

## See the Wind Inside Aiken

**Interns: Will Kelleher, Caroline Galliani**

**Mentors: Bert Henderson, David Raphael, Gary Hawley**

Will Kelleher (Wildlife Biology, '20) and Caroline Galliani (Environmental Studies, '20) have paired up this semester in Gary Hawley's Greening of Rubenstein Interns class to work on two projects in and around the Aiken Center. The first project is a display that will be located above the north-facing, first-level entrance of Aiken. It has always been a goal for the Rubenstein School to have students feel as close to nature as possible, even while inside. The color scheme and architecture of the building have achieved much of that feeling, and we propose a moving display that will revolve at different speeds depending upon outdoor wind speed. With the assistance of Bert Henderson (Electrical Engineering, '20) the goal is to design a device that spins at a rate that fluctuates with and reflects the real wind speed outside. Therefore, as wind speed outside changes throughout the day, so will the speed of the display.

The Aiken Center already has a meteorological station on the green roof, including an anemometer which is constantly monitoring the direction and speed of the wind. Determining the pieces and parts of what will spin the display is still in progress, but as of now we have narrowed in on what the visual components will look like. The idea is to have multiple long, eco-friendly fabrics that hang down about 8 feet from the ceiling from a metal circular ring. Each fabric will be colored to match the colors used in the building, and they will have weights at the bottom that allow them to open up and spread out, making a noticeable difference. Using Photoshop, we have created example images of the final project.

For our second project, we hope to help facilitate the installation of an edible garden that was designed by several previous Greening Interns groups in the past couple of years. We are working with a local landscaping company and landscape architect David Raphael (Rubenstein School lecturer) to create an edible garden enclosed by two circular 10-inch high rock walls. This is a project that has been in the works for several years and has gone through numerous permits and regulation steps in order to be installed. The garden will be located between the Aiken Building and the Davis Center. Greening of Rubenstein will likely team up with the Horticulture Club to plant Allegheny Serviceberries, Black Chokeberries, Wild Strawberries, Lowbush Blueberries, Northern Highbush Blueberries, and Lingonberries. As mentioned before, implementation for the Landscaping Project has been approved, however we are still waiting on final approval for funding. If this project is not completed this spring, we hope it will be implemented soon.

We believe that both of these projects would be great additions to the Aiken Center and reflect a desire the faculty and students share to continue the idea of including the environment in everything we do.

