for the Program on Strategic Partnerships and Innovation, stems from the belief that cross-sector, cross-industry partnerships, that leverage the unique assets of each, will be integral to creating a sustainable future.

**Chao Huang**

Areas of interests: **Environmental Law, Conservation**

Chao Huang is a 2nd year student at Columbia Law School. He currently takes a wide variety of courses including Environmental Law and will soon join Columbia Law School’s Environmental Law Clinic. Chao is the Community Liaison for the Environmental Law Society. He is also a student coach for the Columbia’s Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition team. Chao holds a degree in Economics and International and Global Studies from Brandeis University.
Chao’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from the desire to help coordinate environmental awareness around campus and meet environmentalists from different academic disciplines.

**Sebastien Huberti**

Sebastian was born in Chicago, IL, but raised in Brussels, Belgium. He left home at 17 to attend the United World Colleges, an organization gathering students from around the world in an effort to promote peace, and international understanding. This was his first exposure to the cultural diversity of the world, and it played an important role in his education and principles. After UWC, he went to Lausanne (Switzerland) where he studied micro-engineering and did a Masters in manufacturing technology.

Sebastian then started working as quality assurance engineer in the medical technology field, but quickly felt the need to travel more. He applied as a field engineer at Alstom Power, where he performed power plant inspections and trouble-shooting worldwide. The financial aspects of energy markets quickly caught his interest, and he decided to pursue an MBA at Columbia. His post-MBA goals are under constant change, but he is looking for an activity that allows him to leverage both his engineering experience and the MBA skills, while travelling and discovering new countries, new people, and new trends.

**Ravi Kumar**

Ravi Kumar is a M.S candidate at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. He is a Toni Stabile Fellow for Investigative Journalism with a digital media concentration. Kumar is a Co-founder of Grassroot Movement in Nepal (GMIN), a NY based non-profit that renovates schools in remote parts of Nepal. He is a webmaster for Society of Professional Journalists at Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. Kumar holds a bachelor degree in political science and media studies from Buena Vista University, IA.

Kumar’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from his interest in building environment friendly schools in remote parts of Nepal.

**Phoebe Leung**

Phoebe is a student in the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), pursuing a Master of Public Administration in Development Practice (MPA-DP).
Though originally from Hong Kong, Phoebe has lived and worked in Southeast Asia and East Africa. Prior to Columbia, she worked in Cambodia with the International Labour Organization (ILO) at both the policy and project levels, focusing on youth unemployment, child labor and social protection. Since starting her MPA-DP degree, she has cultivated an interest in social performance management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and organizational and process improvement in public and social sector organizations. Last summer, she worked with the Government of Mozambique and the Millennium Villages Project to diagnose the performance and management of multi-sectoral interventions in five villages. She also interns at Women’s World Banking and consults on a voluntary basis on setting up M&E systems in the development context. In her spare time, she enjoys playing basketball and hanging out with friends.

**Maya Mandel**

Prior to attending Columbia Business School, Maya was the Product Manager for Charging and Smart Energy Management at Better Place, the leading global service provider for electrical vehicles. In addition to her responsibilities for the end-to-end charging solution to be commercially deployed in Israel, Denmark and Australia, Maya also had a leading system-architecture role in stabilizing the system and preparing it for real-world operations. Prior to her work at Better Place, Maya was a captain in the Israeli Defense Forces, where she received the IDF Chief of Staff Outstanding Officer Award for the Israeli 60th Independence Day. Maya graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Michigan College of Engineering (2004), where she was also a member of the Women’s Swimming & Diving team and served as a student-athlete representative on the Advisory Board on Intercollegiate Athletics.

**Hayley Martinez**

Area of expertise/interests: *Environmental Health Policy, Climate Change*

Hayley is currently in her 1st year at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University and pursuing a Master of Public Health in Environmental Health Policy. Hayley graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2010 with a B.S. in Psychobiology and Global Studies Minor. It was at UCLA that Hayley became interested in the Public Health field, volunteering for a student organization that was highly involved in health education and providing low cost health resources for community members. Hayley was always interested in environmental issues, and was ecstatic to find a graduate program that focused
on the human health effects of various environmental phenomena. She recently became involved in Students for Environmental Action at Columbia, and will serve as co-President beginning in 2012. Hayley’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from a budding enthusiasm for climate change policy as well as processes of sustainable development.

Andrew McCornack

Areas of expertise/interest: Sustainable Development, Environmental Policy, Globalization

Andrew McCornack is a one-year MPA student in Environmental Science and Policy at SIPA. He is focusing on international environmental policy, corporate accountability, and climate change mitigation. Prior to attending Columbia, Andrew worked as a development consultant with nonprofit organizations in Beirut, Lebanon and in Washington, DC. He completed a Master in Social Anthropology with Development at the University of Edinburgh, UK in 2004.

Andrew’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from its interdisciplinary nature, focusing on “scientific research, education and practical solutions.” His interests span many EI areas of study: poverty, climate and society, water, urbanization, and ecosystem health.

Case Prager

Areas of expertise/interests: Ecosystem services, biodiversity-ecosystem function, tropical forest ecology

Case Prager is a 1st year PhD student in the department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B). Prager is a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, and her research focuses on the impacts of land use change and land conversion on the stability of ecosystem services. She is also interested in exploring the link between biodiversity and the functioning of tropical agro-ecological systems. In addition, Prager is interested in communicating her research to policy makers, and in integrating an understanding of the value of natural ecosystems into other disciplines. She holds an MA in Conservation Biology from Columbia and a BA in Science and Society from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California.

Prager’s interest in the Earth Institute is driven by her research on ecosystem services and ecosystem function research, her desire to incorporate additional
facets of environmental science into ecological research, and her interest in the science-society interface.

**Jennifer Romeo**

Areas of expertise/interest: **Experience and Interactive Design, Construction and Fabrication**

Jennifer Romeo is a Master of Architecture student at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. Jennifer believes good interactive and physical design develop positive people experiences and is interested in how people interact with objects, interfaces, their built environment, and most importantly, other people. Prior to starting graduate school, Jennifer engaged this curiosity as an Experience Design Strategist, performing user research and developing the conceptual and information design of interactive interfaces. In graduate school, she extends that interest to the built environment. Jennifer holds a degree in Business Economics from Andrews University.

Jennifer’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from her interest in understanding how Architects can work with and learn from other disciplines in order to design and build environments that are more sustainable and, therefore, more efficient.

**Meg Sutton**

Areas of expertise/interest: Areas of expertise include **dynamical and statistical climate forecasting, and climate risk management**. Academic interests include the translation and validation of seasonal to long term climate forecasts to aide in climate management on the regional level.

Meg Sutton is a student in the MA program in Climate and Society. Her current area of academic focus includes applications of short and long term climate forecasts to create tailored regional climate information applicable to decision making. Meg is an avid backcountry skier and participates in wilderness conservation programs. She is also a co-founder of the Columbia Wine and Beer Society, and will focus on the analysis of the sustainability of the wine industry. Meg holds a degree in Physics from the University of Vermont.

Meg’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from the cohesive interaction of core earth sciences, policy and management essential to address the many and complex current challenges in our world.
Marissa Tremblay

Areas of expertise/interests: Paleoclimate, tectonics, science education, undergraduate research opportunities

Marissa Tremblay is a senior in the Barnard College Environmental Science Department. Since her first year at Barnard, Marissa has worked on research projects related to how the climate has changed over Earth’s history. She has conducted research at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory for the past three years and has had summer research internships at the University of Texas Austin and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. She hopes to merge her interest in paleoclimate with her other field of research—tectonic processes—as a Ph.D. student beginning in fall 2012.

Marissa is the president of the Columbia Hiking Club, a student representative on the Barnard Committee on Instruction, and a member of the Columbia Club Volleyball team. She spent the fall of 2010 sailing from Hawaii to Tahiti on a two-mast tall ship through SEA Semester, and is currently working on her Barnard Centennial Scholars project, focusing on how perceptions of wilderness and nature have transformed over the past century.

Marissa has been involved in several undergraduate programs in the Columbia University community sponsored by the Earth Institute, including research opportunities and field trips.

Kelsey Umemoto

Kelsey Umemoto is an environmental science major at Barnard College in the class of 2013. She has interned at the New York City Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation and the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies. Kelsey received an Earth Institute research assistantship in the spring of 2010 to conduct research on enterococci in the Hudson River. She is currently the Marketing Director of Consilience: The Journal of Sustainable Development and is conducting research at Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory on the feasibility of carbon capture and storage in the Newark Basin.

Lauren Weisenfluh

Lauren Weisenfluh is a 1st year Master of Public Health candidate at the Mailman School of Public Health, pursuing a concentration in Epidemiology. She is also a new college graduate. This past June, she received a B.S. in Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity with a minor in Anthropology from the University of
California, Davis. Her undergraduate studies allowed her to pursue a degree and research in some ecologically fascinating locations— including Bodega Marine Laboratory and the Monteverde Institute in Costa Rica—a far cry from the hustle and bustle of New York City.

While Lauren’s interests have evolved over the years, they all stem from an interest in problems that lie within the intersection of anthropology and ecology. After working on many conservation biology research projects, she discovered the urgency of other issues—including the availability of basic needs, such as clean water, food, and shelter—that prevent people from pursuing conservation projects. That’s when she discovered public health—the ultimate incentive for taking care of our planet. Since then, she has been hooked to epidemiology (a discipline that looks to measure the distribution and causes of disease), and has explored her interests within the context of both environmental and infectious disease epidemiology. She has a strong interest in emerging infectious disease, the use of social media to predict pandemics, and how climate change is affecting public health.

**Natalia Zakharova**

Areas of expertise/interests: *applied geophysics, carbon sequestration, energy resources.*

Natalia is a PhD student in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and a Graduate Research Assistant in Borehole Research group at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Her current research focuses on geophysical prospecting for geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide, but she is also interested in a wide range of climate change mitigation strategies, energy technologies, and communication/education strategies in climate-related issues. She is co-founder and co-chair of the Interuniversity Student Initiative in Carbon Sequestration (ISICS) that promotes networking and interdisciplinary collaboration between graduate students and early professionals in the field. Natalia holds BS and MS degrees in geology and geophysics from Moscow State University (Russia).

Natalia’s interest in the Earth Institute stems from the appreciation of cross-disciplinary dialog and from her desire to increase awareness about carbon sequestration options, and to learn about Earth Institute’s resources and opportunities.