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2019

# Campus Sustainability Office Annual Report, 2018-2019

Campus Sustainability Office

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# ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

*The Campus Sustainability Office fosters partnerships across departments and disciplines that nourish institutional stewardship of our environment and support a growing culture of sustainability within PSU. We aim to align operations, policies, and planning with University conservation and sustainability goals.*



Portland State University

# CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

# STAFF

## Campus Sustainability Director

Jenny McNamara

## Waste Management Coordinator

Brandon Lesowske

## Program + Assessment Coordinator

Amanda Wolf

## Education + Outreach Coordinator

Emily Quinton

## Student Positions

### Assistant Planner for Climate Resilience

Thea Kindschuh

### Reuse Coordinator

Kelsey Hill

### Marketing + Communications Specialist

Alesha Delaney

### Data Analyst

Maloud Dabab

### Waste Reduction Specialist

Dustin Boomer

# EDUCATION, OUTREACH, & FACILITATION

Celebrated exciting sustainability work by students, faculty, staff, and community partners at the 12th Annual Sustainability Celebration.

Promoted waste reduction and reuse on campus through several Pop-Up Swaps, including during Viking Days and the Montgomery Pop-Up Plaza.

Collaborated with the Waste Reduction Task Force and EcoReps to promote the Blumel Residence Hall LEED O+M certification.

Attended and presented at several conferences, including Washington & Oregon Higher Educations Sustainability Conference, & Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference.



PSU Reuses Pop-Up Swap in Montgomery Pop-Up Plaza.

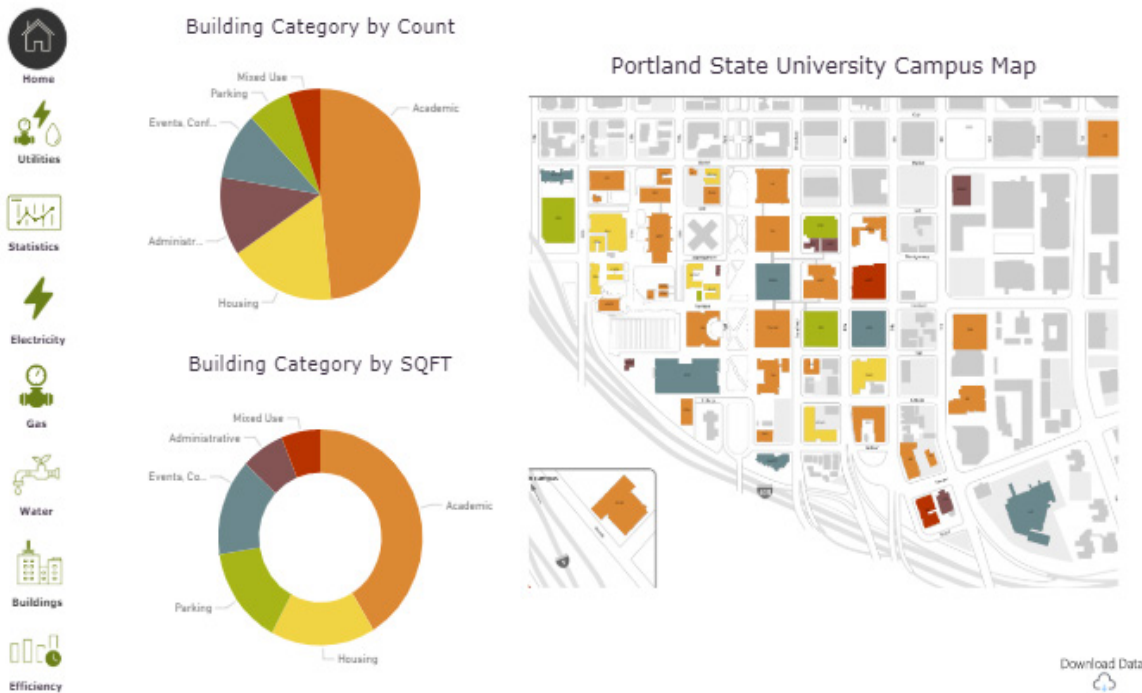


Outreach for LEED O+M Certification for PSU buildings.

# BENCHMARKING & RECOGNITION

A LEAP IN REPORTING:

## PSU'S FIRST SUSTAINABILITY DASHBOARD



CSO unveiled its new sustainability dashboard, an interactive tool you can use to examine utility data by time period, building, and more. The dashboard was created by PSU student and sustainability data analyst, Maoloud Dabab, using Microsoft Power BI.

*When you check out the dashboard, enter full screen mode to explore the dashboard. You can view multiple years of utility data for PSU buildings, making it easy to spot trends, compare buildings, and more!*

[pdx.edu/sustainability/sustainability-dashboard](https://pdx.edu/sustainability/sustainability-dashboard)

# BENCHMARKING & RECOGNITION

## WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

- \$21,862** ● COST AVOIDED THROUGH REUSE
- 20,645lb** ● POUNDS OF MATERIAL REUSED  
(Chuck It for Charity & PSU Reuse Room)
- 230** ● NUMBER OF BEVERAGE CONTAINERS DIVERTED THROUGH MUGRUNNERS
- 42.4%** ● DIVERSION RATE OF SOLID WASTE FROM LANDFILL

### AWARDS

- STARS GOLD
- SIERRA COOL SCHOOLS TOP 50
- SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS INDEX FOR BUILDINGS & RESEARCH
- SALMON SAFE CERTIFICATION



### MEMBERSHIPS

- SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING LEADERSHIP COALITION (SPLC)
- ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION (AASHE)
- SECOND NATURE CLIMATE COMMITMENT
- GREEN SPORTS ALLIANCE

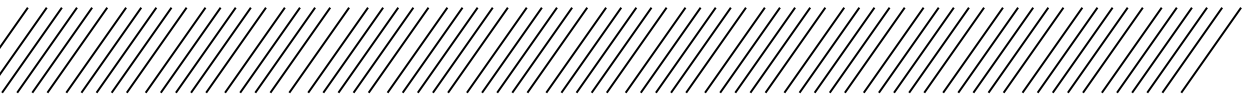
# BENCHMARKING & RECOGNITION

## LEED O+M TIMELINE

PHASE 1 OF LEED O+M COMPLETED WITH 4 BUILDINGS CERTIFIED

### HIGHLIGHT: UNIVERSITY SERVICES BUILDING

- Faucet aerators and urinals were upgraded to low-flow options to reduce water use
- Purchasing points earned with 98.51% of electronic equipment and 50.76% of furniture qualifying as sustainable purchases
- Waste audit revealed 90.1% of durable goods are diverted from the landfill through surplus and/or recycling
- Through ASHRAE study, identified several energy efficiency measures that we are now exploring as potential Green Revolving Fund projects



SEPTEMBER 2015

PSU hired RDWI to assess 5 existing buildings in alignment with LEED O+M standards. All but Ondine Residential Hall were moved forward.

APRIL 2016

RDWI study recommended four buildings: Blumel Hall, Richard & Maurine Neuberger Center, University Services Building, Urban Center Building. Steering Committee established to review and update current operation policies and create new policies/standards aligned with LEED O+M requirements

JUNE 2017

PSU is certified as a master site.

MARCH 2018

Urban Center Building received Silver LEED O+M Certification.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Joseph C Blumel Residential Hall received Gold LEED O+M certification.

OCTOBER 2018

Richard and Maurine Neuberger Center received Gold LEED O+M certification.

APRIL 2019

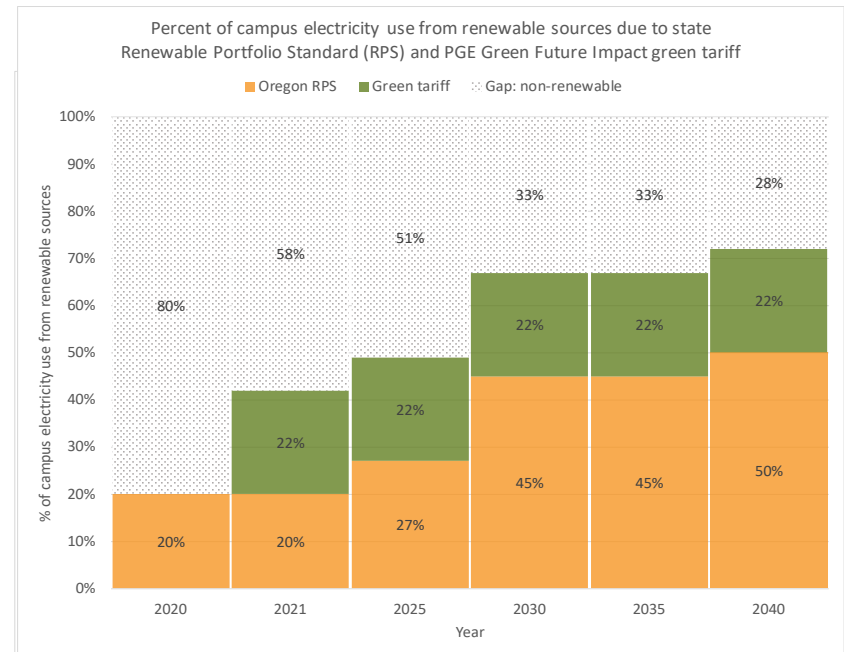
University Services Building received Silver LEED O+M certification.



# POLICY, PRACTICE, & PLANNING

## PGE GREEN FUTURE IMPACT

PSU is participating in Green Future Impact, a new renewable energy program launched by Portland General Electric. By the end of 2021, PSU will receive about 22% of campus electricity from a new solar facility being constructed to serve participants. PCC and OHSU are also participating, along with several municipalities and businesses. CSO played a central role in securing PSU's enrollment in the program, marking a significant step to reduce carbon emissions from campus energy use.



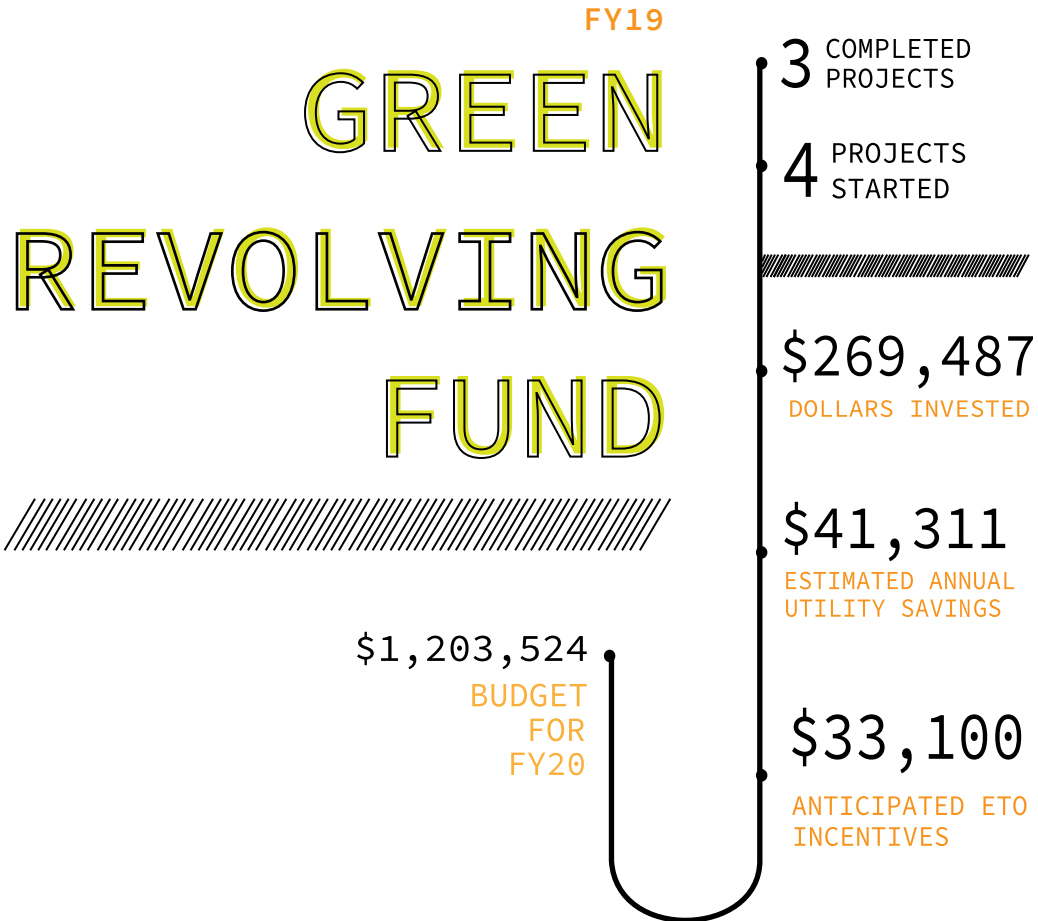
## PSU ADOPTED OPEN SPACE PLAN

The intent of the plan is to support a functional, interconnected, and sustainable system of open spaces that serves the overall planning efforts, vision, and mission of Portland State University.



Figure 42. 11th Avenue, preferred concept, source: 2.ink Studio.

# POLICY, PRACTICE, & PLANNING



### A VISION FOR SW BROADWAY

In partnership with the Campus Planning Office and Facilities and Property Management, a draft plan was developed for an Urban Arboretum along SW Broadway. The draft plan looks at replacing over 50 failing street trees in the coming years with a diverse inventory of species that will increase ecosystem services, highlight the city’s street tree options, and provide valuable information on questions of climate resilience, retail appropriateness, wildlife support and more. Environmental Science & Management student interns and forestry-focused faculty worked over the summer of 2019 to complete a baseline assessment of ecosystems services on SW Broadway to be incorporated into the selection process of trees.

### CSO TAKES ON UTILITY MANAGEMENT

Campus-wide utility management moved from Facilities and Property Management to CSO in 2019. This significant work includes oversight of the utility budget and contracts, collaboration with utility provider partners, and trouble-shooting metering and billing challenges.



## POLICY, PRACTICE, & PLANNING

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### BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH COLLABORATION

- Continued partnerships with the Student Sustainability Center through the Waste Reduction Task Force, including a pilot for wrapper recycling with TerraCycle.
- Continued partnership with PSU Eats to hold No Scraps Left Behind, a program designed to raise awareness about wasted food on campus through interactive activities.
- Served on the 2nd annual Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference planning committee, with PSU as a sponsor of the event.

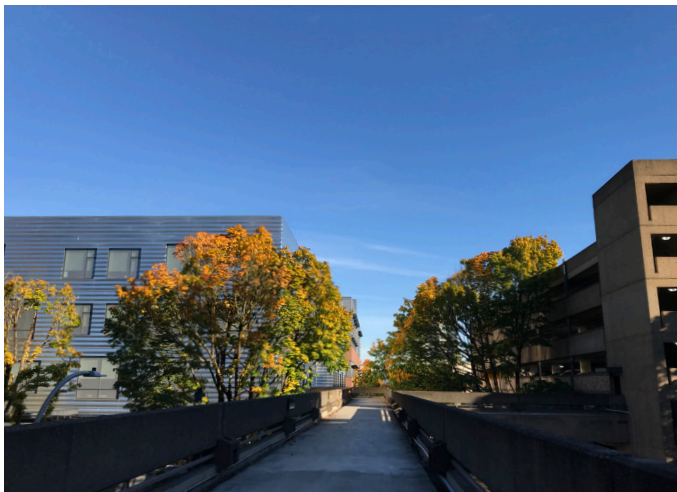


FY19's Waste Reduction Task Force.



Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC).

## ON THE HORIZON



- Implementation of the first phase of the Broadway Arboretum
- Selection and onboarding of a new waste hauling contract on campus
- Completion of current Green Revolving Fund (GRF) projects, and selection and implementation of a new round of projects
- Finalization of the Green Leasing Program and resource guide for PSU
- Finalization of the certification process for the next round of LEED O+M buildings on campus
- Revamping and relaunching PSU's lending library

## OUR PARTNERS

Campus Recreation (CREC)  
 Capital Projects & Construction (CPC)  
 Campus Planning Office (CPO)  
 Chartwells (PSU Eats)  
 Contracting & Procurement Services (CAPS)  
 Facilities & Property Management (FPM)

Housing & Residence Life (HRL)  
 Institute for Sustainable Solutions (ISS)  
 Queer Resource Center (QRC)  
 Student Sustainability Center (SSC)  
 Transportation & Parking Services (TAPS)  
 Student Health and Counseling (SHAC)

## LIVING LAB

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The PSU Living Lab program matches motivated faculty and students with University staff to work on projects that support PSU's campus sustainability goals. Students and faculty across disciplines such as engineering, business, urban planning, arts, and sciences have participated in the program. Staff partners include Campus Planning, Capital Projects & Construction, Transportation & Parking Services, and more. The program is facilitated as a partnership between the PSU Campus Sustainability Office, Facilities & Property Management department, and the Institute for Sustainable Solutions.

Living Lab projects offer a variety of benefits. Operational staff receive high-quality, innovative, and creative student work. For faculty, Living Lab projects provide easy-to-access applied learning opportunities supported by University staff and stakeholders. For students, projects result in professional experience and transferable skills acquired through experiential education. Lastly, everyone involved gains an appreciation of sustainability initiatives on campus!

Read on to learn more about individual Living Lab projects and program developments from the 2018-2019 academic year.

2018-2019

### BY THE NUMBERS

7	●	CLASSES
4	●	INTERNS
9	●	FACULTY
103	●	STUDENTS
12	●	PROJECTS
7	●	ACADEMIC DEPTS. INVOLVED

## LIVING LAB: PROJECTS

### BACK TO BUSINESS

The Living Lab program once again worked with the School of Business undergraduate capstone course. Two groups partnered with the Campus Planning Office and CSO to explore PSU's retail portfolio, assessing how it currently meets the needs of PSU's diverse communities and opportunities for targeting certain types of tenants and businesses in the future.

BA 495 students brainstorm ideas to examine PSU's commercial retail portfolio.



### ENERGY PROJECTS WRAP UP

Graduate students in Engineering & Technology Management (ETM) and Environmental Science & Management (ESM) wrapped up two longer-term Living Lab projects focused on transitioning campus energy to renewable sources. The ETM project produced a feasibility assessment for solar plus battery storage at the Peter Stott Center and Viking Pavilion, a building that could serve as a hub for emergency management with this system. Focused on offsite and other procurement strategies, the ESM project produced a list of values-based recommendations for PSU to meet its renewable energy goals. One of these recommendations led to PSU successfully enrolling in the new PGE green tariff.



## LIVING LAB: PROJECTS

### SHINING LIGHT ON THE SKYBRIDGE NETWORK

Urban planning students designed strategies for activating PSU's skybridge network on behalf of the Campus Planning Office. Ideas included recording music recitals performed in Lincoln Hall and playing them in the adjacent section; enhanced lighting through aesthetically pleasing designs; murals, interactive art, and more.

### GREEN BUILDING INTERNSHIP

The 2019 Green Building Interns continued to study building performance and occupant perception in the Karl Miller Center. This year, the students partnered with PSU's Green Building Research Laboratory to install air quality monitoring sensors throughout and outside of the building. Additional projects with the Capital Projects & Construction (CPC) team included assisting with the renovation of the St. Helens residence hall and collecting information about the fit of existing buildings for onsite solar. The Green Building Internship is an annual opportunity for one engineering and one architecture student to work with CPC.



Architecture student, Junyoung, and engineering student, Everett, were the 2019 Green Building Interns.

# LIVING LAB: PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS



## STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Living Lab team dedicated several meetings to strategic planning discussions, including revisiting the program mission and brainstorming internal goals for the program. These discussions aided in the development and revision of program assessment techniques, allowing the team to map goals to evaluation questions for long-term program improvements.



## TEAM PLANNING

Jennifer Alkezweeney, Teaching, Learning, and Engagement Associate with the Office of Academic Innovation, joined the Living Lab team, bringing expertise in community-based engaged learning. The Living Lab team is also excited to welcome back the Facilities & Property Management Education Coordinator, a student position that is currently in the hiring process.



## PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

After receiving IRB approval, a Qualtrics-based student assessment was launched and completed by students participating in spring term projects. As part of strategic planning discussions, the method for debriefing and evaluating projects with staff and faculty partners was revised to better enable tracking of program outcomes and opportunities for improvement.

