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Around the Campus

- April 29 at 2:30 pm
  Human Flow screening and Q&A discussion
  Campus Center Expansion Board Room
- April 30
  Shredding Day
  Four Locations (see page 14)
- April 30 at 7 pm
  Sustainable Spa
  Dutch Quad
- May 1 from 12-1 pm
  Sustainability Coordinator’s Meeting
  AS 122
- May 6 from 3-6 pm
  Dutch Goes Green
  Dutch Quad
- May 8
  Give & Go Move Out Program begins!
  All living areas
- May 9 at 2 pm
  Rejuvenate, Renew and Restore
  State Quad
- May 14-18
  Bike to Work Week/Green York Commute Day
  All campuses (see page 10)
The Village of Menands, NY is currently working on developing its first-ever comprehensive plan, with assistance from the University at Albany Graduate Planning Studio, led by Professor Marcia Kees of the Department of Geography and Planning. A comprehensive plan will set the vision for growth and development within the community.

Students enrolled in the course have structured a three part public engagement process to assist the Village. Stakeholder interviews were conducted from the residents, business owners and employees within the Village. A survey was then developed and distributed in March to gain input from those who live and work in the community. After, students conducted two open house workshops for the public on the Village Comprehensive Planning process. These occurred on April 2nd at Village Hall and April 11th at the Albany Lofts. The second open house workshop featured remarks by community leaders Senator Breslin, Assembly Member Steck, Mayor Megan Grenier and Village Trustees. Participants had the opportunity to engage in interactive mapping exercises with UAlbany graduate students on topics such as housing, current land uses, economic development, transportation and recreation.
Additionally, students in the course developed a public engagement and opportunity analysis for the Village Comprehensive Plan. Aspects mentioned in this report highlight the implementation of a climate smart community, waterfront, parks, and trails access, food access, transit oriented development, and the re-use of brownfields.

Funding for this project is provided, in part, by a grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway.
The Office of Parking & Mass Transit recently purchased new electric vehicles to replace older cars being used by their enforcement staff. We asked Jason Jones, Director of PMTS, about his new sustainable fleet...

What inspired you to purchase electric vehicles for your enforcement fleet?
Park & Mass Transit Services (PMTS) had an aging 4 vehicle gasoline enforcement fleet that was in need of immediate replacement as the vehicles were nearly 12-13 years old. When a NYS OGS/DEC fuel efficient vehicle aggregate purchase opportunity became available in Fall 2017, we performed an analysis to determine if it was feasible to implement into the PMTS operation. The reduction in cost for each vehicle would amount to nearly 28%. After performing that analysis we came to the conclusion that this initiative would break even financially over 8 years and would displace 17,500 gallons of gasoline reduce our carbon emissions. Therefore, it made sense to move forward as these 3 electric vehicles are expected to be utilized through 2026.

What is the importance of incorporating sustainable operations in PMTS?
In concurrence with the University Strategic Plan and the Institutional Effectiveness Exercise, PMTS is committed to the University’s sustainability goals. Recognized as a member of the US Department of Energy’s Workplace Charging Challenge as well as implementing 5 diesel-electric buses as part of a 2011 grant, sustainability is an overriding theme in PMTS. One of our main goals, in addition to the implementation of these electric vehicles, is to move towards license plate recognition technology and new parking management software in 2018-19. This will allow for an enhanced parking experience by having less office visits, minimizing hard-copy paper forms, shifting to an electronic based vehicle registration system, eliminating thermal paper parking citations, reducing vehicle miles travelled, and delivering real-time parking information to the campus community through mobile applications and internet. Additionally, in 2015, PMTS redeveloped their Commencement Parking & Transportation Plan. Part of this plan has provided thousands of passengers transportation between the hotels on Washington Avenue and commencement sites. This has significantly cut down on traffic and parking congestion. Ultimately, it is critical that PMTS be involved in the planning, execution, and delivery of services that affect the University, many of which revolve around sustainability.
Are there any additional sustainability initiatives within PMTS that the UAlbany community may not be aware of?

PMTS, in conjunction with the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Energy, is actively seeking to deploy 8-12 more electric vehicle charging stations over the next 1-3 years based on campus community demand, availability of grant funding, surge of the electric vehicle market, and in line with Governor Cuomo’s Charge NY initiative. The first 3 of these stations will be installed this spring at Sefcu Arena, Parking Management/B25 parking lot, and Indian Quad. This will further add to the value perception of the University and potentially lead to increased enrollment as these stations will attract prospective students that operate electric vehicles as well as their families. PMTS is also still involved and following the 2016 Capital District EV Charging Station Plan through the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) and related Capital District Clean Communities Coalition. A copy of the plan can be viewed here: http://capitalcleancommunities.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Capital-District-EV-Charging-Station-Plan-FINAL.pdf. This plan has significantly increased the Capital Region’s electric vehicle infrastructure, reduced carbon emissions, and has provided the local area the ability to receive grant funding now and in the future. Another project PMTS is working on with CDTC and other local stakeholders is the Smart Cities 2040 study looking at autonomous vehicles, artificial intelligence, and the aging population that will led to increased transportation needs. Finally, we are launching additional GPS monitors on campus, implementing vehicle passenger identification and counting to better assist with route analysis and safety, and considering a move to biodiesel or propane within the bus fleet. (Most important: Winner of the Office Category at Trashion Fashion!)

These electric vehicles will have a range of 110 miles per charge. Each charge would take 2.5-4 hours through a standard level 2 charging station.
The Office of Naval Research has recently awarded more than $2 million in federal funding to support three projects being spearheaded by several faculty members in the Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences. These projects will address Arctic weather forecasting.

Lance Bosart & Daniel Keyser
Bosart and Keyser are collaborating on a project titled “Phenomenological and Predictability Studies of the Structure and Evolution of Arctic Cyclones, Polar Lows, and Tropopause Polar Vortices.” It will consist of analysis and forecasting, along with real-time monitoring, of Arctic weather regimes. Findings will support an ONR research initiative on the dynamics of Arctic cyclones and their relationship to the tropopause polar vortex.

Andrea Lang
Lang’s project is titled “Understanding the role of the stratosphere in subseasonal–to–seasonal variability and predictability of Arctic weather systems.” Her goal is to quantify the relationship between Arctic weather and the polar vortex. This will help to make more informed seasonal forecasts.

Ryan Torn
Torn is leading a project to better understand the predictability of Arctic cyclones. This will be done through a combination of analyzing past cyclone forecasts and generating large numbers of new forecasts using a numerical weather prediction model. The project is titled “Comparison of Polar and Midlatitude Cyclone Predictability Using Ensemble-based Sensitivity Analysis.”
UAlbany’s Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences is a national leader in their field. The department consists of prominent researchers who are exploring climate change and its impact on industry, public policy, and more.

From left to right: DAES faculty Lance Bosart, Andrea Lang, Daniel Keyser and Ryan Torn
This year’s Green Your Commute Day (GYCD) will be taking place on Friday, May 18th 2018 and in celebration of it the Executive Order 4 Subcommittee on Operations and Engagement is hosting a state-wide competition to see which businesses, organizations and universities can lower their environmental footprint the most from their commutes.

GYCD is a great opportunity for all of us to lead by example by using more sustainable forms of transportation to get to work. More importantly, it should also open our eyes to how easy, fun, and convenient it can be to bike, walk, take public transit, or carpool to work, and may even spur us to start new habits. In 2017, UAlbany won the large campus category for having the most registrants for GYCD!

How to participate:
1. Register your participation so that they can measure the impact that everyone is having on this day and determine the campus that wins: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GYCD18.
   - Categories: agency with the highest percentage of employees greening their commute and agency whose employees offset the most CO2 by greening their commute.
2. Do: walk, bike, take public transit, car pool, drive an electric vehicle, or use another form of sustainable transportation that is not driving a single occupancy gasoline powered vehicle to work.
3. Post: join the conversation and post about your green commute on social media! Use the hashtag #GYCD18 AND tag @UAlexyGreenScn to be entered to win a stainless steel reusable straw!

The Office of Sustainability will be hosting check-in tables in the morning. Those who greened their commute will receive an “I greened my commute sticker”! Follow our Facebook page for more information to come!
May 14-18 is also Bike to Work Week. If you plan on riding your bike in on any or all of those days, please register at www.capitalmoves.org/b2w518

Trophies will be awarded to teams with: the highest participation rate, largest number of riders, longest bike commute and school with the most riders!

Need to find a carpool partner? Visit https://511nyrideshare.org/web/university-at-albany/home. You can learn about alternative transportation options such as CDTA bus and UAlbany shuttle routes, Zipcar, UAlbany Bike Share, EV charging stations and more at https://www.albany.edu/gogreen/4.transportation.shtml
Winning teams from left to right: Alumni Quad, Kappa Alpha Pi, Colonia Quad, Parking & Mass Transit Services, and Jinju Kim

Best construction sub-category winner: Office of Sustainability

The Trashion Fashion Show is an annual event challenging the UAlbany community to create an ensemble made from reclaimed and recyclable materials. This year, it was hosted on April 10, 2018 in the Campus Center Ballroom. Check out our Facebook page for more pictures of the event! You can view the winning entries in the Science Library Atrium until May 1!
Sustainability sub-category winner: Gender and Sexuality Resource Center

Living Area winner: Colonial Quad

Left to right: Parking & Mass Transit Services, Indian Quad, and Dutch Quad
Sustainability Coordinators

The Office of Sustainability is looking for representatives from every division 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. Coordinators have access to specialized professional development opportunities in the field of sustainability. 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.

Shredding Day

Join us for UAlbany’s Annual Shredding Day on Monday, April 30.

Locations:
8:30-10 am: MSC/UAB Lot
10:30-12:30 pm: State Quad Student Gold Lot
1:30-3:00 pm: Hawley Lot (Downtown Campus)
3:30-5:00 pm: GEC Lot (Health Sciences Campus)

Materials OK to shred:
- Paper/cardstock
- Manila folders
- Paper clips
- Stapled paper
- Checkbooks

NOT to be shredded:
- Plastic ring binders
- CD’s
- Metal binder clips
Students

Internships with the Offices of Sustainability and Energy Management

◊ **Heritage Garden and Composting Intern:** The Office of Sustainability is seeking one motivated and energetic intern to assist with caring for the UAlbany Heritage Garden, managing the Office Composting Program, and assist with planning for the fall semester. The intern is expected to complete 60 hours over the summer. This internship is unpaid, though students may obtain academic credit through the Community and Public Service Program. Please email gogreen@albany.edu if you are interested!

◊ **Communications Intern:** The Office of Sustainability is seeking an intern to assist with the promotion and communication of sustainability engagement programs and initiatives for the **2018-19 academic year.** The intern must work a minimum of 12-15 hours weekly and can receive internship credits through the Department of Communication. Please email gogreen@albany.edu if you are interested.

◊ **Energy Analyst Intern:** The Office of Energy Management is seeking a student intern to assist with energy related projects for the summer, with the potential of continuing into the fall/spring semesters. The intern will analyze electricity, gas, and water usage to identify conservation and efficiency opportunities, research grant funding opportunities, develop material for green education display units, manage the energy and metering reporting system and develop dashboards, reports and trend analysis.

**Give & Go Move Out Program**
When you move out, donate unwanted items by placing them into the special Give & Go collection units located at each living area on campus. We encourage exchange among the campus community and any leftover items will find a new home at the Trinity Alliance!

**We collect:** Furniture (in good shape), working appliances and electronics, household items and kitchenware, and GENTLY USED clothing, shoes, coats.

**We DO NOT ACCEPT:** foam mattresses/pillows, undergarments or socks, or soiled or ripped clothing and garbage.

These items are brought down to the Trinity Alliance in the condition that they are donated in, so please be respectful of the units and the items that are in there.
I Love My Park Clean Up Day at Thacher Park
Saturday, May 5 from 9-12:30 pm
Join in the statewide volunteer effort to show some love to our parks. The UAlbany Green Scene is coordinating a team to clean up at Thacher Park from 9-12:30 pm. If interested please sign up at: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12H94fbyymTzU8zwtacbSJSYTzIrma9B7qKEwtMBrqjc/edit?usp=sharing If you would like to volunteer at another park, check out the other opportunities at: https://www.ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day/find-event

“The Last Pig” Movie Screening
Friday, May 11 from 6:45-8:30 pm, Honest Weight Food Coop
The Last Pig is a documentary featuring local farmer, Bob Comis. Through this personal journey, the film raises crucial questions about equality, the value of compassion and the sanctity of life. Refreshments will be provided and all are welcome to remain for a discussion following the hour long film.

City of Albany Spring 2018 Bike Count
Monday May 14 and Wednesday May 16
Bike counts provide the City of Albany with valuable information about existing cycling and pedestrian demand and activity to help guide choices regarding transportation projects and complete streets implementation. Bike counts occur in two shifts per day (7-9 am and 3:30-5:30 pm) at the following locations:
1. Broadway and Clinton Ave
2. Delaware/Holland/Morton Ave
3. Lark St and Washington Ave
4. Madison Ave and South Pearl St
5. Madison Ave and New Schotland Ave
6. Madison Ave and Western Ave
7. Quail St and Washington Ave
If you wish to assist, please email Lauren Alpert at lalpert@albany.ny.gov with your preferred time(s), location(s) and phone number.
Safe & Sustainable Energy Fair
*Saturday, May 19 from 9-1 pm, Delmar Farmer's Market*

The Delmar Farmers Market has been a leader in promoting local and organic farming, recycling, safe energy and sustainability. Each week, 1,000 to 1,500 customers and 60 vendors participate with local foods and crafts, music, the environment and more. This year, as part of their 10 year anniversary, the Delmar Farmers Market has planned a Safe and Sustainable Energy Fair on Saturday, May 19, 2018. This event is free and open to the public.

Tick Talk with Todd Giombetti, MD FAAP
*Saturday May 19 at 10 am, Fiver Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar*

As warm weather arrives, it’s time to think about protecting yourself and your family from tick-borne illnesses. Local pediatrician, Dr. Giombetti, will share tips on how to prevent tick bites, spot signs of tick-borne illness, when to call your doctor and what to expect with testing and treatment. There will be time for a Q&A.

Native Plant Sale at Thacher Park
*Sunday, May 20 from 10-3 pm, Thacher Park Overlook*

The sale theme is Beauty and Beyond, featuring plants with blossoms and beauty for all seasons. They are offering native perennials, shrubs and trees with beautiful flowers followed by berries, nuts and seed pods to feed the birds or fall color and foliage. Call 518-872-0800 for more information.

Vegetable Gardens with Doug Pratt
*Sunday, May 27 from 3-4:30 pm, Honest Weight Food Coop*

Doug Pratt, a 40+ year Master Gardener will be talking about soil, transplants, seeds, compost, pH, and introductory essentials for vegetable gardening. There will be an open forum for questions and discussions. All are welcome.

Science on Tap: Tech Valley Game Space
*Tuesday, May 29 from 7-9 pm., The Ruck in Troy*

Tech Valley Game Space is an active community of game makers that gathers on a weekly basis to socialize, work together on group projects and coordinate monthly workshops, classes, exhibitions and more.
1. What year did you graduate? May 2017
2. What was your major/minor? Urban planning major with minors in public policy and sustainability
3. What was your co-curricular and student organization involvement on campus? Too much involvement! Living Learning Communities—first as a student, then ambassador, then Community Assistant, Wellness Assistant on Indian Quad, Bike Share assistant—then manager, Club lacrosse, Bikeable UAlbany committee, Sustainability Council Energy and Alternate Transportation Chair, Men's Club Ultimate Frisbee.
4. What are you doing now? Where do you live? These days I live and work in Troy, across the river. I am the Healthy Communities Coordinator for Capital Roots. My job is to create and push for complete streets initiatives to make our communities more walkable and bike friendly. I also assist with several food access programs.
5. How have you applied your experience with the sustainability movement on campus and involvement with the Office of Sustainability into your post-college life and career? Being involved with the sustainability movement on campus and the Office of Sustainability helped me live a more eco-friendly life, learn to influence others to change their behavior and even develop as a professional. I continue to utilize the knowledge and skills I learned at UAlbany at home and at the office.

The Office of Sustainability is proud of the successes of our sustainability alumni! They were essential in the early stages of the sustainability movement at UAlbany and have shaped where it is now. Take a moment to read about them in our “Sustainability Alumni Spotlight” section of the Sustainability Bulletin each month.