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Around the Campus

February 9 from 11-2 pm
  RecycleMania Kick Off
  University Library

February 15 from 2-3 pm
  iPool2 Discussion and Informational
  LC 22

February 20 from 7:30-8:45 pm
  Sustainable Development Goals and Sexual Health
  CC 375

February 21 from 5-7 pm
  Sustainability Networking Event
  Rare Form in Troy, NY (more information inside bulletin)

March 3 from 3-5 pm
  Sustainability Collaborative #2
  Location TBA
The Spring 2017 semester is filled sustainability courses. Visit our website for a list of all sustainability-related and focused courses! Here are a few of the newer ones.

M 5:45-9:25 pm HS 214, Bill Saxonis
The study of energy policy reflects an intricate interplay of economic, legal, regulatory, technological environmental, geopolitical and ethical dimensions. This course will explore these dimensions encouraging class discussion of critical energy policy issues and the analysis of approaches to a clean, secure and equitable energy future.

ACHM 100 Chemistry and Sustainability
T/TH 1:15-2:10 SS116, Alexander Shakhtman
Learn about green energy, water quality, chemistry of fracking and the chemistry of household products. Lab projects include: Testing for caffeine, protein in foods, testing sunscreens and lead detection.

AGOG 325: Global Urbanism and Culture
T/Th 1:15-2:35 pm AS 123, Carlos Balsas
This course explores contemporary debates on globalization, global urbanism and culture. It covers a series of themes central to cities, planning and public policy. These include among others: the role of culture in fostering multicultural cities, the relationships between urban sustainability and environmental planning, the geography of culture, the creative class, cultural industries, the arts and culture sector, local economies and place identity, cultural policies and urban regeneration programs, local and regional resilience networks, public space, local heritage, sense of belonging, community development, and global futures.
GOG506/PLN 538: Energy, Environment, and Climate  
T/TH 1:15-2:35 pm AS 123, Andrei Lapenas  
*Energy, Environment, and Climate* addresses the response of the global environment to rising energy consumption by human civilization. The structure of this course reflects on the premise that energy consumption and climate change are inherently-connected issues requiring a holistic study approach.

HESH 560: Sustainability, Green Design and Public Health  
T/Th 9-10:20 am GEC C6, Xiaobo Xue  
This course covers the theory, principles, and measures of promoting sustainability and improving public health through innovative interventions. Throughout the lectures, case studies and field trips, this course helps the students to gain understanding of interconnections between human health, sustainability and green design, to obtain qualitative and quantitative skills for assessing environmental and public health sustainability, and to prepare for their future professional endeavors.

ETAP 687: Education for Civic Engagement and Learning  
Online Course, Brett Levy  
Through readings, discussions, multi-media, and projects, we will address questions related to the theory, research, and practice of education for civic engagement and learning. In the process, we will explore perspectives from various fields, including education, political science, sociology, psychology, and environmental studies.

ETAP 750: Environmental Education  
M 4:15-7:05 pm HU 027, Alan Oliveira  
This seminar is designed for all doctoral and masters level students with an interest in the teaching and learning of environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, biodiversity, and animals. With an emphasis on STEM, this course will focus on current topics and substantive issues in the scholarly literature, including ecological thinking, moral reasoning, environmental literacy, controversial topics, environmental values, outdoor education, ethical dilemmas, socio-scientific argumentation, and place-based education.
Maggie Hartley is an Internal Communications Editor in the UAlbany Office of Communications and Marketing. She “greens” her commute to campus each week by taking the bus and carpooling. She gave us a testimonial about her alternative transportation practices.

“When my husband and I moved to the country, committed to growing our own food and raising animals, we didn’t completely think through the job thing. Turns out jobs are few and far between when you live in the northern wilds.

So 30 years later we’re still growing a lot of food, raising chickens, goats and sundry other animals. And I’m commuting long distances to get to work.

Fortunately, I’ve found ways to ease the commute, and somewhat lessen my personal carbon footprint.

Twice a week I can catch a ride with a neighbor who works near the University when she’s not working from her home office. At least once a week I take CDTA’s Northway Express bus. As for the two other days, I am an irresponsible solo commuter.

I like breaking up the week. I love riding with my neighbor and I enjoy the bus, too. It’s well used, which strengthens my conviction a lot of people would use mass transportation if there was more of it. Because I live in the wilds, I still have to drive a fair distance to get the bus. And since it goes downtown, I have to catch another bus to get to the University.
Those two things make the bus commute too long to consider doing more often. But taking the bus is relaxing – I can read or knit or nap – and I don’t have stress about traffic or weather. I’d take it more often if it came right to the University instead of going downtown.

It’s a good option for once a week anyway, or more often if the weather’s bad or my husband needs my car. And my University ID card is a free bus pass. You can’t beat that!”

511NY Rideshare and Informational

What to save money and the environment? The Office of Human Resources Management, the Department of Parking and Mass Transit Services, and the Office of Sustainability are pleased to inform you that as part of the University’s continued transportation demand management efforts we will be relaunching the ridesharing program, 511NY Rideshare.

The ride-matching system is a FREE online tool that can find you a carpool, vanpool or a bike buddy along a specified route or in an area of your origin or destination.

Wednesday, February 15, 2-3 pm in LC 22

For more information, please visit 511nyrideshare.org
Kurunthachalam Kanan is an environmental chemistry professor in the School of Public Health and senior staff at the Department of Health, Wadsworth Center. His research interests include environmental and biomonitoring studies that determine environmental sources, pathways, and dynamics and fate of chemical pollutants. His recent study about baby teethers received national attention.

Kanan and his colleagues’ findings, which were published in *American Chemical Society’s Journal of Environmental Science and Technology* and featured in a variety of media outlets, show that most teethers labeled “non-toxic” or “BPA-free” are not entirely free of toxic chemicals. They tested 59 teethers, from 23 different brands, available in the American market that consisted of gel, water and solid models. Although all teethers were labeled “BPA-free” and some “non-toxic”, *all 59 models contained traces of BPA*. They tested for 26 endocrine-disrupting chemicals and the majority of the models contained at least 15-20% of these toxic chemicals. This study is significant because these endocrine-disrupting chemicals can potentially affect neurologic, developmental and reproductive health in growing infants. The Food and Drug Administration has banned BPA (bisphenol-A) in sippy cups and baby bottles.
CBS News Medical Contributor, Dr. Tara Narula from the Lenox Hill Hospital-Northwell Health, suggested to avoid these teethers and use more “homeopathic, homegrown alternatives”. Some of these include:

- Frozen washcloth, carrot, bagel, or waffle
- Wood
- Natural, organic cotton

You can view the entire video [here](#).
2017 marks UAlbany’s tenth year competing in RecycleMania, a friendly national competition among over 400 colleges and universities. Beginning February 5th and for the next eight weeks, schools across the United States and Canada will report data on their recycling and waste. This will then be used to determine rankings based on several categories including recycling weight per person, recycling rate as a percentage of total waste and generating the least amount of combined trash and recycling.

This year, UAlbany will be participating in the following:

- Diversion rate (which is recycling + composting divided by total waste)
- Per Capita Classic
- Electronics recycling
- Total Recycling
- Organics (compost)

Last year, UAlbany ranked 10th in the nation in the organics division and received 5th most improved for recycling rate.

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**Reduce**—”Reduce” means using fewer resources in the first place. This is the most effective of the three R’s and the place to begin. For example, an easy way to use less paper is to print only when you need to and to print double sided.

**Reuse**—Before you recycle or dispose of anything, consider whether it has life left in it. Reusing keeps new resources from being used for a while longer and old resources from entering the waste stream. For example, water bottle refilling stations are placed across campus to make it easier to use your water bottle.

**Recycle**—Recycling is the “R” that has caught on the best. Here at UAlbany, we have commingled recycling, which means you can put all of your recyclables in the same bin!

*For more information about recycling and waste reduction, please check out our brochure.*
RecycleMania Kick Off Event
*Thursday, February 9 from 2-11 pm @ University Library*
Join us to learn more about RecycleMania, how you can get involved, play a waste sorting challenge and win prizes!

Trashion Fashion
*Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 pm @ Campus Center Ballroom*
Do you have what it takes to be UAlbany’s next great designer? UAlbany is hosting our 4th Annual Trashion Fashion show, where you can create an ensemble made from reclaimed and recyclable materials. Entry categories include Student and Greek Organization, LLC, Living Area (Quad/Apartments), Individual and Campus Office. Winning student designs will win a gift card valuing $100 and the winning campus office will receive a breakfast sponsored by the UAlbany Students for Sustainability. The entry form on MyInvolvement will be available in mid-February.

**Basketball Game Recycling**—UAlbany Students for Sustainability (USS) will be sponsoring the recycling program happening at UAlbany basketball games, where we pick up recyclables in efforts to make the sports games more sustainable. Anyone or any group is welcome to lend a hand, and community service hours can be given. To sign up, please visit the UAlbany Green Scene MyInvolvement page, click on forms, and select the basketball game you are available to volunteer. For more information, please email USS President Jessica Tsang (jtsang@albany.edu), or visit the Office of Sustainability in BA 309.

**Get Caught Green Handed**—Look out for the UAlbany Green Scene during RecycleMania. Students caught practicing the 3R’s will be rewarded with small giveaways.
Sustainability Coordinators—Sustainability Plan Working Group

The coordinators are currently taking on the task of exploring a sustainability plan for the University at Albany.

The Office of Sustainability is looking for representatives from every building and department on campus. The Sustainability Coordinators program gives university employees the opportunity to work with the Office of Sustainability on various Green Scene initiatives. All coordinators complete a training and agree to serve as the point person for sustainability matters. They also offer professional development opportunities for the coordinators group. This semester they will meet on the **first Wednesday of each month from 12-1 pm in BA 349**. If you would like to join or nominate someone from your area, please contact the office at gogreen@albany.edu.

Green Workspace Challenge

The Green Workspace Challenge is a voluntary program for faculty and staff to self-report sustainable practices in the workplace. If you are interested in becoming Green Workspace Certified, you can email gogreen@albany.edu and find out more information [here](mailto:gogreen@albany.edu).

Beyond Doom and Gloom: Include Solutions to Climate Change

*March 1, 12:30-1:30 pm, webinar*

Are you or your students worried about the impacts of climate change and not sure how to help create significant improvements? Are you connecting your students to ways to be involved in solutions? This webinar focuses on expert, faculty friendly curricular materials to engage students in current and future solutions that can be used in any course and in any discipline. Join us to see how you can be part of reducing doom and gloom and share opportunities for progress. Sign up for this free webinar [here](mailto:here).
Capital Roots

The Greater Capital Region Food System Assessment is seeking researchers and interns to contribute to the Production, Distribution, and Processing sections of the Assessment. Research opportunities are available for a wide variety of majors. Please follow the link for more information. You may email Marissa at foodassessment@capitalroots.org if you have any questions.

UAlbany Research Assistants positions available for Undergraduate Graduate Students

Dr. Kleppel and Dr. Xue are seeking a student interested in environmental studies who will assist them in conducting literature reviews, collecting literature datasets and performing data analysis. The position runs from February 2017 to January 2018 and are expected to work 20 hours a week. Please direct any questions to gkleppel@albany.edu or xxue@albany.edu.

Alliance for Clean Energy NY Clean Energy Fellow

ACE NY is seeking graduate student applicants for a Clean Energy Fellow during the summer of 2017. This is a full-time, season, paid position. Please follow this link for a full description of the fellowship. Applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to Zack Dufresne at zdufresne@aceny.org.

Historic Albany Foundation

The Historic Albany Foundation is seeking students to assist with the Plaque Program, Historic Walking Tour development and a warehouse intern. Please email Cara Macri at cmacri@albany.edu with any questions. You can find a full description of the internships here.
NYS Writer’s Institute Speaker and Reading

February 9, 2017

Physicist, oceanographer and broadcaster, Helene Czerski, will discuss her new book *Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life*, which explores the science of popcorn, coffee, stains and more at 4:15 in the Standish Room. Join her for a reading at 8 pm in the PAC Recital Hall.

The Last Crop Film Screening and Q&A Session

February 23, 2017, Madison Theater, 7 pm

This screening is a collaboration with the National Young Farmers Coalition, the Agricultural Stewardship Association, and the Madison Theater. The film will be introduced by the filmmaker Chuck Schultz, and be followed by a Q&A. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit their [website](#).

98 Acres in Albany: Telling the Social History of Urban Renewal

February 22, 12:30-1:30 pm; Science Library Standish Room

Dr. David Hochfelder, UAlbany Dept of History and Recipient of the Presidential Initiatives Fund for Research and Scholarship, will discuss his “98 Acres in Albany” project. It chronicles the 1962 appropriation of 98 acres for the construction of the Empire State Plaza, which demolished 1,200 buildings and displaced 8,000 people.

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Community

UAlbany Students for Sustainability

The USS group helps host various sustainability events on campus and provides community service and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to get involved, please email the President of the USS group, Jessica Tsang at tsang@albany.edu.

Environmental Consortium of Colleges & Universities Scholarships

The Environmental Consortium has several scholarships available to students at member institutions (UAlbany is a member!).

◊ Elisabeth Haub School of Law Pace University Scholarship— for a member institution student who has demonstrated an interest in environmental issues affecting the Hudson Mohawk region.

◊ Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. Founders Fund Scholarship— for a student who has demonstrated excellence and outstanding dedication in the field of study that falls within an environmental field of a school or department.

How to Get a Job in Sustainability: Building a Leadership Career in Business, NGOs and Government

Dr. Goodstein will outline different sustainability career directions, evaluate the new administration’s impact on sustainability jobs, and discuss graduate school. Three free webinars will be available on Thursday 2/9 at 6 pm and 2/16 at 6:30 pm. Click on the previous links to register.

UAlbany Sustainability Current Student and Alumni Networking Event

Join us for Green Drinks on February 21, 2017 from 5-7:30 pm at Rare Form in Troy. This is a great opportunity to network with UAlbany sustainability alumni and sustainability professionals in the Capital District area. Please RSVP if you plan on attending. The next networking event will be on March 21 from 8-9 am at Cider Belly Donuts.
Office Waste Reduction Tips for Paper and Printing Products

Nearly every office, large or small, relies on large quantities of paper. Check out these tips to help reduce the amount of paper and printing products that are used at your workplace.

◊ **Use both sides of paper:** When making copies, set your machine to use both sides of paper and cut your consumption in half.

◊ **Shred and reuse unwanted paper:** Instead of throwing away old documents, shred them and reuse them as packing material in shipments. You can also use the backside of 1-sided documents as note or scrap paper.

◊ **Reuse boxes:** When you get shipments in, save your boxes so that you can use them again for shipments out.

◊ **Avoid color printing:** Color printing generally uses more ink, so print in black and white when you can.

◊ **Print in draft mode:** To conserve even more ink, print in draft mode. It will generally lighten the shade, but you’ll still be able to read your copy clearly.

◊ **Consider alternative paper:** Think about buying paper made from hemp, bamboo or organic cotton.

◊ **Buy recycled toner and ink:** Cartridges contribute metal and plastic to landfills, but buying toner and ink that’s refilled can help alleviate this environmental burden.

◊ **Distribute memos via email:** Instead of printing out memos for distribution, email them and let employees decide whether or not they wish to print them.

◊ **Store manuals, policies and other documents online:** Don’t print out huge employee handbooks. Allow employees to access PDF copies at their leisure.

◊ **Reduce margins:** Reduce your margin settings so that your printer uses less paper.

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