Message from the Director

It’s been an awesome year! As I reflect on the activities, I am so impressed with all we have accomplished as a community: the student group, USS, is thriving; attendance is growing at our events; and we’ve established several new traditions on campus, including Harvest Fest and the Earth Day Food and Art Festival.

Over the next couple of months, I’ll be diligently calculating our carbon footprint as I do every summer. I hope to see our numbers decline once again. We are approaching a tipping point in the environment where we need an “all hands on deck” mentality with respect to incorporating environmentally responsible practices and choosing alternatives to carbon. Our summer vacation will be spent planning new campaigns for the fall to encourage greater campus engagement so everyone will have the opportunity to contribute and make a difference.

We also want to say goodbye to our graduating seniors in the Green Scene, many of who have been involved in raising campus awareness for years. Congrats to Mike Antidormi, Sam Basile, Adam Donaghy, Cassidy Drasser, Stephen Ellis, Jessica Fine, Annalisa Greco, Nicole Wolodzko and Sam Hiza for all their hard work!

And we are thrilled to be included once again in this year’s edition of the Princeton’s Guide to Green Colleges!

A special note to students, we are launching the sixth annual Give and Go program this week, so don’t forget to give us your gently used but unwanted items when you move out. See more on page 2 about the program.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and restful summer!
Campus Events
Give and Go

Moving out at the end of the semester? Give a second life to your unwanted items by dropping them off at one of the “pod units” that will be located on each quad beginning May 15th. We will match your contribution with a new owner and donate the remaining items to the Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region. If you’d like to volunteer to sort the items during the week of May 19th or the 26th, email mleciejewski@albany.edu.

Don’t Trash These!

- Furniture
- Clothes
- Working Appliances
- Working Electronics
- Non-perishable food items

Keep an eye out for the new collection bins
Earth and Wellness Day

This year’s Earth and Wellness Day saw a flurry of activity. On April 18th, over 350 staff members and students dropped by to check out the exhibitors, student fair, clothing exchange, health zone, and the therapy dogs. The Office of Environmental Sustainability would like to thank all the employees and community members who attended and volunteered.

Food and Art Festival

Over 200 students came out to Liberty Terrace on April 20th for the Food and Art Fest. Students happily grazed on pie from Smith’s Orchard Bake Shop, chocolate milk from Battenkill Valley Creamery, and cheeses from Maplebrook, all while enjoying the sound stylings of student performers and art displays made from reclaimed materials. Props to ResLife’s Greg Back for pulling off the event.
Castles Made of Cardboard

Though blustery spring winds forced our twenty-man crew to move the construction of the campus cardboard castle indoors and though we didn’t break any national records, the event should still be considered a success. The student volunteers enthusiastically came together to bring senior Physics major, Lianna D’Brant’s vision to life. Not claiming the national title has only made students hungrier for next year’s win! Thanks to Tim Reilly and those on campus who stockpiled the cardboard.

Farm-to-Table Dinner

Professor Gary Kleppel and students from the World of Environmental Sustainability LLC hosted a farm-to-table dinner attended by faculty and staff on the evening of April 20th. All food served (except the spices) were locally sourced and cooked by the students and Professor Kleppel. The students prepared dishes based on their local traditions including Toasted Ravoli from St. Louis and Jamaican Jerk Chicken. A scrumptious time was had by all!
University at Albany Family Earth Day

On Sunday, April 21st, Professor Roberta Johnson and the Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Science brought UAlbany the first Family Earth Day. The event focused on teaching youngsters ages 4 to 10 about Earth science.

Local celebrity and CBS6 Meteorologist Mark Johnson fielded questions from both the young and old, including: “Is it fun being a weatherman?” (Definitely) and “What’s the safest place in America to be away from extreme weather conditions?” (Each region has its challenges.)

Seventy-seven children participated in the learning activities made possible with the assistance of over 30 UAlbany student volunteers. With such success, we hope to make the event into another UAlbany tradition!

Check out video here.

Purple Path Walk

On April 22nd— the date nationally recognized as Earth Day— faculty and staff discovered the path around the restored Indian Pond to learn about the sustainable features of the area including biodiverse plantings and a foot bridge made reclaimed materials. Thanks to EAP for arranging the Earth Day lunch break and to campus planners Frank Fazio and Jason Kersch for leading the delightful tour. Click here to learn more about the Purple Path project.
The Spring Sustainability Roundtable showcased another series of thought-provoking presentations on research. Dr. Kristin Hessler of the Philosophy Department discussed her work on golden rice, which contains beta carotene and is designed to address vitamin A deficiencies in diets. Dr. Hessler contends that golden rice, while a genetically engineered product, is not subject to the usual environmental objections of genetically modified items for the following reasons: it does not cause environmental harm; it does not serve as a Trojan Horse for the biotechnology industry; it is not a product of a for-profit corporation; it provides as much benefit as alternatives; and it is a complementary strategy. Dr. Hessler concludes that golden rice should be viewed different from other genetically modified food products.

Dr. George Robinson gave an intriguing talk entitled: Is UAlbany a Campus or a Parking Lot? He discussed several elements that lead to increased carbon emissions, with an emphasis on single occupancy vehicles. He calculated that it takes 1,000 trees to absorb the amount of CO2 produced from a year of driving. He advocated for the reduction of reliance on cars by setting measurable goals, tracking emissions, promoting and expanding alternative transportation options, redefining convenience and using effective incentives.

The UAlbany community logs over 22,000,000 commuting miles per year, which equates to 10,500 metric tons of CO2 equivalent or over 15% of our total amount. Reduce your footprint by using the bus, biking or walking. You can sign up to find a carpool partner at IPool2.com. This service includes a guaranteed ride home in case of emergencies.

The last roundtable discussion featured guest speaker Dr. John Gowdy of RPI who drew fascinating parallels among human beings, ants and termites. What do we all have in common? Dr. Gowdy is studying that link with other professors from across the state and they have identified all these as “superorganisms,” who characterized by their perceived dominance of the ecosystem and dedication to producing an economics surplus, even sacrificing the individual for the collective good to maintain and grow the surplus. Dr. Gowdy showed a fascinating You Tube clip called “Ant City” that highlights ants’ complex underground systems (see picture at right). Termites have developed similar systems; in fact, their dwellings are so sophisticated in their ability to distribute cooling, engineers study these structure to enhance our building practices. One superorganism learning from another!
Bikable UAlbany Update

The Bikable UAlbany initiative has completed its first year and here is an update:

The bike share program continues to grow. This year we saw the bikes signed out over 300 times - a huge jump from last year! We are working to improve the quality of the service, the number of bikes in the program and their availability. Bikes can now be registered for free at Parking and Mass Transit and then tagged by UPD. To date, only 46 people have taken advantage of this service. Additionally, several new bike racks have been installed across campus.

Next year, SA will be spearheading an initiative to develop a bike co-op. This will be a place where campus bikers can come and use tools to maintain and fix their bikes. We also hope to expand the number of areas where one can sign out a bike for the bike share program and get some bike shelters and additional bike racks installed. Send any suggestions on improvements to: gogreen@albany.edu. And don’t forget to use a helmet provided when you bike!

Composting Wrap Up

This January, the Office of Environmental Sustainability and UAS collaborated to bring the composting pilot project to Indian Quad. Students involved with the UAlbany Green Scene have been advocating for a composting program for many years now, recognizing how much food waste the university produces. During just one semester at one residential area - without any students in the tower - we diverted 47 tons of food from our waste stream, and sent it to a composting facility in Schenectady with the services of Empire Zero. Dining facilities employees at Indian Quad were trained about back-of-the-house composting procedures, which saves a significant amount of time and money compared with altering the student routines. If the composting program were expanded to the other campus dining facilities, UAlbany would potentially divert over 400 tons of food waste per year!

Shredding Day

Campus-wide Shredding Day has been postponed to the rain-date May 17th!

If you headed out to the Science Library or read your University mail on May 3rd, you know that Shredding Day experienced a hiccup this year. Complications with the ProShred truck forced us to put off the campus holiday. If you dropped off documents before we received the news, they are stored at a secure location and will be shredded. For those who are still holding onto their materials, meet us at the shredding drop-off sites on May 17th.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shredding Drop-Off Sites</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Uptown Campus</strong>—Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library/Bus Circle: 9:00—</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MSC Parking Lot:</strong></td>
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<td>11:15—11:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Downtown Campus</strong>—Corner of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robin &amp; Washington: 1:00—2:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>East Campus</strong>—C-Wing Parking</td>
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<td>Lot: 2:30—3:30 pm</td>
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Student News

Council Chairs

Congratulations to the new Student Sustainability Advisory Council Chairs!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whitney Pasternack</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
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<td>Zach Signor</td>
<td>Recruitment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Taylor</td>
<td>Recruitment</td>
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<td>Nia Sanders</td>
<td>Recycling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ting Zhao</td>
<td>Recycling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Colley</td>
<td>Energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassidy Drasser</td>
<td>Alternative Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameron Sagan</td>
<td>Alternative Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Cassidy</td>
<td>Grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason DuMond</td>
<td>Grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jess Ranni</td>
<td>Intercollegiate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dylan Card</td>
<td>Intercollegiate</td>
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<td>Nichole Gregor</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td>Mike Antidormi</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Rozins</td>
<td>Public Relations</td>
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<td>Tom McCarty</td>
<td>Promotions</td>
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UAlbany Students for Sustainability E-Board

The new officers for the UAlbany Students for Sustainability student group are:

- President: Dylan Card
- Vice President: Nichole Gregor
- Treasurer: Jess Ranni
- Secretary: Katie McNece

Congratulations to all!
President’s Leadership Award for Sustainability

The Sustainability Leadership Award honors a student or students who contribute to the advancement of environmental, economic and social sustainability within the UAlbany campus and surrounding community. The students will have demonstrated a leadership role in raising awareness and increasing campus involvement in advancing sustainability. This year, an undergraduate and graduate student were recognized with the award.

Undergraduate Award

Cassidy Drasser is a graduating senior. She first became involved with sustainability her freshman year living in the first freshman sustainability themed house. She has served on the Sustainability Council and Executive Board for UAlbany Students for Sustainability. She just finished up her term as President for the group. Cassidy also oversaw the implementation and reporting of the Hertz on Demand car share program which has grown to over 800 members. We’re glad Cassidy will be joining us again next year as a graduate student!

Graduate Student Award

Greg Back has served as the Head of Specialty Programming for University Apartments since August 2012. He established two new events including the Harvest Festival and the Earth Day Food and Art Fest. Greg has been an ally of the sustainability movement since his undergrad years here when he served on the sustainability council and as a RA created programs such as “Meet your Meat.” Greg spends his free time brewing local beer and hiking. Keep up with his adventures by perusing his blog!

Vital Volunteers Luncheon

Another heartfelt congrats to senior Sam Hiza, who spoke at the Vital Volunteers Luncheon on April 20th. Sam was one of three students recognized by President Jones for her sustained commitment to community service throughout her impressive college career.
Around Town
Hazardous Waste Collections

The Albany Department of General Services conducts drop off events for mercury-filled items, electronics and other hazardous waste for safe disposal of these items. Residents must pre-register to participate. After registration items can be dropped off at the City of Albany Landfill, 525 Rapp Road, Albany, New York 12205 on: June 6, September 5, September 19, October 3 and October 17. To register and for a list of items visit their website.

Schenectady’s collection is open to Schenectady residents only, no businesses, non-profits or institutions; quantities larger than one carload may be rejected. Registration is required, register at www.schenectadycounty.com/hhw and a composting permit is required, call 518-399-6980 for a permit. Bring fluorescent tubes up to 4ft. Long, mercury thermostats or thermometers, leftover of unused household cleaners, paints and lawn and garden chemicals in the original container with the original label to Schenectady County Composting and Recycling Facility, 24 Hetcheltown Rd. Glenville on June 22 8am-noon, July 20 8am-noon, August 24 8am-noon, September 18 3pm-6pm, October 12 8am-noon and November 16 8am-noon. For more info click here or call 518-386-2225.

Organic Gardening

Have you always wanted to have your own vegetable garden but don’t know where to begin? Join us for a hands-on workshop that is going to get you excited about gardening and eating healthier! You will learn how to design, plant, maintain and harvest your own gardening space. Weather permitting, this class will be held in a causal outdoor setting on Thursday May 23 from 6:30pm to 8pm at Fehr Ave. Roots and Wisdom Garden. The cost is $5.
Albany Pine Bush Events

May 23: 7:30pm - 8:30pm Almost Full Moon Hike, $3 fee
May 25/26: 1:00pm - 2:30pm Karner Blue Butterfly Walk, $3 fee
May 27: 1:00pm - 2:30pm Lupine Walk, $3 fee.

All hikes begin at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center located at 195 New Karner Road, Albany NY, 12205.
For more info call 518-456-0655.

Smart Guide For Savvy Travelers

Trying to plan a guilt-free summer getaway? Don’t forget to visit SustainableTrip.org. The site is managed by the Rainforest Alliance- an organization that protects biodiversity by encouraging consumer behavior, business practices and land use principles. The site lists hotels, tour operators, and related businesses according to their commitment to sustainability. SustainableTrip.org is currently active in Mexico, Central America, South American and the Caribbean.

Sustainable Apparel Coalition

A growing interest in more sustainable methods and sources of supply among businesses leaders and consumers has exposed a need for industry-wide environmental and social goals. The Sustainable Apparel Coalition (SAC) was founded to coordinate and facilitate those objectives. Group targets include improved water-use efficiency and protection of water resources, reduced energy demand and reduced carbon emissions, reduction and reuse strategies for textile waste, and end-of-life plans for apparel products.
Opportunities

As a continuing feature, we are bringing you listings for sustainability-related jobs both in and out of the area, internships, scholarships and other professional development opportunities.

Jobs

**Butler University’s Center for Urban Ecology Sustainability Coordinator**

The Center for Urban Ecology (CUE) at Butler University invites applications for Butler’s first Sustainability Coordinator. We seek applicants who share our passion for creative solutions to issues related to campus sustainability, urban ecology, and sustainable cities. Butler’s Sustainability Coordinator will develop and oversee sustainability programming for faculty, staff and students and promote Butler’s campus sustainability to local, regional and national audiences. This position reports to the director of the Center for Urban Ecology and will work closely with Butler’s existing Sustainability Council, students, faculty and staff to develop and execute the University’s sustainability program.

Requirements include: Masters degree in sustainability, environmental studies, ecological sciences, environmental design or related field. Preference is given to applicants with prior experience managing campus sustainability initiatives including student programming and community engagement. Salary is commensurate with experience. Review of applications will begin June 1, 2013. We anticipate a start date in late summer 2013. Interested applicants should email a cover letter, resume, an example of creative work, and contact information for three references in a single PDF file to:

Timothy Carter, Director
Center for Urban Ecology
Butler University
4600 Sunset Ave
Indianapolis, IN 46208
tlcarter@gmail.com

**University of Maryland—Community Garden Coordinator**

The Community Garden Coordinator, with a coalition of community partners, will facilitate the creation of an intergenerational training ground for small-scale, intensive, sustainable agriculture. Working with a dynamic team of project leaders, the VISTA will transform an abandoned parcel of land into a garden bursting with nutritious vegetables grown by refugee families, middle school students, and other neighborhood residents. The Coordinator will:

1. Collaboratively develop a concept plan for the garden with input and approval from neighborhood residents and partner agencies.
2. Coordinate the building and development of the garden.
3. Fundraise $2,000 for garden materials and coordinate installation with volunteers.
4. Recruit 150 partner agency representatives and neighborhood residents to participate in workdays, educational workshops, and ongoing garden maintenance.
5. Develop a system for measuring impacts of the garden on participants.

For more information, see the job posting.

**AASHE Job Listings**

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education listed a few job offers in their bulletin. They include assistant professors and sustainability coordinators all over the United States. For a list of job opportunities, click here and scroll down to “Opportunities.”
Internships

WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) interns are given a wide range of assignments including conducting research, managing incoming inquiries, attending meetings, and writing memos on a variety of environmental issues. Interns have the opportunity to be involved in groundbreaking projects, working closely with staff from all levels and a variety of backgrounds. The pace in the office is fast, so accuracy and attention to detail are absolute requirements. Interns can expect to begin with the basics and gradually add more specialized projects as they gain experience.

Qualifications Needed: We are seeking students who are:

- Highly motivated
- Willing to contribute where needed
- Have the ability to handle the inherent pressure that comes with working within the Executive Office of the President.

Additionally, candidates should have:

- Excellent communications skills
- Computer literacy
- Relevant classroom or practical experience

We strongly prefer candidates who are available to work full-time, but will consider applicants who cannot. CEQ will work with interns who are attempting to arrange credit with a college or university to help fulfill academic requirements. All internship positions are unpaid.

Most interns work a typical semester-based schedule (May – August, September – December, January – April); however a position may be customized based on applicant availability and project needs. Deadlines for applications are March 1 (Summer), July 1 (Fall), and November 1 (Spring).

For more info click here.

CAPITAL DISTRICT COMMUNITY GARDENS

CDCG is seeking grads & undergrads for unpaid internships with the Produce Project, a job training program which since 2009 has engaged youth from Troy High School in the year-round production and sale of organic vegetables. With help from the program’s Farmer and Educator, students manage their crops from seed through sale, while earning a stipend and a food share to take home to their families.

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION INTERN:

- Assists Farmer and Educator in refining and applying an activity-based curriculum that uses sustainable agriculture as a tool to develop critical job and life skills, as well as tangible experience in science, math, leadership and communication
- Works with urban youth and acts as a role model in horticultural, culinary and life skills
- Assists in regular farm tasks
- Provides administrative support

Qualifications:

- Has or wishes to acquire farming and/or teaching experience
- Enjoys the outdoors, and is enthusiastic about youth empowerment and food issues
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office & Excel

Compensation:

- Unpaid; college credit may be available
- Weekly share of organic produce

Interns will have the opportunity to pursue related interests and special projects toward fulfillment of the program. Spring, summer and fall internships are available.

Please send resume and cover letter to Tolu Fashoro, Educator, at proproeducator@cdcg.org
Summer Communications Internship

Internship Description:
The Office of Environmental Sustainability is seeking a motivated and energetic intern to assist with a communications facelift. The intern would possess a great deal of creative freedom. He or she would be responsible for the creation of an overall marketing strategy for programs and events. This will include compiling our monthly bulletin, developing flier templates for a variety of sustainability engagement initiatives, assisting with social media management and completing other assignments as requested. The intern must work a minimum of 12-15 hours weekly. Our office will be flexible with hour distribution during the summer (i.e. shift hours if a student goes on vacation, etc.). The internship is unpaid.

Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

- **Marketing Strategy** - Devise placement locations and schedule for communication materials and fliers to best advertise events and programming.
- **Monthly Newsletter** - Redesign layout and direction for newsletter using Microsoft Publisher and ISSUU. Assist in the creation of content.
- **Poster Marketing** - Design flier and poster templates to assist in brand recognition for UAlbany Green Scene.
- **Social Media** - Monitor the official UAlbany Green Scene Facebook and Twitter pages.
  - Acquire and/or create content (e.g. photos, videos, questions, trivia) for social media use.
  - Provide support to social media efforts to target new audiences.

**Qualifications:**

1. Excellent writing and communication skills
2. Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite applications, especially Publisher
3. Background or strong interest in environmental issues/sustainability
4. Demonstrated creativity and documented immersion in social media (e.g. personal blog, Twitter/Facebook/YouTube accounts, etc.)
5. Project-oriented with strong self-initiative
6. Adaptable to organizational changes and new projects
7. Positive attitude, commitment and follow-through

**Deadline:**
Applications for the summer internship will be reviewed on a rolling basis. If interested, send a resume and letter of intent to Mary Alexis Leciejewski at mleciejewski@albany.edu. Questions about the internship can be addressed to Mary Alexis at 518-956-8120.
Get Involved in Sustainability

UAlbany Students For Sustainability (USS)

The USS strives to raise awareness and implement programming and events designed to encourage sustainable behavior on campus. If you are interested in the group, contact them at their My Involvement page.

Student Sustainability Council

The Student Sustainability Council serves as an advisory body to the Office of Environmental Sustainability. It is comprised of appointed chairs and delegates from the residential halls, the Student Association, the Graduate Student Organization and other invited student groups. Students must apply and complete a sustainability training session to be eligible for a chair position. Joining the USS group is an important first step in becoming a chair.

Supporting our Programs

Did You Know? That you can help the sustainability office finance its programs by contributing to the UAlbany fund and designating the “Office of Environmental Sustainability” as the recipient. For details on how to give, click here.

Faculty and Staff Sustainability Coordinators

The sustainability coordinators program is designed for faculty and staff members who wish to help increase awareness about sustainable operations on campus. Coordinators meet the first Tuesday of every month at noontime during the academic year. If you would like to become a coordinator or would like to nominate someone from your department, contact Mary Ellen at 956-8120 or by email at mmallia@albany.edu. A full list of coordinators can be found on our website.

THINKGREEN listserv

The ThinkGreen listserv is tailored for faculty who’d like to participate in developing academic offerings related to sustainability, such as hosting speakers and research forums, developing new content units within existing courses or developing new courses. Click here or contact Mary Ellen Mallia to subscribe for the listserv.

Academic activity this fall includes the continuation of the World of Environmental Sustainability living, learning community, several one credit freshman seminars and the return of the sustainability roundtable, featuring research from our faculty and graduate students. A working group has been formed to identify coordinated curriculum opportunities.
Spring Events

May
15 to 17 Give and Go
17 Shredding Day Rain Date
19 Graduation

Stay up to date by accessing our online calendar.