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Nalini Nadkarni
Nalini's work in public outreach by scientists was highlighted in the October 2006 issue of the ecological journal, "Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment." Her article described her work with prisoners at a local correctional center to develop protocols to grow moss in captivity in order to alleviate wild-collecting of this material for the horticulture trade. The link to the pdf is:

http://www.evergreen.edu/researchambassador/docs/moss-in-prison[1].pdf

This is one of the projects she established through the "Research Ambassador Program" that is supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society. Other projects, which included TESC faculty Ken Tabbutt, Gerardo Chin-Leo, Frederica Bowcutt, and Jack Longino are described at the Research Ambassador website:

www.researchambassador.com

Earlier in the year, Nalini received a two-year grant from the National Science Foundation's new program called "OPUS: Opportunities to Promote Understanding through Synthesis". The award is to provide mid- and senior-level scientists who have carried out a significant body of ecological research with release time so that they can reflect on and write articles that synthesize their work for other ecologists, other scientists, and the general public. She will synthesize her work on canopy ecology of tropical cloud forest ecosystems, based on her NSF-supported research over the past 20 years.

Nalini will also be giving the keynote talk to the annual "Expanding Your Horizons" event at South Puget Sound Community College in November. This event provides hundreds of regional middle school girls with workshops and information about careers in science. E.J. Zita will be giving one of the workshops.