

**SCENES FROM THE 7TH ANNUAL NHEC CONFERENCE
APRIL 20-23, 2002
TUCSON, AZ**



Each year, on the 2nd day of the Conference, students attend tours of environmental facilities, including parks, forests, museums, wildlife refuges, laboratories, and many more. The “environmental site tours” are a popular and highly educational part of the Conference. Here, students on the “cultural and historical” tour visit San Xavier del Bac, one of the best preserved of the Spanish missions in the Southwest.



Another site tour was of Saguaro National Park. U.S. Park service rangers guided students through the park, allowing for an in-depth exploration of various natural resource, environmental, and park management issues. Here, a mountain lion is spotted.



Student “travel scholars” at the reception following the environmental site tours. Students relax after a long day in the field. Each year, depending on funding, NHEC provides travel scholarships to 150 - 250 college students from every environmental and natural resource discipline.



Attendees, including students, at some of the 25+ workshops the Conference offers each year. The workshops feature top experts addressing a wide range of environmental, energy, agricultural, and natural resource issues. Here, NHEC Board member Catania Galvan moderates the workshop.



Attendees at one of the large “general sessions” at the Conference.



NHEC’s hard-working and popular Chairman Manuel Hernandez with several students at the Conference.



Each year, NHEC gives several awards to deserving recipients at the Conference. Here, NHEC President Roger Rivera presents an award at the Banquet to Jose Acevedo, Associate Deputy Chief at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



Judge Craig Manson, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Dept. of Interior, was the Banquet Keynote Speaker. Here, conference attendees, including employees of the Dept. of Interior, greet Judge Manson.



Attendees at the NRCS exhibit booth at the conference "Career Fair". NRCS has been a staunch supporter of NHEC and the annual conference.



The Exhibit Area/Career Fair is a major part of the Conference. Here, recruiters from the public, private, and non-profit sectors come to meet some of our community's best and brightest, including the many student "travel scholars".



The National Park Service (NPS) has been a strong supporter of NHEC, including serving as a conference "Major Sponsor" for many years. Here, the "NPS Recruiting Team" is ready for action at the Career Fair.



Students at the Dept. of Interior exhibit, speaking with Daniel Garza, Deputy Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs, U.S. DOI, regarding opportunities at the department.



Students at the U.S. Forest Service exhibit at the Career Fair. The U.S. Forest Service has been a strong supporter of NHEC, including serving as a conference "Major Sponsor".



NHEC President Roger Rivera, with other members of the NHEC Board. At left is David Fernandez, attorney, and Dr. Eddie Laboy-Nieves, Professor of Environmental Management at Metropolitana University, in Puerto Rico.



The Arizona Dept. of Fish and Game at the Career Fair. State agencies also recruit at the Conference.



The U.S. EPA has been another strong supporter of NHEC, including serving as a conference "Major Sponsor".



Major "green groups" also recruit at the conference. Here, the Sierra Club.



Exhibitors representing every environmental field attend the Career Fair.