Campus Sustainability Office Annual Report, 2017-2018

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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.
STAFF

Campus Sustainability Director
Jennny McNamara

Waste Management Coordinator
Brandon Lesowske

Program + Assessment Coordinator
Amanda Wolf

Education + Outreach Coordinator
Emily Quinton

Graduate Assistants

Food Diversion Coordinator
Nancy Nordman

Second Nature’s CRUX Intern
Thea Kindschuh

Student Positions

Reuse Coordinator
Kelsey Hill

Waste Reduction Specialist
Jacob Savoie

Marketing + Communications Specialist
Alesha Delaney

EDUCATION, OUTREACH, & FACILITATION

OUTREACH

• Guided ten campus sustainability tours.
• Participated in Sustainability in Action, a beginning-of-year gathering featuring local food, live music, and sustainability leaders from across campus.
• Hosted reuse pop up swaps at PSU’s annual Viking Days.
• Celebrated exciting sustainability work by students, faculty, staff, and community partners at the annual Sustainability Celebration.
• Assisted with another successful year of Campus Beautification, an annual event where staff from PSU’s Planning, Construction and Real Estate division engage in activities to help improve campus grounds, including planting trees.
EDUCATION, OUTREACH, & FACILITATION

LIVING LAB PROGRAM

The Living Lab program matches motivated faculty and students with University staff to work on projects that support PSU’s campus sustainability goals.

This year we worked with...
Classes: 6; Students: 77
Internships: 3; Projects: 8; Faculty: 8;
Academic Departments: 6

Learn more
>> Living Lab End of Year Summary

PRESENTATIONS AT LOCAL & REGIONAL EVENTS

- Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference,
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Conference,
- Second Nature Summit.

CRUX GRANT COMPLETE

Thea Kindschuh, Second Nature CRUX intern, led 3 webinars, spoke at 4 conferences (AASHE 2017, WOHESC 2018, SN Summit 2018, AASHE 2018), & gave several presentations to various groups in the City of Portland.

The CRUX grant piloted multiple on-the-ground resilience projects and developed initial materials for universities and colleges conducting resilience capacity assessments. These resources have been shared with a wide network.
BENCHMARKING & RECOGNITION

484.4
Pounds of bagels donated by Food Runners pilot

253
people reached at 23 New Employee Orientation sustainability presentations

$32,155
saved through the reuse of materials in reuse room

4,749.27
pounds of material reused

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SOURCING

28.72%
Percentage of sustainable food purchasing at PSU. When feasible PSU prioritizes the purchase of environmentally and socially responsible food and beverages. Our sustainable food/beverage purchases are products that are sustainably and/or ethically produced as determined by third party verification or products that are local and/or community based.

GREEN REVOLVING FUND

$178,723
Payback received through the Green Revolving Fund. Based on utility savings for energy efficiency projects.
BENCHMARKING & RECOGNITION

MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Oregon Recyclers
- Healthy Purchasing Coalition
- Second Nature’s Climate Commitment
- Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)

AWARDS

- Sustainable Purchasing Business Case Leadership Award from the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council
- APPA Sustainable Campus Recognition
- Sierra Cool Schools top 50

DATA MANAGEMENT

In addition to other data sets, moving forward, CSO will take over tracking and reporting for campus utilities and the Green Revolving Fund. A data analyst position was created within CSO to help us make sustainability data readily available for campus decision making as well as academic investigation.

Maloud Dabab, data analyst & PhD Student at PSU.
CHUCK IT FOR CHARITY

DURING SUMMER MOVE OUT 2018...

1,559 STUDENTS DONATED OVER 20,000 LBS OF CLOTHES, FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, OFFICE AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

- CLOTHING: 4,400lb
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: 6,743.25lb
- FURNITURE: 8,593lb
- FOOD: 191lb
COMMITMENT TO GREEN BUILDINGS: LEED CERTIFICATION

Urban Center Building is the first PSU building to be certified under the LEED Operations and Maintenance (O+M) program. LEED O+M assesses and rates building performance on a wide range of criteria -- from energy and water consumption to purchased materials. Pursuing certification optimizes building operations and improves occupant comfort. The process helps identify and prioritize building retrofits and upgrades, creating better performing buildings and spaces for the PSU community.

NEW LEED CERTIFIED BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS

Blumel Residence Hall
Karl Miller Center
Richard & Maurine Neuberger Center
(formerly Market Center Building)

BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH COLLABORATION

PSU hosted the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC). With over 500 hundred attendees, WOHESC is a platform for inspiring change, facilitating action, and promoting collaboration.
ON THE HORIZON

Progress continues on PSU’s Open Space Plan with expected adoption this year. Last year, in conjunction with the planning effort, 2.ink Studio led student, staff, and faculty workshops to gather information and create an informed concept design for one of the few remaining open spaces on the PSU campus - the Oak Savanna.

CSO is working with partners in Campus Planning, Facilities & Property Management, and Capital Projects & Construction to design and launch a green leasing program for retail tenants. The team hopes to implement a lease Sustainability Addendum (currently under review) as well as key tenant engagement opportunities with new leases and lease renewals moving forward.

The PSU Reuse Room underwent renovations this year. The space reopened in December with a fresh feel, and fully stocked with donations.

Working off past efforts to assess capacity and vulnerabilities, CSO is now leading efforts to engage our community in goal setting and strategy development to finalize our Climat Resiliency Plan.