4-1-2011

Furman, Bank of America join forces for sustainability boot camp

Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine

Recommended Citation
University, Furman (2011) "Furman, Bank of America join forces for sustainability boot camp," Furman Magazine: Vol. 54 : Iss. 1 , Article 23.
Available at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol54/iss1/23

This Article is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines. For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.
Faculty approves new major in sustainability science

IN KEEPING WITH the university’s emphasis on sustainability, the Furman faculty has approved the establishment of a major in the emerging field of sustainability science, making Furman one of the first institutions to offer such a multidisciplinary program.

Administered by the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, the new major focuses on the complex relationships among human, social and environmental systems, and how changes in one system directly or indirectly affect the others. Brannon Andersen, chair of the department, says many of Furman’s EES majors have expressed an interest in earning degrees in sustainability science.

The new major features a core group of five courses: Principles of Sustainability Science, Environmental Science, Human Systems, Social Systems, and Dynamic Systems Modeling. They are designed to enable students to understand the interactions of varying systems and how they affect environmental, human and social quality.

Major will also complete five sustainability-related elective courses chosen from 13 departments, and will complete a senior thesis. Based on current listings with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Kean University in New Jersey is the only other institution in the United States that offers a Bachelor of Science degree in sustainability science.

The addition of the major gives Furman an even broader array of curricular options in the field of sustainability. Since the implementation of the university’s new curriculum in 2008, students have been required to complete at least one course that focuses on the relationship between humans and the natural environment.

The CCPD will develop and implement the “Small Business Boot Camp,” a hands-on program that will detail sustainable business practices which can reduce operating costs, increase revenues and build social responsibility. The first boot camp, based upon the “Furman Sustainability Framework for Small Business,” will be held this fall.

Topics will include how to develop and maintain green facilities, operating processes, and products or services. The program will also provide educational tools for analyzing and reducing energy usage, water consumption and waste creation.

Furman faculty will help lead the program and provide ongoing support for projects implemented by participating businesses.

The participants will be supported by a dedicated Web portal providing access to additional content, tools and techniques. Stacy Brandon, Greenville president of Bank of America, said, “As a global company committed to addressing climate change, the bank is pleased to continue our support of Furman’s sustainability efforts by helping educate local businesses on how to create sustainable business models that are essential to prosper in the 21st century.”

To help promote a “green” economy in South Carolina, the CCFD will develop and implement the “Small Business Boot Camp,” a hands-on program that will detail sustainable business practices which can reduce operating costs, increase revenues and build social responsibility. The first boot camp, based upon the “Furman Sustainability Framework for Small Business,” will be held this fall.

Topics will include how to develop and maintain green facilities, operating processes, and products or services. The program will also provide educational tools for analyzing and reducing energy usage, water consumption and waste creation.

Furman faculty will help lead the program and provide ongoing support for projects implemented by participating businesses.

The participants will be supported by a dedicated Web portal providing access to additional content, tools and techniques. Stacy Brandon, Greenville president of Bank of America, said, “As a global company committed to addressing climate change, the bank is pleased to continue our support of Furman’s sustainability efforts by helping educate local businesses on how to create sustainable business models that are essential to prosper in the 21st century.”

To visit the website at www.zahp.com.

Far from their former home in Greenville, two Paladins are making waves north of the border.

The city of Vancouver, British Columbia, has been eagerly awaiting this spring’s promotion of the Vancouver Whitecaps FC to Major League Soccer. The franchise has long been targeted by MLS to build on the success of the Seattle Sounders FC with the goal of making the Pacific Northwest the premier region for soccer in North America. Among the players in line to help lead the Whitecaps’ efforts are two members of Furman’s Class of 2008, Bruno Salinas and Jonathan Leathers, both of whom were selected by the club in November’s expansion draft.

After completing their college eligibility, Salinas (left photo) and Leathers (heading ball, right) became the first Paladins to be drafted into MLS since Clent Dempsey in 2004. Salinas, a midfielder, was selected by the San Jose (Calif.) Earthquakes, with whom he played two seasons before joining the Philadelphia Union in 2010. Leathers, a defender, was taken by the Kansas City Wizards (now Sporting Kansas City), where he spent the last three seasons.

The two hope that their knowledge of each other’s games, built during their Furman years, will translate to success on the pitch in Vancouver. “Sometimes it’s so easy you wonder everybody out there,” Leathers said during a break in training camp. “It adds to camaraderie during training.”

Although fans and the league’s media may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about buying into the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Salinas says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Leathers says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

The City of Vancouver, British Columbia, has been eagerly awaiting this spring’s promotion of the Vancouver Whitecaps FC to Major League Soccer. The franchise has long been targeted by MLS to build on the success of the Seattle Sounders FC with the goal of making the Pacific Northwest the premier region for soccer in North America. Among the players in line to help lead the Whitecaps’ efforts are two members of Furman’s Class of 2008, Bruno Salinas and Jonathan Leathers, both of whom were selected by the club in November’s expansion draft.

After completing their college eligibility, Salinas (left photo) and Leathers (heading ball, right) became the first Paladins to be drafted into MLS since Clent Dempsey in 2004. Salinas, a midfielder, was selected by the San Jose (Calif.) Earthquakes, with whom he played two seasons before joining the Philadelphia Union in 2010. Leathers, a defender, was taken by the Kansas City Wizards (now Sporting Kansas City), where he spent the last three seasons.

The two hope that their knowledge of each other’s games, built during their Furman years, will translate to success on the pitch in Vancouver. “Sometimes it’s so easy you wonder everybody out there,” Leathers said during a break in training camp. “It adds to camaraderie during training.”

Although fans and the league’s media may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about buying into the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Salinas says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Leathers says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

The Whitecaps entered MLS this spring with the Portland Timbers, and both expansion franchises are eager to challenge Seattle’s status as one of the league’s most successful clubs. To help emphasize regional ties, the three teams met for a series of preseason matches hosted by the Sounders in early March. Fans of each team stood, sang and chanted throughout the contests, despite the chilly Northwest weather. “I think the rivalry in the league seems to stem more from fans than the teams do play,” Salinas says.

Leathers, from Atlanta, Ga., senses that the enthusiasm for soccer in the Northwest is indicative of burgeoning interest in the sport in general. “The culture in America is all about success,” he says, “and as we continue to get competitive and build better, people will grow in popularity and more people will want to take up the sport.”

Although fans and the league’s media may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about buying into the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Salinas says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Leathers says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

To follow the Furman duo’s efforts this spring, visit http://whitecapsfc.com.

The author, a 2009 graduate, is pursuing a master’s degree in sport administration and leadership at Seattle University.

Julie Swinson, 20, have been adapting to the climate and cost of living.

“I thought San Jose was really expensive, but this is a step above that,” he says. “Going from San Jose to Philadelphia to Vancouver, it’s tough to build up a savings account in those three cities. And we see the sun yesterday for the first time. But it’s not really that cold, it’s more of a temperate climate. It’s just wet. I think soccer is a better sport when things are wet — the ball moves faster, you can slide-tackle better, and your defender slips.”

The Whitecaps entered MLS this spring with the Portland Timbers, and both expansion franchises are eager to challenge Seattle’s status as one of the league’s most successful clubs. To help emphasize regional ties, the three teams met for a series of preseason matches hosted by the Sounders in early March. Fans of each team stood, sang and chanted throughout the contests, despite the chilly Northwest weather. “I think the rivalry in the league seems to stem more from fans than the teams do play,” Salinas says.

Leathers, from Atlanta, Ga., senses that the enthusiasm for soccer in the Northwest is indicative of burgeoning interest in the sport in general. “The culture in America is all about success,” he says, “and as we continue to get competitive and build better, people will grow in popularity and more people will want to take up the sport.”

Although fans and the league’s media may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about buying into the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Salinas says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Leathers says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

To follow the Furman duo’s efforts this spring, visit http://whitecapsfc.com.

The author, a 2009 graduate, is pursuing a master’s degree in sport administration and leadership at Seattle University.

Julie Swinson, 20, have been adapting to the climate and cost of living.

“I thought San Jose was really expensive, but this is a step above that,” he says. “Going from San Jose to Philadelphia to Vancouver, it’s tough to build up a savings account in those three cities. And we see the sun yesterday for the first time. But it’s not really that cold, it’s more of a temperate climate. It’s just wet. I think soccer is a better sport when things are wet — the ball moves faster, you can slide-tackle better, and your defender slips.”

The Whitecaps entered MLS this spring with the Portland Timbers, and both expansion franchises are eager to challenge Seattle’s status as one of the league’s most successful clubs. To help emphasize regional ties, the three teams met for a series of preseason matches hosted by the Sounders in early March. Fans of each team stood, sang and chanted throughout the contests, despite the chilly Northwest weather. “I think the rivalry in the league seems to stem more from fans than the teams do play,” Salinas says.

Leathers, from Atlanta, Ga., senses that the enthusiasm for soccer in the Northwest is indicative of burgeoning interest in the sport in general. “The culture in America is all about success,” he says, “and as we continue to get competitive and build better, people will grow in popularity and more people will want to take up the sport.”

Although fans and the league’s media may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about buying into the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Salinas says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Leathers says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

To follow the Furman duo’s efforts this spring, visit http://whitecapsfc.com.

The author, a 2009 graduate, is pursuing a master’s degree in sport administration and leadership at Seattle University.