

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY



2017-2018

Annual Report

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MISSION AND STRATEGY

The [Office of Sustainability](#) supports the integration of sustainability into the University of Oregon's operations, curriculum, co-curriculum, research, and engagement with the broader community. Established in 2007, the Office of Sustainability helps set goals; monitors progress; makes policy recommendations; supports student, faculty, and staff initiatives; and tells the University of Oregon's sustainability story. The university is committed to spreading the concept of sustainability across campus from facility operations to innovative research, curriculum, and public service initiatives.

We accomplish our mission by maintaining a diverse portfolio of activities, organized into the following focus areas:

Institutional Leadership and Policy Development	We provide strategic advice, information, and resources to senior administrators, faculty, staff, and students working to integrate sustainability practices and policies into their programming. We assess sustainability performance by establishing metrics and tracking institutional activities through internal and international ratings systems.
Co-Curricular Initiatives with Students and Faculty	We create, implement, and manage innovative programs and events – whenever possible, in partnership with other campus units and community partners – that integrate sustainability into academic research and teaching and student learning and development.
Community Partnerships	We build joint sustainability initiatives between campus and community partners, including local businesses, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and foundations.
Outreach	We share the University's sustainability story and encourage the campus community to contribute to its growth and success.

Housed within the UO Campus Planning & Facilities Management (CPFM) unit, the Office of Sustainability continues its commitment to environmental protection, innovation, and social equity. Over the past eleven years, Sustainability has launched a wide range of projects and programs that have helped the University of Oregon become a national leader in the field. By partnering with local organizations that share these values, we have set the standard for using an entrepreneurial approach to drive sustainability principles.

SUMMARY

The University of Oregon's Office of Sustainability implements projects, programs, and policies that help the University stay aligned with its "green" identity. Since 2007, the office has taken a variety of approaches to meeting goals and standards set out by the school, ranging from developing environmental policy for the entire campus to programming a first-year residence hall community specifically for environmentally-oriented students to tracking and reporting on the university's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These projects not only help protect our planet, but also connect the university and the local community.

All around the University of Oregon, it is easy to see why "environmentally friendly" and "sustainability leader" come to mind when people think of Oregon. In addition to past projects and programs, the Office of Sustainability is planning for the future. Our office provides regular updates to the university's Climate Action Plan, Comprehensive Environmental Policy, and other programs that support sustainability campus-wide.

The purpose of this annual report is to provide transparency and accountability. This document serves as a progress report to the goals set by the various programs and policies currently in place. We hope that after reading this, you will feel as though you know exactly what has been done, is being done, and what will be done to help this university protect the environment and work toward a more just and sustainable future.

STAFFING AND BUDGET

Staffing

The Office of Sustainability accomplishes its goals with a lean staff through an emphasis on organic growth and by leveraging strong partnerships throughout the University and the broader community. In 2017-2018 we operated for part of the year with three staff, totaling 2.4 FTE, and the remainder of year without the Administrative Program Assistant who moved on to another opportunity. We also employed 21 undergraduate and graduate

students who conducted short-term, part-time work in support of our co-curricular programs. Finally, we receive accounting and budgeting support from Facilities and Administrative Shared Services.

2017-2018 Staffing

- Director (1.0 FTE)
- Administrative Program Assistant (1.0 FTE)
- Graduate Employee (.4 FTE)

2017-2018 Student Employees

- \$CORE – Home Energy Assessment - 9
- Community for Environmental Leaders – Academic Residential Community - 10
- Office support - 1
- Sustainability Awards videographer - 1

Total student work hours (approximate) = 954

Budget

The Office of Sustainability's 2017-2018 base budget funded the salaries of the Director, the Administrative Program Assistant (1/3 of the year), and the Sustainability Affairs Graduate Employee. As part of staffing costs, it also covered the search for a new Program Manager to replace the Program Assistant and grow the office's projects and programs. Last, the base budget covered general office expenses and travel. The remainder of the Office of Sustainability's annual budget came from internal and external fundraising efforts. These fees, gifts, grants, and contracts allow us to hire students and temporary staff and to support a range of programs, trainings, and specials events. Our 2017-2018 program and project income is summarized in the table below.

Budget Overview	
Operating budget	\$250,081
Salaries	\$275,440

Program Income from Fees	
Community for Environmental Leaders	\$22,000
Green Office Awards	\$300
Campus Sustainability Awards	\$3000

Program Income from Partners	
\$CORE – Home Energy Assessment	\$13,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000 - City of Eugene; • \$3,000 - EWEB
Sustainability Faculty Fellows Program	\$10,000 – Duck Store
rev UP! Eugene	\$10,000 – City of Eugene

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Sustainability Action Plans

In 2014 the University of Oregon adopted an updated [Comprehensive Environmental Policy](#) (CEP). The CEP updates came via recommendations from the Environmental Issues Committee (see below) and target seven key areas:

1. Planning & Design
2. Operations & Maintenance
3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions
4. Transportation
5. Purchasing
6. Materials Management
7. Hazardous Materials Management

These focus areas and their guiding principles align to specific units at the university and those units are responsible for drafting plans to support their implementation. The Office of Sustainability is tasked with creating the Climate Action Plan and with supporting the creation and curation of the other plans.



In 2017-2018, progress was made on the following plans:

Oregon Model for Sustainable Development – Helmed by the [Office of Campus Planning, Design, and Construction](#), the Oregon Model for Sustainable Development (OMSD) supports principle 1: Planning and Design. The OMSD targets energy efficiency in buildings by pledging that energy use on campus remains at 2011 levels or lower (the first year the policy was adopted) and requiring new development projects to meet an energy use threshold that is 35% more efficient than required by state codes and earns LEED Gold certification. The OMSD was a first-of-its-kind policy adopted by a flagship research university.

In 2017-18 Campus Planning updated the [OMSD](#) (PDF download), pending approval from the university president. The proposed updates further protect ecosystems on campus as part of planning and construction projects, deepen the commitment to meeting LEED Gold standards, and now include expectations that building projects account for social equity and human health in planning, design, and usage.

Stormwater Management Plan and other Operations Plans – Campus stakeholders decided to shift the focus of these plans in AY 16-17 ([see previous report](#), pdf download), which supports a portion of principle 2: Operations and Maintenance. The Office of Sustainability aims to finalize this plan or plans in AY 18-19.

Climate Action Plan - The Office of Sustainability is tasked with creating and updating the Climate Action Plan (CAP), tied to principle 3: Greenhouse Gas Emissions. We developed the first iteration of the University's CAP in 2010 in response to then President Dave Frohmayer's adoption of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, signed in 2007. The University of Oregon's CAP is a comprehensive program to address greenhouse gas emissions and sustainability across campus. Since publishing the first CAP, the Office of Sustainability has supported tangible, transparent actions to reduce the University's greenhouse gas emissions.

To date, the CAP has led to a greenhouse gas emissions inventory (which supports our STARS certification work as well, see below), the establishment of the Oregon Model for Sustainable Development (see above) and a green revolving loan fund. In academic year 2016-17, the Office of Sustainability proposed updates to the CAP. We worked with diverse stakeholders across campus including students, staff, and the Environmental Issues Committee and presented official recommendations to President Michael Schill in Spring term 2018. Pending approval from UO leadership, the Office of Sustainability aims to have the updated CAP available later in 2018. The original Climate Action Plan is available [here](#).

Transportation, Purchasing, Materials Management, and Hazardous Materials Management Plans – Plans for principles 4-7 are in various draft forms. The Office of Sustainability aims to finalize iterative work on all of these plans in AY 2018-19.

Environmental Issues Committee

Overview

[The Environmental Issues Committee](#) (EIC) identifies issues, develops recommendations, and advises the University leadership on strategies to improve UO's environmental practices and policies. The Office of Sustainability provides administrative, logistical, and advisory support to the EIC and works collaboratively with members to craft policy

recommendations. They also connect the faculty and students on the committee to sustainability-related work by staff or community members. The Director of Sustainability works with the Chair of the EIC to develop meeting agendas and brief the committee as needed. Since 1998, diverse groups of faculty, staff, and students have worked together on the EIC.

The EIC was on hiatus for academic year 2017-18. The Office of Sustainability will be reconvening the committee in AY 2018-19.

Institutional Sustainability Performance Assessment

STARS

Overview

The University of Oregon has participated in [STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System](#), since 2011. STARS measures and encourages sustainability in all aspects of higher education. The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) developed STARS to provide a framework for self-reporting an institution's performance in sustainability over a period of time. The program offers a transparent reporting system, which colleges and universities can use to compare their progress and to measure their performance against other institutions. AASHE's STARS program has more than 800 participating institutions across six continents. It is the most widely recognized framework for publicly reporting comprehensive information related to a college or university's sustainability performance. Participants report achievements in four overall areas:

- academics;
- engagement;
- operations;
- planning and administration.

In 2017, the University of Oregon earned a Gold rating from its STARS report. The Gold rating is based on data from 2013-2015. Of the 326 rated institutions, only 111 institutions have received Gold certification, and only five have received a Platinum rating. The University of Oregon's Gold rating is a significant increase from its previous Silver rating in 2014.



In academic year 2018-19 the Office of Sustainability will gather and report on the university's greenhouse gas emissions, a key piece in the STARS certification data. We will also determine what, if any, steps we recommend the institution take to increase our

STARS ranking from Gold to Platinum. Then in academic year 2019-20, the Office of Sustainability will lead efforts to renew our STARS certification.

National Rankings

Overview

The [Princeton Review Guide to Green Schools](#) and the [Sierra Club's Cool Schools](#) track institutional performance and compare colleges and universities around the nation. These rankings are aimed at potential students.

UO has been classified as a green school in the Princeton Review's rankings since it began in 2010; they review over 800 schools and give the designation to about 300 schools per year. In 2017 the UO was categorized at #41 in the "Top 50 Green Colleges." The UO's MBA program received the top ranking in 2015 and placed at #4 in 2017.

Sierra Club's magazine *Uif Tjssb* publishes a ranking of "Cool Schools" each year based on responses to an 11-page questionnaire regarding sustainability-related behaviors. In 2017, they ranked 227 schools, and UO ranked #42.

Both Sierra Club and Princeton Review derive their rankings from STARS reports. Institutions are required to have completed STARS report to be included in either ranking. The Office of Sustainability has identified some issues with the Sierra Clubs ranking methods, including that institutions' practices do not change as frequently as reflected in the highly variable scoring from year to year. We continue to be interested in and monitor how STARS data is used by third parties and will make recommendations to AASHE and the UO based on what we see.

Green Office Certification Program

Overview

In addition to tracking, reporting, and building the national and international recognition of the UO around sustainability, the office in turn recognizes efforts of specific university offices and departments to improve their sustainability practices. For decades, decentralized programs have emerged across the UO to help offices green their practices. The Office of Sustainability developed the [Green Office \(GO\)](#)



Certification Program in 2012 to unite these efforts under a common framework that recognizes University of Oregon offices that:

- Adopt best practices
- Commit to reducing impacts
- Measure their performance

The GO Scorecard tracks office sustainability across seven categories, which include the following: prerequisites, energy, materials management, purchasing, transportation, events, and disaster preparedness. Offices can earn a bronze, silver, gold, or platinum level certification by completing and submitting a scorecard.

Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018

The Office of Sustainability GO Program is creating a network of office champions who are actively reducing the environmental impacts of their work and workplaces. Six offices obtained certification in 2017-2018. The complete list of certified Green Offices is provided in the table below.

Office Name	Most Recent Year Certified	Level
Center for Applied Language Studies	2018	Gold
Environmental Studies Program	2018	Gold
Law School – Conflict & Dispute Resolution	2018	Platinum
Law School – Development	2018	Silver
Museum of Natural & Cultural History	2018	Silver
Purchasing & Contracting Services	2018	Gold
American English Institute	2017	Silver
College of Arts & Sciences Information Technology	2017	Platinum
Office of the Vice President of Finance & Administration	2017	Platinum
Philosophy Department	2017	Silver
Theatre Arts Department	2017	Gold
University Advancement	2017	Gold
Athletics Business Office	2016	Bronze
Campus Planning	2016	Gold
Economics Department	2016	Gold
Geography Department	2016	Platinum

Holden Center for Leadership & Community Engagement	2016	Gold
Mills International Center	2016	Gold
Printing & Mailing Services	2016	Silver
School of Architecture & Allied Arts Office of the Dean	2016	Platinum
Sociology Department	2016	Platinum
Zero Waste Program (Campus Recycling)	2016	Gold
Business Affairs Office	2015	Gold
Center on Teaching & Learning	2015	Gold
Academic Affairs	2014	Gold
Athletics	2014	Bronze
Catering & Conference Services	2014	Gold
Center on Diversity & Community	2014	Bronze
College of Arts & Sciences Office of the Dean	2014	Gold
College of Education Office of the Dean	2014	Gold
Community Service Center	2014	Gold
Design & Construction	2014	Silver
EMU Cultural Forum	2014	Bronze
Human Physiology Department	2014	Bronze
Innovation Partnership Services (Tech Transfer)	2014	Gold
Office of Communications	2014	Platinum
Academic Extension	2013	Gold
Athletics Facilities	2013	Bronze
Biology Department	2013	Platinum
Oregon Humanities Center	2013	Silver
Physical Education & Recreation Department	2013	Silver

CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR INITIATIVES WITH STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Sustainability Faculty Fellowship

Overview

The [Sustainability Faculty Fellowship](#) program supports faculty members interested in integrating issues of sustainability into their curriculum by providing opportunities to partner with local institutions confronting real-world problems while building a network of colleagues interested in community-based learning. The Sustainability Faculty Fellowship program is made possible by the generous donation of the Duck Store. Through the Faculty Fellowship Program, the Office of Sustainability seeks to:

- Provide faculty with opportunities to develop community partnerships for community-engaged learning, particularly as it pertains to the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area;
- Support and promote the work of faculty fellows and their students through multiple public channels;
- Build a network of faculty fellows – across disciplines and seniority levels – that supports ongoing inquiry into sustainability values and educational goals, and
- Challenge understandings of sustainability through a broad range of experiences for faculty.

Faculty fellows receive a \$500 award for participating in a three-day workshop that includes training in theories and practices of sustainability-related, community-engaged learning experiences, as well as site visits, field trips and guest presentations from local leaders of governmental, non-profit, and for profit organizations. Fellows receive an additional \$500 award for developing or revising their courses to incorporate community-engaged learning around issues of sustainability.



Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018

This year the Office of Sustainability supported the first cohort of Sustainability Faculty Fellows in shifting their pedagogy to include community engaged learning. In total, eight faculty (out of a cohort of 10) completed the full program. Throughout the year, the Office of Sustainability hosted working lunch meetings for the Fellows to grow their knowledge and provide an ongoing community of intellectual engagement and support.

The Office of Sustainability also selected and convened the [second cohort](#) of Sustainability Faculty Fellows:

Faculty Member	Department	Interest
Jacques Abelman	Landscape Architecture	Homelessness and food growing, and their intersections in public space.
Sonja Boos	German Studies	Trees in art and the cultural imagination, sustainable forestry.
Benjamin Clark	Planning, Public Policy, and Management	Digital technology and sustainable city planning; pedagogy of community engagement
Yekang Ko	Landscape Architecture	Pedagogy of community engagement; urban sustainability
Katrina Maggilli	Environmental Studies, English	Species organization and valuation in culture, and related conservation issues
Majd Mariam	Journalism and Communications	Contemporary sustainability communications
Erin McKenna	Philosophy	Pragmatist and feminist philosophies; food, environmental, and economic sustainability
Alexandra Rempel	Environmental Studies	Passive heating; wetlands restoration

We planned and hosted a three-day workshop in June 2018 to kick-off this second cohort. The office designed the workshop to anchor the range of faculty's sustainability concerns to the region by introducing faculty to Eugene community partners and resources. By accessing the Office of Sustainability's community network, faculty fellows had an opportunity to initiate lasting relationships for ongoing collaborations. Through a series of expert presentations, faculty learned about and had the opportunity hone their own skills in designing and implementing community-based education in their classes. The workshop was organized

around two primary components: Pedagogy and Theory and Exploring Community Partnerships, with introductory presentations followed by field trips:

Pedagogy and Theory

- Pedagogy and Theory Overview and Case Study – Jason Shreiner, Teaching Engagement Program; Alan Dickman, Environmental Studies and Biology.
- Canvassing as a Community Activity: Cohort 1 Case Study – Craig Kauffman, Political Science; Ken Kato, GIS; Hannah Picknell, OSPIRG
- Group discussion: “Negotiating Subject Positions in a Service Learning Context: Toward a Feminist Critique of Experiential Learning” by Erin McKenna
- UO Duck Corps (Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement) – Corin Bauman

Exploring Community Partnerships

- *NdLfo{jf Sjwf s Usvtu*
 - Presentation: Joe Mol, Executive Director
 - Field trip: Green Island
- *Gppe gps Mbof Dpvoiz*
 - Presentation: Beverlee Potter, Executive Director
 - Field trip: Main facility and Grassroots Garden
- *Djuz pgFvhhof*
 - Presentation: Lucy Vinis, Mayor of Eugene; Ethan Nelson, Intergovernmental Relations and Sustainability Manager
 - Field trip: EWEB square, with presentations from staff focused on housing (including homelessness), urban forestry, and the river development project.
- *Djuz pgTqsjohgfma*
 - Presentation: Gino Grimaldi, City Manager; Courtney Griesel, Economic Development Director
 - Field trip: Downtown Springfield walking tour, with presentations from staff focused on housing (including homelessness), economic development and sustainable growth, and sustainable transport and biking infrastructure.



In addition to the support provided to faculty through the annual workshop and quarterly events, the Sustainability Faculty Fellowship brings visibility and awareness of UO's programs to the broader community.

Community for Environmental Leaders

Overview

The [Community for Environmental Leaders](#) (CEL) is an Academic Residential Program (ARC) for students interested in leadership development and environmental sustainability. CEL was created in 2009 through a partnership between the Office of Sustainability, UO Housing, and the Environmental Studies Program. The CEL program blends academics, off-campus exploration, and residential life to foster a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of life on earth as well as a sense of place in Eugene, OR. The program is designed for students to live and learn with others who share their passion for environmental protection. The CEL facilitates learning through the following program elements:

Residence Hall. The CEL is a place as well as a program. CEL participants lived together on the UO campus in Hawthorne Hall.

Environmental Studies Courses. CEL participants took the introductory sequence of environmental studies courses together during fall, winter, and spring terms. Throughout the year, CEL residents also had priority registration for several environmental issues courses.

CEL Orientation Trip. At the beginning of the academic year, residents spent four days building friendships with each other and exploring a specific environmental topic. Trips focused on watershed ecology, coastal issues, bike transportation, and local agriculture. Each trip included outdoor, hands-on learning on topics important to the Eugene area and UO community.



Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018

The Office of Sustainability worked with campus partners to establish improvements to the CEL that will take place in the 2018-19 AY. These improvements including expanding the CEL's curricular offerings so that students will take a single, four-credit hour course that stretches over the three terms of the academic year. This course is designed specifically and solely for CEL students and it will introduce them to community engagement opportunities and give real world experience as they design and implement their own action projects.

In collaboration with other campus units, we led efforts to transition the CEL to a new dorm, Bean Hall. This move will provide increased accessibility for CEL students with disabilities; removes the need to balance, and therefore limit, students based on gender; and puts the CEL students into a newly-remodeled but still cost-effective living community.

Stoneboat Farm Experiential Learning Proposal

Overview

The Stoneboat Development Fellowship is a nascent project that will connect UO students with a for-credit, experiential learning opportunity focused on the intersections of sustainable agriculture and Latinx agricultural workers and business owners in the Willamette Valley. [Stoneboat Farm](#)—a 30-acre horse-powered, transitional, organic farm located outside Portland—produces heirloom vegetables, flowers, and poultry for area restaurants, farmer's markets, and CSAs. Stoneboat co-owner Jesse Nichols is a 2007 UO graduate in Spanish and International Studies. Jesse's involvement with the nonprofit Adelente Mujeres and the farmworkers' union Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) has led him to develop an ongoing collaboration with enterprising Latinx farmers in the Hillsboro area. He has turned his farm into a laboratory for the development of social relationships and forms of relating to the non-human natural world on which our collective future rests. Through his internship program, CAMPO, Jesse brings Latinx members of these organizations to work at the farm, where they develop their own organic farms and microenterprises.

The Office of Sustainability utilized our strengths in connecting varied stakeholders to achieve a unique, collaborative agreement. In this case, we connected the UO's Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, Stoneboat Farm, and two faculty—Professors Stephen Wooten from [International Studies](#) and Analisa Taylor from [Spanish](#)—to envision a program that will amplify the work of Stoneboat Farm and deepen the academic, professional, and emotional learning of UO students. With generous funding from the Holden Center, Professors Wooten and Taylor will spend the summer 2018

mapping out the proposed program in collaboration with Jesse Nichols of Stoneboat. A formal decision to move forward with the program will happen later in 2018.

Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)

Overview

Last year a consortium of sister institutions across Oregon and Washington completed a longstanding goal to merge their separate sustainability conferences into one unit—[Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference](#). The original Oregon conference began at the University of Oregon and the UO Office of Sustainability was one of the lead stakeholders in bringing this long-planned merger to fruition.

The unofficial consortium agreed to work with a for-profit partner, Social Enterprises, to market the fledgling event and support its implementation. This decision takes pressure of any one institution's sustainability office to do more than its share of work to keep the initiative afloat and brings professionalism and cohesion to the overall endeavor.

The first WOHESC conference took place in February 2018 at Portland State University. The theme of the inaugural conference was Spotlight on Equity and Diversity - Planning for Climate Resilience through Equitable Actions. The UO brought approximately 20 students to the conference, a first time experience for most of them. Office of Sustainability director Steve Mital also gave a presentation.

WOHESC is a regionally focused opportunity for those teaching, working, or studying within higher education to come together and learn about sustainability in academics, operations, and research. Participants will explore ways to advance campus sustainability through the sharing of best practices, presentations on creative solutions to common challenges, and the development of regional collaborative networks. Through these facilitated conversations, workshops, presentations, and networking opportunities conference goers will help advance environmental performance at Washington and Oregon State institutions of higher education, support regional policy goals, and drive the development of a generation of professionals who strive to live and work sustainably.

Sustainability Awards

Overview

Beginning in 2015, the University of Oregon uses its [sustainability awards program](#) to recognize individuals and initiatives whose contributions deepen our culture of sustainability across a range of institutional activities. Previously, the program focused

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solely on students' achievements in sustainability. Nominations are accepted annually in the winter term, with winners announced at an award ceremony in May. Each year, award program sponsors determine the criteria for award selection and run their own selection process. The Office of Sustainability supports the award program, which includes an annual dinner that recognizes and celebrates the winners' efforts.

Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018



The UO Sustainability Awards were presented at a dinner on May 30, 2018. Awards were [granted to recipients in the following categories:](#)

Excellence in Teaching Award, sponsored by the Office of the Provost, Teaching Engagement Program

This award is open to both non-tenure track and tenure track faculty. Candidates for this award have developed pedagogy and curriculum that reinforce and advance principles of sustainability through course design and instruction.

Recipient: Julie Haack – Assistant Department Head and Senior Instructor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Student Leadership in Sustainability Award, sponsored by the Student Sustainability Center

This year awards were given to both a current undergraduate and a graduate student with a minimum 3.0 GPA who has made a significant contribution on campus for sustainability by implementing projects, generating awareness, or creating new initiatives through their extra-curricular involvement.

Recipients: Selena Blick – undergraduate, Environmental Studies; Angie Stapleton – graduate, Masters of Public Administration

Operations Award, sponsored by Facilities Services and Utilities and Energy

This award recognizes an outstanding individual or team whose contributions have improved sustainability performance in the day-to-day operations of the University of Oregon

Recipients: Ernie Dangerfield – Electrician; Brandon Floeck – Electrician; Kenny Ramsdal – Electrician; Roland. D. Guerrero - Electrician

Campus Design Award, sponsored by Design and Construction and Campus Planning

This award will be given to a project sponsor who has demonstrated leadership, excellence, and creativity in implementing the Oregon Model for Sustainable Development.

Recipient: Mark R. Watson – Associate Dean for Research Services

Athletics Award, sponsored by UO Athletics

This award recognizes an individual, team, or departmental unit that is committed to enhancing and advancing sustainability within athletics.

Recipient: John Sargeant – Director of Food and Beverage Concessions Services

Town and Gown Sustainability Award, sponsored by Community Relations

This award is presented to campus individuals or groups for projects that promote, educate, or enhance a more sustainable community. Recipients will be selected based on community outreach, impact, creativity, and partnership.

Recipients: Emily Eng – Senior Planner; Josh Kashinsky – Citation Petition Coordinator; and Kelsey Moore – Bike Program Coordinator

Research Innovation Award, sponsored by Associate Vice President for Innovation

New this year, this award recognizes a University of Oregon project whose innovations were developed in the course of UO research and are now offered as commercially available products or services that improve sustainability.

Recipient: Jim Hutchison – Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Millrace

Overview

[The millrace](#), a channel connecting Willamette River sloughs that was originally dug in the 1850s, has a rich and significant history. Interest in revitalizing the millrace is surging again in part due to plans to site the Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact along its banks. University of Oregon faculty, staff, students, and community members

have conducted numerous projects involving the millrace. These have resulted in engineering studies, maps, historic photos, environmental impact assessments, wildlife studies, stormwater maps, and even a feature film.

The Office of Sustainability and Campus Planning and Facilities Management looks forward to working with faculty and students to preserve the millrace's past and shape its future. To help future students and faculty study this area, Campus Planning and Facilities Management will match millrace projects on a one-to-one basis, up to a total of \$10,000. Additionally, in order to make it easier for faculty, staff, and students to access previous research, the Office of Sustainability has created [a webpage](#) designated to compiling documents, previous research and studies, photos, legal documents, and more.

Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018

We persuaded Landscape Architecture to organize a studio class focusing on the Millrace, which students took in Fall quarter 2017.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND INVOLVEMENT

SCORE – Home energy Assessment

Overview

For the second year in a row, the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), the Office of Sustainability, and the City of Eugene worked together to help tenants and rental owners better understand the energy consumption in their rental properties and possibly help lower monthly utility bills through the



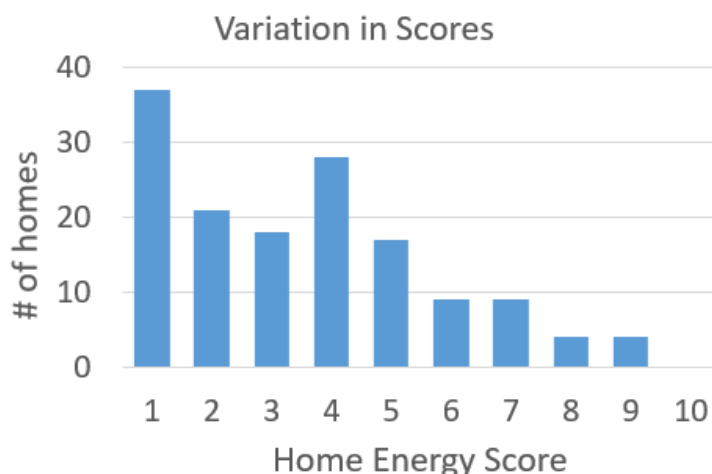
[SCORE Home Energy Assessment Program](#). The program provides free energy efficiency assessments for homes in the EWEB service area. Like a vehicle's miles per gallon, the score allows participants to compare energy performance in their home to others around the nation. In addition to a home score, the report provides participants with average monthly energy costs along with a list of recommended energy improvements and their estimated cost savings. Overall, the program helps tenants and rental owners better understand the energy consumption in their rentals.

EWEB provided a \$3000 grant for management of the program and support from one staff. The City of Eugene contributed \$10,000 for student employees. EWEB selected the assessment tool, promoted the program by sending promotional flyers to 7,000 low-income customer-renters, reviewed student work, and provided student workers with vehicles and tools. UO students received professional training to assess the energy efficiency of single-family homes. The UO Office of Sustainability hired, trained, and supervised nine student workers who conducted the assessments; scheduled home visits; and took responsibility to meet program goals.

Achievements and Activities in 2017-2018

This second year saw a drop in both applicants and completed assessments over year one. 239 customers applied for free home energy scores. Of those, 31 were unable to be scheduled or not at home the day of the scheduled assessment, and five were scored informally as a courtesy to the customer when the property did not meet assessment requirements. In total, student workers officially assessed 144 properties, primarily during weekends, from January to June 2018; EWEB staff assessed another eight for a total of 152

homes scored in year two. Home energy report cards were emailed to tenants and mailed to property owners. The average score was 3.5, with the following distribution.



“1” is the least energy efficient and “10” is the most energy efficient.

From the year two work so far, property owners or tenants have taken on nine efficiency projects, representing \$43,337 invested. Since assessments for the entire program began in January 2017, property owners invested \$147,824 in improvements, saving tenants a combined total of 56,021 kWh per year/These projects save tenants 18,229 kWh per year. Many property owners take up to a year after receiving the assessment before taking action. We will update the investment estimate in one year and report the results again.

rEV Up Eugene!

Overview

For a second year, the Office of Sustainability convened and organized [rEV Up Eugene!](#). In this second year we extended the collaboration to include three local dealers—Guaranty Chevrolet, Kendall Ford, and Lithia Nissan (returning from year one) and returning partners Forth and the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB). The City of Eugene also joined as a partner this year, donating \$10,000 in funding to expand the program and find a permanent home for it. This program was the first EV bulk purchase program in the Northwest in an effort to make it cheaper and easier for people to switch to electric vehicles.

Working with the dealerships, the Office of Sustainability pre-negotiated discounted pricing for EVs. The group discount, coupled with the federal tax credit, took an average of \$15,000 off the sticker price, offering significant savings to program participants. The

Sustainability Office developed and offered four free workshops about electric vehicles and around 100 people total registered for the workshops.

At least 11 people purchased a new EV through the EWEB \$300 rebate program. Additional sales from those who did not request the EWEB rebate are not captured in our totals.

Whether or not additional workshop participants ultimately choose to buy an EV or hybrid plug-in car, they represent a growing group of customers interested in working with their utility to build a more sustainable transportation future. In total, at least 46 EVs have been purchased as a result of the program.

Greenhouse Shipping Container

Overview

The Office of Sustainability negotiated a donation of a shipping container designed to be a plant growing space. We then negotiated with Campus Planning and Housing on a space for it (outside Bean Hall where the Community for Environmental Leaders will be living in the coming year). Last, to get the space set-up for growing, we secured a grant of \$10,000 from the Environmental Studies Program and a gift of lights and other supplies from Imagination International and their [Reli grow systems](#) worth over \$29K.

Initial plans for the space in AY 2018-19 include setting it up to experiment with plant growing, beginning with tomatoes; serving as a living-learning project for interested CEL students; and functioning as an academic and research space for interested faculty.

Chinook Book

Overview

This partnership with [Chinook Book](#) generates a small amount of revenue for the Office of Sustainability and encourages shopping at local restaurants and other businesses by the UO community. Those with a UO email address can download the app, make an account, and receive discounts to multiple local businesses and eateries.

OUTREACH

Conferences/Presentations

- [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education](#), San Antonio, TX, October 15-18, 2017
Presentation: “Community sustainability partnerships: How to stimulate millions in local green investment and expand your program's visibility and impact,” Steve Mital, Director, UO Office of Sustainability
- [Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference](#), Portland, OR, February 6-8, 2018
Panel Moderator: “Low-Carbon Space Heating: Charting the Transition from Natural Gas,” Steve Mital, Director, UO Office of Sustainability
- [International Town and Gown Association](#), Columbus, OH, May 29-June 1, 2018
Presentation: “Stimulating community sustainability investment via university-community partnerships,” Steve Mital, Director, UO Office of Sustainability

Social Media and Communications

Twitter

The Office of Sustainability shares its activities through a Twitter account, which had about 1350 followers in AY 2017-18. [@sustainable_uo](#)

Around the O

The Office of Sustainability collaborates with campus news source [Around the O](#) to disseminate sustainability news and information of interest to the UO campus community.

Research

Economics survey

Overview

The Office of Sustainability collaborated with the Economics Department to run a survey of the UO community determining stakeholders’ interest in “internal carbon pricing programs” to offset university emissions. Our office provided funds and insight while Professor Trudy Cameron and PhD candidate Ryan Walch designed a rigorous survey instrument built on a stated preference model, and analyzed the results. Office of Sustainability Director Steve Mital and Walch plan to present on the findings and their implications at the 2018 AASHE conference in October and will finalize reporting of the results later in AY 2018-19.

Building efficiency assessment

Overview

In an effort to determine if the efficiency of campus buildings was meeting goals and expectations, the Campus Planning and Facilities Management unit (where the Office of Sustainability lives) hired High Performance Environments Lab (HiPE) to conduct a multi-building assessment. HiPE is a research lab based in the Department of Architecture that employs undergraduate and graduate students in their projects.

HiPE completed comprehensive environmental assessments on an older campus building, Straub Hall, and a redesigned and updated one, Lewis Hall. Preliminary results showed that these buildings were not functioning as efficiently as intended, although some of the issues may be mitigated through education and behavior change. The full report from HiPE is coming later in 2018 and the Office of Sustainability will make recommendations for next steps from there.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

The Office of Sustainability could not do the amount and quality of work that we do without the supporting of multiple partners, on campus and in the community. Special thanks to the following partners:

- Multiple University of Oregon departments and units, including:
 - [The Duck Store](#)
 - [Environmental Studies Program](#)
 - [Housing](#)
 - [Outdoor Program](#)
 - [Student Sustainability Center](#)
 - [Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement](#)
 - [Campus Planning and Facilities Management](#)
 - [Sustainability Awards Partners](#) – Directors of Design and Construction, Campus Planning, Senior Director of Community Relations, Student Sustainability Center, Director of Athletics, Teaching Engagement Program, Facilities Services, Utilities and Energy, and the Associate Vice President for Innovation.
- [City of Eugene](#)
- [Eugene Water and Electric Board](#)
- [Forth](#) (formerly Drive Oregon)

Thanks go as well to the University of Oregon [Office of the President](#) for both leadership and support for sustainability efforts at the UO.