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Photo by Mark McCarthy; Cover Photo by Gary Gold
The waning heat and quiet of summer has once again given way to a bustling school year and the increasing crispness that reminds us changes are coming fast. This autumn, as the trees begin to display their oranges and reds, UAlbany will inaugurate a new president and put finishing touches on buildings, while underscoring its commitment to sustainability in ways old and new.

For the seventh consecutive fall, we will be participating in the Energy Campaign, a university-wide challenge to reduce our electricity usage by ten percent compared to baselines measured in previous years. In our first Green Scene edition of the school year, we highlight UAlbany’s electricity usage. As you leaf through these pages, pick a few simple tricks to eco-hack your campus lifestyle and join UAlbany’s growing movement towards a healthy future. For the first time, UAlbany will offer a Sustainability minor. Learn how students from all majors can study the interdisciplinary topic from many perspectives.

Increasingly, sustainability is being recognized as vital to university culture. In The Princeton Review’s 2013 "College Hopes & Worries Survey," sixty-two percent of nearly 10,000 college applicants said having information about a college's commitment to the environment would impact their decision to apply to or attend a school. UAlbany is fulfilling its responsibility to sustainability leadership through our school’s operations and academics. Perhaps it’s because of this commitment that UAlbany was recently ranked in the top 100 of the Sierra Club’s Cool School List.

Lastly, take a quick look at the sustainability calendar to discover what’s on the horizon. We are only a few weeks into the school year and already dedicated students are dreaming up fresh ways to integrate sustainability into campus life.

Welcome back!

Mary Alexis Leciejewski
Program Assistant
Office of Environmental
Save the Date:
Fall Sustainability Roundtable Series

Please save the date for the following roundtables this fall. All presentations will take place on Mondays in the Standish Room, Science Library. This first three will start at 1 pm and the session on Dec 2nd will start at 1:30 pm.

September 30: Professor Kendra Smith-Howard, History
Milking History for What it’s Worth: The Place of Environmental History in Food Activism

October 21: Professor Jennifer Dodge, Public Administration and Policy
Hydraulic Fracturing in New York State: Storylines of Public Policy and Governance

November 11: Professor Mathias Vuille, Atmospheric and Environmental Science
Does climate change threaten sustainable water supply in the tropical Andes?

Note: this presentation will begin at 1:30 pm

December 2: Sharma Smita, PhD candidate, Department of Informatics
Comprehensive Urban Mobility Plan
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September 2013

Upcoming
The Energy Campaign

The campus buildings have once again begun vying for the title of top energy reducer. The Energy Campaign, a 10-week challenge to reduce electricity consumption, was officially kicked off on September 4th.

The Energy Campaign has a significant impact on curtailing our collective carbon usage. In 2012, we saved over a million kilowatt hours and achieved a 9.3% campus-wide reduction. We believe 2013 will be the year we finally reach our target of a 10% campus-wide reduction. By becoming more conscious of your personal usage, we may even top that goal.

Residential Life staff members have been getting creative with ways to reduce their quad’s energy consumption. Dutch Quad has formed a Sustainability Committee which is rolling out a new event series entitled “Joining the Dark Side.” For the next three upcoming Sundays, Dutch Quad students will be encouraged to unplug and play. Instead of using individual electric devices in their dorm rooms, students will go outside for musical chairs, an open air movie, and glow in the dark Frisbee. But the other quads will not be easily bested. Colonial Quad RA’s recently picked up over 500 CFL light bulbs to reduce their energy.

On the Academic Podium, we are asking faculty, staff, and students to turn off electronics when leaving a classroom. Students from the Green Scene Team will periodically double-check academic buildings to ensure lights and computers are switched off for weekends.

The Energy Campaign Recognition Ceremony will be held November 15th at 3:30 University Hall 110, topping off Campus Sustainability Week.

Be on the lookout for weekly emails detailing the campus’s progress!
The Energy Campaign

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The Energy Campaign was launched in 2007 in Residence Halls and was extended to the Podium in 2009.

Since the establishment of the Energy Campaign, nearly $400,000 has been saved!

SUNY's target for total energy reduction by 2020 is 30%.

1,054,111 kWh of electricity were avoided during the Campaign.

Quick Tips: Up to 80-90% of energy used by washing machines comes from heating the water. Use cold water instead.
111 kWhS of electricity were avoided during UAlbany’s 4.75 Million SqFt during the 2012 Energy Campaign.

Quick Tips:
- Up to 80-90% of energy used by washing machines comes from heating the water. Use cold water instead.
- Turn off your computer if you won’t be using it for at least 1 hour.
- Turn off your computer monitor if you won’t be using it for at least 15 minutes.

The Sunviewer allows you to see energy data about UAlbany’s Solar Panel System. Click Here!

Usage UAlbany’s 4.75 Million SqFt during the 2012 Energy
Watts Up on Campus?

This year, the Office of Environmental Sustainability will distribute 1,500 compact fluorescents, commonly known as CFLs, for the annual Change-A-Light program. CFLs, aka the fancy swirly-looking bulbs, last 10 times longer than Edison’s traditional incandescents and use 75 percent less energy to produce the same amount of light. The 13 watt light bulbs that we are passing out have an average lifespan of 9.1 years. Their design was invented in 1976 and appeared on the market in 1995. Try out National Geographic’s light bulb savings calculator to find out how much you’ll save with a few twists of the wrist.

Students can exchange their incandescents for CFLs during the Change-A-Light program that runs from Sept. 12th through Sept. 24th. Contact your Quad Office to find out where and when you can trade in your bulbs!
Properly Dispose of CLFs

The energy advantages of CFLs come along with a drawback: they contain trace amounts of mercury, making them unfit for the landfill. Although the amount of mercury is small—glass thermometers contain as much mercury as in 125 CFLs—we must take care to properly dispose of used bulbs though Environmental Health and Safety.

If a bulb should break, follow these six easy steps:

1. Sweep, don’t vacuum the particles.
2. Place broken pieces in a sealed plastic bag.
3. Wipe the area with a damp paper towel.
4. Place the used paper towel in the plastic bag.
5. Open the windows to ventilate the room.
6. Call Custodial.
This fall UAlbany is proud to debut its newest interdisciplinary minor: Sustainability.

Professor Gary Kleppel, whose claim to campus fame comes in the form of teaching SUNY Biology courses, played a major role in the fomentation of this newly offered course of study, which explores the fundamental imperative of respecting, cultivating and adapting to the earth, primarily by maintaining the planet's natural resources. The proposal to create a minor in Sustainability was presented to the University Senate this past May. Included in the proposal was the following passage: “Sustainability as a discipline recognizes that modern problems are complex and are usually driven by non-linear forcing functions. Addressing these problems requires multidisciplinary approaches. The proposed minor creates a curriculum that will help students understand what relates to particular interest. Students in Sustainability will have a perspective on each.” Here the importance of Sustainability, be it such a field of study, stems from a multidisciplinary angle.

In the past seven years, SUNY Albany has made a marked and determined effort to achieve greater levels of sustainability. The campus-wide success speaks for itself: we've established an Office of Environmental Sustainability, committed to only building LEED certified buildings, increased local food in dining halls, purchased five hybrid buses, and now have even established this new minor.

The minor includes eighteen credits, two levels, an entry and an upper level. Beyond biology, to earn the minor students must take credits from each of the following three categories: Natural/Physical Science, Social Sciences/ History, and Planning. “Students need to learn about fracking, climate change, electric vehicles. It’s about economics, policy, public health and ecology,” said Kleppel.

Learning from an experienced professor like Kleppel will necessarily have a stronger impact on students than reading from a text book. Kleppel has his own farm in the town of Knox that he maintains with his wife Pam. They use solar energy to run the farm, compost and treat the farm animals in a humane way. Because of this, Kleppel has immense experience with every area of sustainability and even has a book about agriculture coming out soon entitled The Emergent Agriculture.

Students in any major may pursue the minor in sustainability. An enthusiastic Kleppel urges that “Everybody should go to environmental sciences to sign up for the minor.”

To celebrate the achievement of the minor, we will highlight one course from the sustainability minor in each monthly edition of Green Scene. To find out more about the requirements for the minor, browse the undergraduate minor page.
At sustainability is and how it particular disciplines and areas of students will take courses with content in several disciplines to gain how sustainability is perceived in the proposal is emphasizing not only the of creating a minor in but also the essential reality that study can only be properly pursued disciplinary angle.

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The Terras
By Alyssa Ladzinski

We take care of our environment because we want to give back and secure a future for ourselves and our families. But that doesn't mean we wouldn't accept a little recognition for our efforts every once in awhile, does it? Of course not!

The Office of Sustainability has established a new award to recognize the persistent efforts of campus community members. Each semester, one faculty member, one staff member and one student will be awarded with a Terra for demonstrating a commitment to advancing sustainable culture at SUNY Albany.

The award is named for Terra, the Roman goddess of the Earth.

The distinction will be determined by work within the framework that identifies the four main areas in which one can effect change in the area of sustainability: Curriculum, Operations, Research and Engagement. The accomplishments of the Terra recipient will be linked which category they contributed to the most. The winner can be self-nominated or nominated by another and can choose from one of two awards: either the leaf shaped statue made from 100% recycled glass or a carbon offset purchase of home usage or commuting.

The Office of Environmental Sustainability is offering the carbon offset option to assist an awardee in being one step closer to living a carbon-neutral life. Although in our society we all rely on carbon-based resources daily, an individual may compensate for their greenhouse emissions by purchasing carbon offsets alternative energy credits.

When the award winner is named, an expectation is to serve on the selection committee the following year. Also, he or she will not be eligible to win the award for the next three years. The awardee will share his or her practices of sustainability with those interested in learning and will aid with replication of the practice.

Lookout for the application next month!
Organic Farming is sustainable trip clothing blah blah blah. We take care of our environment because we want to give back and secure a future for ourselves and our families. But that doesn't mean we wouldn't accept a little recognition for our efforts every once in awhile, does it? Of course not!

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Lookout for the application next month!
This fall a more convenient means of transportation will be implemented on the UAlbany buses. Each bus will be outfitted with a GPS tracking device, giving students and staff an exact arrival time. The real-time route information is not only found online; Smartphones will also have access to the up-to-the minute data. By scanning the QR code located at all UAlbany bus stops, students and staff will have an accurate idea of when to expect their four wheeled chariot.

For those who don’t carry a smart phone, the university will have placed five display screens at high traffic locations before the semester is over.
FIRST HOUR FREE

Rent any car on campus and get the first hour free when you keep it for a minimum of 2 hours (max. 6 hours), Monday - Thursday. Offer valid from 9/3-10/31/13.

Enjoy the convenience of 24/7 self-serve access to a variety of vehicles on campus anytime you need. Every Hertz 24/7 rental includes fuel, insurance, 24 hour roadside assistance, in-car customer care and more.

To enroll:
2. First time Driver’s License verification is required, visit Hertz247.com/DriverLicenseVerify.
3. Rent 24/7 - anytime you need.

Hertz247.com

Offer valid September 3-October 31, 2013 (excludes 10/14). Subject to availability. Offer cannot be combined with any other promotion. © 2013 The Hertz Corporation. Vehicle featured may not be available at time of rental. Hertz 24/7 is a registered trademark of Hertz System, Inc.

Facebook.com/Hertz247  @Hertz
Civic Engagement Internship

Stakeholders is seeking an intern Agency outreach and assistance with educating nonprofit partners on the civic health of volunteerism in New York State. Conduct telephone and in-person interviews. Collect and track data on volunteer engagement; represent the volunteer center at community outreach fairs and events; connect and engage students a faculty in two National Days of Service Events planned by the Volunteer Center.

Qualifications: Currently enrolled College Students interested in Public Service

- Self motivated with initiative
- Data collection skills
- Possess interpersonal skills, excellent verbal communication and organizational skills, and be detail-oriented
- Working knowledge of MS Office
- Possess a valid license and car for minimal travel (reimbursement under IRS guidelines) (not mandatory)
- Start Date: September, January or May
- Duration: Open, minimum 1 semester/summer
- Hours: 10-15 hours/week (Monday-Friday) Flexible schedule
- Salary: This is an unpaid internship

The volunteer Center will support your professional development by:

- Providing orientation
- Equipping you with tools and resources to be successful

Benefits:

- Gain visibility, awareness and understanding of the Volunteer Center’s mission within the community
- Get the satisfaction of motivating and leading other community members, ensuring a meaningful experience for volunteers
- Have a positive impact on your community

Contact:

Catherine M. Hedgeman, Esq.
CEO
Stakeholders, Inc.
915 Broadway, Box 15
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 487-4400
www.thestakeholders.org
Clean And Healthy New York Interns

Clean and Healthy New York (CHNY) is the premiere environmental health advocacy organization in New York State. We are looking for dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to join our team. Help us protect people and communities from toxic chemicals while building a healthy and green economy.

We have a number of opportunities available:
- Researching dangerous chemical use in everyday products
- Building a network of concerned advocates through marketing and social media
- Advocating for safer chemical policies in government and business

Job duties may include:
- Preparing communication materials for the media, policymakers and the general public
- Conducting research on emerging environmental health topics
- Assisting with event coordination
- Giving presentations and disseminating materials to organizations and the general public
- Designing and writing content for websites and social media
- Meeting with policymakers to promote the use of safer chemicals

Hours/ Locations: Internship available from 12 to 20 hours a week in Albany or in Ithaca

To Apply: Email or mail a cover letter and resume to
Ruth Foster
Clean and Healthy New York
62 Grand Street, Albany, NY 12207
ruth@cleanhealthyny.org

The Clinton Foundation

If you are an undergraduate, a recent graduate, or a graduate student who is passionate about solving some of the world’s most pressing issues, the Clinton Foundation Internship Program offers a unique opportunity for growth, learning, and participation in meaningful work. We are looking for people who are dependable, enthusiastic, and professional.

The Clinton Foundation works to create sustainable solutions to urgent global challenges, including climate change, increasing access to health care worldwide, economic opportunity, and childhood obesity in the United States. Through strategic organization and investment, the Clinton Foundation initiatives strive to change global systems, entire communities, and the way business is done in the United States and developing countries—while emphasizing changes that make a meaningful and positive impact on individual lives.

We offer different types of internships across our departments and initiatives. Strategy and research internships are available in health, climate/environment, education, girls and women, market based approaches, response and reliance, and leadership. Additionally, we have internships available in communications, logistics/events, and technical fields.
Visit our website for a complete listing of internship positions. Complete an application at www.clintonfoundation.org/internships
Need-based stipends are available—visit our website for more information. Apply by Nov. 15th for Spring Semester.
Come celebrate the launch of *Natural Awakenings* Magazine in the NY Capital District– a magazine focused on wellness and the environment! The celebration will be held from **4-6 pm at Comedy Works on Saturday, September 21.** Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served and will offer a cash bar. Ribbon cutting by the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce. Consider staying for dinner and the show after the reception. Learn more about *Natural Awakenings* and tips to becoming a healthier you!

**Albany Pine Bush**

Albany Pine Bush is located only a stone’s throw from the uptown campus and offers a wide variety of classes and hikes for all ages. Check out the Albany Pine Bush [Event Calendar](#) to find one that interests you. The Pine Bush represents one of the best remaining examples of an inland pine barrens ecosystem in the world. This gently rolling sand plain is home to an unique diversity of animals and plants, including 20 rare species and two rare natural communities. Get outside and take advantage of the natural wealth surrounding us!
Don’t forget to peruse Honest Weight Food Co-op’s robust event calendar for classes, workshops, and lectures that highlight nutrition and healthy lifestyles. In September, a few offerings include sessions on soap making, raw food diets, smoothies, fitness, and DIY hard cider. Most are free, though some require a nominal fee. Classes are held at 100 Watervliet Ave. in Albany. Honest Weight is a member owned and owned consumer cooperative committed to providing the community with high quality natural foods and products.

The first annual Green Fair will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2012 from 9am to 1pm. at the Troy Marina Parking Lot (just north of the Green Island Bridge). Underwritten by Citizens Bank Foundation and in partnership with Rensselaer County and the City of Troy, TRIP & RCHR will host eLot Recycling and local organizations to provide an array of Capital Region eco-knowledge. The eLot will be accepting “almost anything that plugs in” for free recycling while other groups and agencies will offer information and demonstrations at our educational expo.
Capital District Student Sustainability Conference

On September 21, 2013, the University at Albany will host the annual Capital District Student Sustainability Conference (CDSSC), a one-day intercollegiate program designed to support student leadership roles in sustainability. The theme of this year’s conference centers on increasing local food awareness and procurement. The day-long collaboration among Capital Region students will serve multiple goals: to raise awareness about the benefits of local food; to discuss opportunities for procurement; to teach necessary skills to organize campus communities; and to better align UAlbany’s efforts with those of surrounding schools.

New York’s Capital District contains eight counties that are home to many influential higher education institutions including: The University at Albany, St. Rose College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Union College, Skidmore College and Siena College. The combined purchasing power of these key institutions has the potential to strengthen our regional food system and shape our future leaders. A robust, resilient regional food system will help to improve our economy, the health of our environment, and the health of consumers.

Sign up for the conference by emailing UAStudents4Sustainability@gmail.com.

We Moved!

The Office of Environmental Sustainability moved from University Hall to Seneca B009 on Indian Quad. Stop by and say hello!
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