

2014-15: Outcomes for Student Internships supported by Measure 45

This year the Sustainability Office sponsored 25 student internships; 20 of those positions were housed in the Sustainability Office and 5 were sponsored in different units across campus. These 25 interns provided assistance on a variety of projects; to follow are some of the outcomes of our 2014-15 internships.

Carbon Fund

- Conducted outreach to promote the Carbon Fund, resulting in 29 abstract submittals
- Facilitated the application, review, award and reporting process for 18 carbon-reducing projects, totaling \$182,000 in grants
- Assisted Sustainability Office staff in the fiscal management of several dozen grants
- Coordinated with UR to launch the first Crowd funding Campaign for the Carbon Fund, raising \$1100 in six weeks. View the campaign video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZpWwiVlxk8>

Education & Outreach

- Coordinated the planning and implementation of the 5th Annual Sustainability Inter-Organizational Retreat, which was attended by 101 students and staff from sustainability organizations across campus.
- Engaged in conversation about sustainability with 554 UCSC and Santa Cruz community members at nearly 40 tabling opportunities.
- Added 366 new people to the Sustainability e-newsletter list and acquired 210 new likes on Facebook, broadening the network of people we are in contact with regularly about sustainability on campus.
- Presented about campus sustainability to resident advisors, student sustainability advisors, tour guides, and orientation leaders so that they can include sustainability information and resources in their programs and tours.
- Initiated a waste signage pilot program in the Colleges 9/10 residential halls to provide educational resources for proper waste diversion.

Green Labs

- Certified 3 new labs through the Green Labs Certification Program
- Hosted the first UCSC Green Lab fair, where 100+ faculty, students, outside vendors and campus org reps engaged in learning about Green Labs projects and programs, and how to make campus lab operations more sustainable
- Supported EH&S in the promotion and continuation of the Styrofoam, pipette and glove recycling programs

Green Offices

- Certified 6 new offices through the Green Office Certification Program
- Re-certified 6 offices who improved their rating from their initial certification

Water Action & Drought Response

- Tested every indoor water fixture on campus for leaks, including toilets, sinks, and showers in all kitchens, restrooms and laboratories
- Submitted over 200 work orders to repair leaks
- Posted educational signage regarding drought and water conservation in all restrooms and kitchens
- Developed and implemented a training program for users to support the installation and launch of the new Beacon metering and data management system
- Provided educational resources and conducted presentations to members of the campus community including the Water Working Group, Student Environmental Center, student organizations and summer conference guests

Waste Reduction

- Collaborated with Grounds Services to launch the campus' first [zero waste collection system at the McHenry library](#), including services for all 4 resource recovery streams: paper recycling, container recycling, compost collection and trash (landfill), resulting in an over 20% increase in waste diversion within 3 months
- Organized the [first annual campus-wide cleanup day](#) with SUA, including over 150 student participants, 285 pounds of litter, and 4300 cigarette butts
- Organized and supported several large-scale zero waste events on campus, including developing educational resources, managing a planning [website](#), and providing hands-on assistance at events

Provost's Sustainability Internship Program

- Coordinated six environmental & social justice themed workshops at the Program in Community & Agroecology
- Created a Supplier Sustainability Scorecard and plan for Procurement Services department to encourage sustainable behavior by vendors in the UCSC supply chain
- Passed a resolution through Student Union Assembly to end of the sale of single-use plastic water bottles, and retrofitted four water fountains with bottle filling stations, working with Take Back the Tap in Kresge College

- Hosted the 1st annual UCSC Bioneers Conference, bringing sustainability & social justice speakers to UCSC and providing space for the community to explore these themes in workshops
- Created an interactive interpretive sign about human impacts on the environment for Cowell Meadow through the Site Stewardship Program
- Coordinated with the Climate Action Manager and Buildings & Facilities Working Group to facilitate the development of the Green Building Checklist, a tool that will assist Physical Planning & Construction staff in integrating more energy and water-efficient design into buildings and renovation projects. The draft checklist is located [here](#).