Holistic Science: The Evolution of the Georgia Institute of Ecology (1940-2000). Gary W. Barrett and Terry L. Barrett (Eds.). 2001. 366 pp. Hardcover $45.00. ISBN 9057026287. Taylor and Francis, New York, NY. Eugene P. Odum, a leader in ecosystem ecology and in interdisciplinary approaches to the study of our environment, died on 10 August 2002. One of his most important legacies, The University of Georgia’s Institute of Ecology, is recognized internationally as a leading institution in ecological research and training. This book provides a well written and edited version of Odum’s vision and strategy, as well as the successes and failures that created a national and international model on how to conduct inter- and cross-disciplinary research at expanding temporal and spatial scales. Interesting historical turning points and establishment of the network provide an overview of the Institute’s evolution. Holistic, ecosystem-level research is highlighted at eight major centers that Odum and his colleagues helped establish, such as the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, South Carolina; Marine Institute on Sapelo Island, Georgia; Horseshoe Bend Research Site, Athens, Georgia; and the Coweeta Hydrologic-Institute of Ecology long-term research program, North Carolina. The volume also provides excellent guidelines and information on training ecologists, environmental literacy, and on graduate student training programs. Gene Likens’s overview of Odum’s legacy, the ecosystem approach, and the future emphasizes the importance of long-term ecological research to ecosystem management, as well as how to apply research to public policy. Administrators, managers, academics, students, and historians will find this book useful in understanding how to bring a diverse group of scientists from many departments to a new school. It’s these teams of scientists, in touch with the public, that will provide valuable information on managing our natural resources into the 21st Century. J.M. Meyers

Divided Natures: French Contributions to Political Ecology. Kerry H. Whiteside. 2002. 321 pp. Softcover, ISBN 0262731479. The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA. In this study, the author presents the work of French ecological theorists, and attempts to show how they could lessen “pervasive tension in Anglophone ecology.” According to the author, French and English speaking countries may have produced differing strains of ecological thought. The focus of this book is on the debate over whether the value of non-human surroundings derives from “their role in fulfilling human interest,” or the non-human environment holding value in and of itself. The author shows that French theorists focus more on the processes that link human identity and nature. An eye-opening book. J. Elliott