

CONCORDIA  UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

6 March 2002

Ms. Deb Scrivens
Metro Parks and Greenspaces
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

Re: Project: Community Education NW
Contract No: 921705

Dear Deb:

This letter is to follow up on our conversation of 11 December 2001 concerning subject grant to establish an Urban Community Educational Northwest Native Species Garden.

As we discussed, one of the primary goals of this grant was to involve our partner schools, St. Michaels Preschool and Faubion Elementary School in an educational, hands on program. Due to a number of things, including State mandated testing requirements, the priorities of Faubion Elementary School have been significantly altered since the date of inception of the grant. Additionally, the Preschool at St. Michaels has not grown as envisioned. Accordingly, in reviewing the project and notwithstanding the year's extension which was granted (until June 2002) by Metro, we have reluctantly concluded that we will be unable to meet our educational goals as planned and, as we agreed, that it would be more appropriate at this juncture for us to jointly terminate the contract for convenience (*see*, Section 10 of Contract No: 921705).

In order to complete the closeout of this contract, attached is the final report (Attachment (1)) and Request for Reimbursement/final billing, with receipts as appropriate (Attachment (2)). We have discussed this termination with our partners who interpose no objection.

We very much appreciate your support in this project. We regret any inconvenience, however, we have had an outstanding experience working with you, Metro, and the USFWS and we have been able to do a number of things that we would have been unable to do without the grant and your superb support.

Sincerely,


David A. Albrecht

Final Report

Urban Community Educational Northwest Native Species Garden

Grant Description: Development of an Urban Community Educational Northwest Native Species Garden (NWG) on approximately 7000 square feet of unoccupied property on the Campus of Concordia University, which is in close proximity to Faubion Elementary School and St. Michael's Preschool.

Project Goal: To establish an urban educational experience, which compliments Oregon State Educational Standards, centered around a garden that showcases and features native northwest species of plants for students, from grade school through college, and for the community.

Objectives:

To provide an educational neighborhood urban garden that features representative samples of Northwest native plants which the students of Concordia University, Faubion Elementary School, St. Michael's Pre School, and the Community at large can study and observe.

To provide, through the NWG, a hands-on learning experience that includes mentoring elementary school and pre-school students by Concordia Students, and "in the dirt" opportunities for students and the community at large.

To provide an educational opportunity for the community to view and learn about northwest native plants for possible inclusion in their own gardens.

To provide a green space of relative solitude for contemplation and relaxation in a highly urbanized area.

Progress: Enclosures (1) and (2) are the progress reports submitted to METRO in June of 2000 and June 2001 respectively. The completion date was extended to June 2002 in 2001 by enclosure (3). Subsequent to the actions outlined in enclosure (2), in addition to routine maintenance of the garden, several attempts at integration with Faubion were undertaken and some new plants were added to the garden in October 2002.

Project termination: In December 2001 METRO and Concordia University agreed to a termination of the grant for convenience. The basis of this termination included, *inter alia*:

Unfortunately, at about the time the original grant was proffered by METRO, the public school system, and Faubion Elementary School in particular, was overwhelmed by attempting to integrate Oregon State mandated testing requirements. This mandate, as it

turned out, greatly reduced the ability of Faubion to commit its energies to how to utilize the NW Garden. Accordingly, notwithstanding numerous efforts to assist the faculty and staff (including a faculty and staff briefing by the METRO Education Director, Lynn Wilson), the task of attempting to integrate the NWG into the curriculum proved to be too daunting. Without this key educational emphasis, the fundamental goal of the project became unattainable.)

St. Michael's preschool had similar difficulties in integrating the garden into its curriculum. Here the problem was also related to the small size of the preschool.

Teacher training at Concordia to conform to changing State of Oregon mandates, particularly in the Master of Arts in Teaching degree, and the time constraints placed on student teachers (which also did not coincide with elementary student availability) precluded the degree of involvement that is required to fully implement the goals and objectives of the grant. (At one point Concordia assigned a student teacher to the school to attempt to assist in the integration of the NWG into the curriculum. This was not effective either because of time constraints.)

Successes of the Grant:

Notwithstanding the disappointment in not being able to integrate the NWG into the educational curriculum of the schools, the project was able to host almost 400 students and afford them the opportunity to plant some plants in the Fall of 2000 – *see* progress report and photographs attached, enclosure (2).

Notably, the garden itself was a source of solitude and enjoyment for many in the Community. Many of the children who had planted in the Garden brought their parents to the NWG to show them where they had planted their particular plant.

By December 2001, almost 100 different northwest native species of plants were in the NWG. Enclosure (4) is a listing of the plants in the garden. A substantial portion of these plants will be transplanted to the Concordia University Retreat along the Clackamas River to enhance the wildlife and be part of our reforestation/wetland revegetation efforts.

The NW Garden provided the impetus for Concordia University hosting a very successful Naturescaping for Clean Rivers session for the community in April 2000 (*see* enclosure (5)).

Lessons learned:

An outside institution, such as Concordia University, is limited in its ability to assist schools in a project such as this. Relative to the educational portion, the initiative for the project must come from within the schools and there has to be a significant and dedicated buy-in by the faculty and staff and preferably the parents.

An institution such as Concordia University is best suited for a supporting role, one which is limited to logistics or one which can be integrated directly into student teaching, particularly into the science curriculum – which again should be a school initiative.

Recommendations:

Educational grants by higher educational units which are going to integrate with elementary, middle or high school should be driven by the elementary, middle or high school. Universities and Colleges often will not have compatible goals within time frames that are convenient to both.

Grant Description:

Development of an Urban Community Educational Northwest Native Species Garden on approximately 7000 square feet of unoccupied property on the Campus of Concordia University, which is in close proximity to Faubion Elementary School and St Michael's Preschool.

Progress:

The Garden has been laid out with appropriate barkdust paths. Sections have been covered with plastic to prepare them for student projects during the fall of 00.

Two plantings of native species (trees, shrubs, bulbs) have occurred – one in December 99 and one in March 00 (over 200 plants have been planted by students and staff of Concordia). Another planting is scheduled for early June.

Numerous planning sessions have been held between Concordia University, St. Michael's Preschool, and Faubion Faculties. This included a presentation by Lynn Wilson to the Faculties at Faubion. Faubion and St. Michael's faculties, at the individual grade level, are deciding what sorts of projects they want in their portion of the garden. We anticipate an overall planning session prior to the end of the school year.

Initial resource materials have been procured and placed at Faubion School. We anticipate a section of Concordia University's library will highlight native species plant resources.

Funding from PGE and other sources has been more than sufficient for the initial phases of this project.

A composting unit is being developed as part the Garden.

Challenges:

To coordinate the planning and execution phases of the project.

Integration of community and educational goals.

Solutions:

Develop packaged educational units for St. Michael's and Faubion as teachers determine their projects for next year. Appropriate planning and procurement of resources will have to take place over the summer to be able to move into fall projects.

Broaden community involvement and expedite garden mapping and signage.

Integrate art into the project – mural competition to stimulate interest and tiles to label projects.

Synergistic outcomes:

In a recent review of the Master Plans for Concordia University, the architects were very impressed with the NW Garden concept and are seriously considering using it as a unifying theme for the campus.



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Progress:

The highlight of our efforts in the Garden to date was in October/November when, under the direction of our Heads Grounds Keeper, every student at Faubion Elementary School got the opportunity to come into the Garden and dig in the dirt and plant a plant. They were given an introduction to the garden, encouraged to look at all of the names of the plants, and to test the temperature of the compost piles in the Garden. Almost 400 students visited/worked in the Garden during this period. (See photographs)

Utilizing landscaping timbers, a section of the garden was divided into smaller plots in which to place specific types of plants and for individualized classroom work.

In addition to December 99 and March 00 planting events, additional gardening events were held in October/November 00 and in February 01 (over 600 plants have been planted by students and staff of Concordia and Faubion). Another planting is scheduled for the Fall of 01.

Continuing planning sessions have been held between Concordia University and Faubion School. We are striving to have an art project for the garden in the near future.

Temporary signage was put into place.

Additional resource materials have been procured and placed at Faubion School.

Challenges:

Continue to coordinate the planning and execution phases of the project.

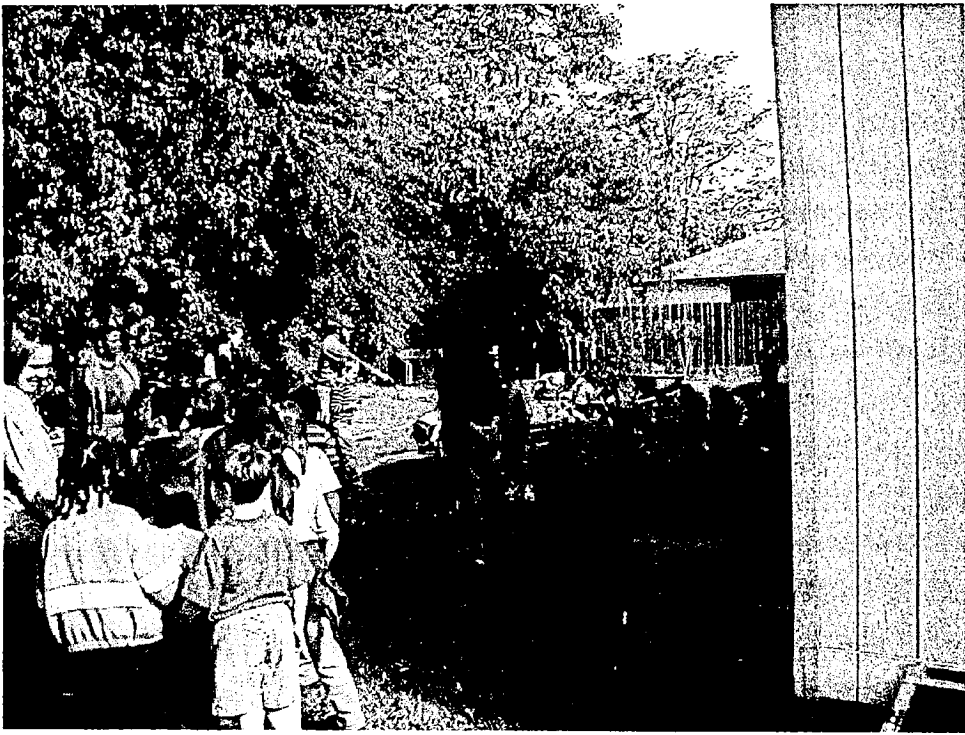
Further integrate community and educational goals.

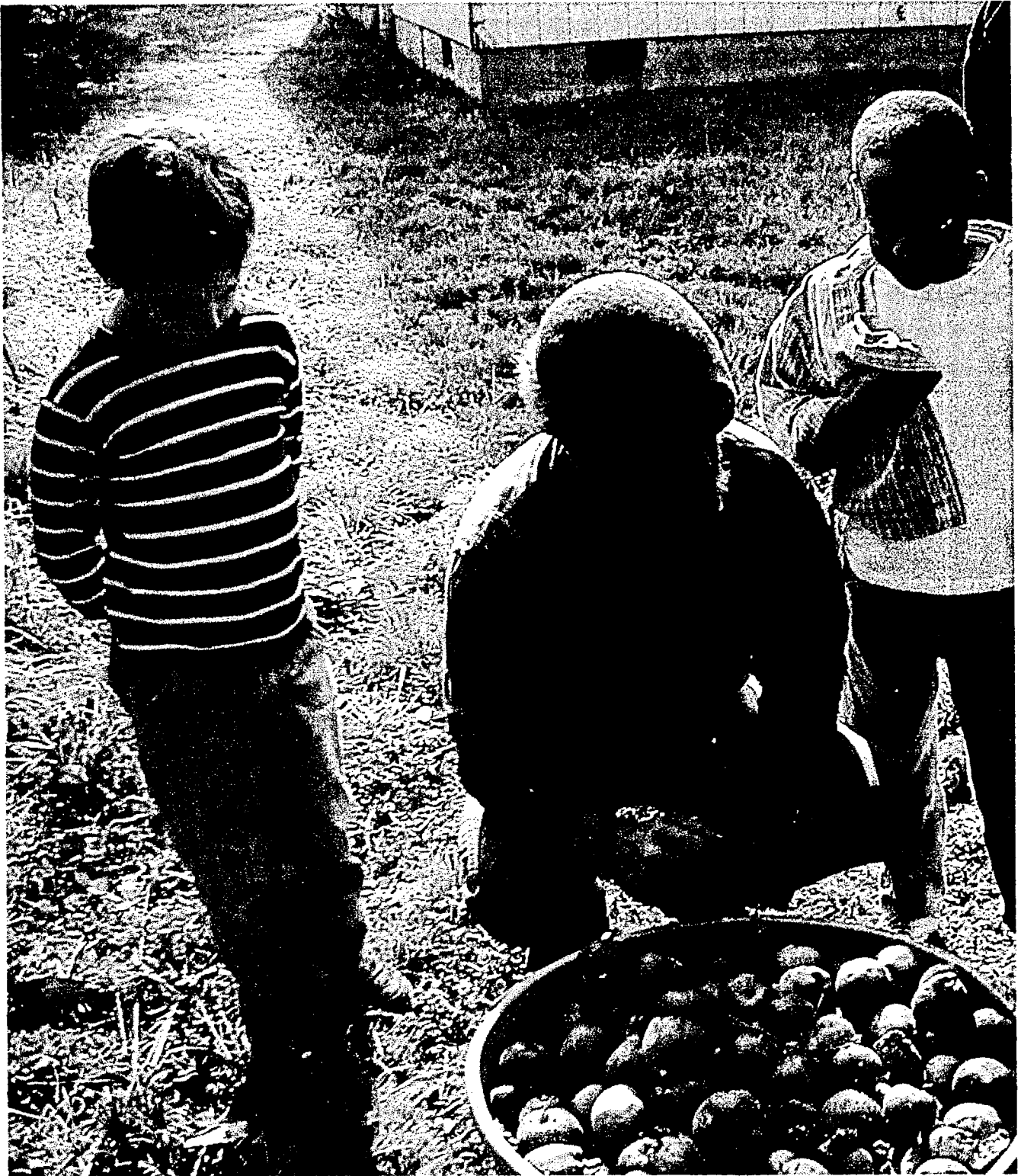
Solutions:

Concordia University has an Americorps volunteer assigned to it. It is anticipated that this individual, for next year, will become more involved in the Garden.

Broaden community involvement and expedite more permanent garden mapping and signage.

Find an appropriate art project to integrate into the garden.





Dave Albrecht

From: Mark Rosenau
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2001 8:00 AM
To: Dave Albrecht
Cc: Mark Rosenau
Subject: NW Garden

Dave,

Here's the new plants and the complete, updated list:

Port Orford Cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)
Baker Cypress (*Cupressus bakerii*)
Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*)
Devil's Club (*Oplopanax horridus*)
Golden Currant (*Ribes aureum*)
Clustered Rose (*Rosa pisocarpa*)
Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pulularis*)
Gooseberry (*Ribes speciosum*)
Western White Pine (*Pinus monticola*)
Coast Pine (*Pinus contorta*)
Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*)
Western Crabapple (*Malus fusca*)

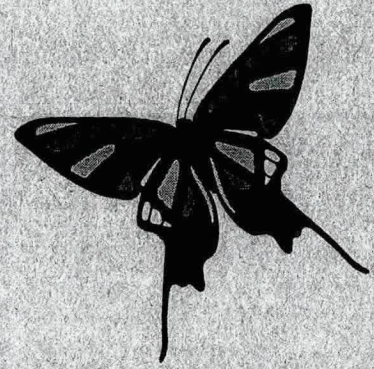
Plant List for the Northwest Garden Concordia University / November 2001

American Cranberry (*Viburnum trilolicum*)
Baker Cypress (*Cupressus bakerii*)
Beach Daisy (*Erigon glaucus*)
Bitter Cherry (*Prunus emarginata*)
Black Twinberry (*Lonicera involucrata*)
Blackcap (*Rubus leucodermis*)
Blue Elderberry (*Samuscus cerulea*)
Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*)
Clustered Rose (*Rosa pisocarpa*)
Coast Pine (*Pinus contorta*)
Coastal Strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*)
Cow Parsnip (*Heraculum lanatum*)
Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pulularis*)
Devil's Club (*Oplopanax horridus*)
Evergreen Huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*)
Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)
Golden Currant (*Ribes aureum*)
Gooseberry (*Ribes speciosum*)
Incense Cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*)
Indian Plum (*Oemleria cerasiformis*)
Large-leaf Lupine (*Lupinus polyphyllus*)
Mock Orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*)
Mountain Avens (*Dryas octpetala*)
Nootka Rose (*Rosa nootkatensis*)
Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)
Oregon Grape - creeping (*Berberis repens*)
Oregon Iris (*Iris tenax*)
Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*)
Pacific Ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*)

Pacific Willow (*Salix lasiandra*)
Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*)
Port Orford Cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)
Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum* var. *ciliatum*)
Penstemon (*Penstemon serulatus*)
Red Alder (*Alnus rubra*)
Red Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*)
Red Flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum*)
Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)
Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*)
Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
Sword Fern (*Polystichum munitum*)
Tufted Hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*)
Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*)
Western Crabapple (*Malus fusca*)
Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*)
Western Spirea (*Spirea douglasii*)
Western White Pine (*Pinus monticola*)
Western Wild Grape (*Vitis californica*)
Yellow-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium californica*)

Mark Rosenau
CU Outside
503.493.6474

Naturescaping for Clean Rivers



Free Neighborhood Workshop

You are invited to a free workshop to learn how to naturescape your yard. Naturescaping features native plants, natural landscapes and water-friendly gardening practices. The result is less water, fewer chemicals and less maintenance -- direct benefits to you, your garden and the environment. Plus it attracts interesting and beneficial wildlife.

This workshop will include a short field trip to a project on campus to see naturescaping in action. Come get ideas for your garden, a guide book and a native plant to get you started.

Concordia University

(2811 NE Holman St)

Saturday, April 15, 2000

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Community Host: Concordia University

Advance registration required by 6:00 pm, Thursday, April 13

Call 503-797-1842

or email <lisa_albert@hotmail.com>

*For info about other Spring 2000 workshop dates, call 503-797-1842 or check our website at:
<http://community.oregonlive.com/cc/naturescaping>*

The Naturescaping for Clean Rivers program was developed by East Multnomah SWCD and Portland BES
Workshop presented by East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)

