



Quarterly Newsletter!

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2007

STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

SEC Back-story

The Student Environmental Center was established in 2001 by a few students who wanted to institutionalize the Sustainability efforts on campus. Students got tired of campaigns and causes ending when students graduate, and decided to have a permanent home for institutional memory and the continuity of projects and campaigns. Soon after they got two ballot measures through, prop 9 and 14, establishing funding for

all Sustainability efforts on campus through the Campus Sustainability Council. This organization provides funding for Student Organizations and efforts to make this campus more sustainable. This is where the SEC now gets its funding. Recently, we have used some of this money to get a staff person, Joyce Rice - former Environmental Studies adviser, who helps us, ESLP - Education for Sustainable Living Program, and

the Campus Sustainability Council with administrative work, general support, and institutional memory. So far she has been just absolutely wonderful and instrumental in helping us evolve into a more solidly operating structure, while keeping things lively and fun!



Our Mission

The mission of the Student Environmental Center at the University of California Santa Cruz is to organize student involvement to collaborate with the University to find ways to implement environmentally sound practices on-campus. As a

fully registered student organization founded in summer 2001, the Student Environmental Center (SEC) serves as a central space for existing student environmental organizations, encouraging the development of appropriate projects. We host in-house campaigns which have specific goals, for

whom we provide financial backing, training, connections, and legitimacy. Ultimately, we aim to be able to offer this to other efforts to make the campus more sustainable and become an umbrella organization and a hub for a good amount of environmental work on campus.

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THE SEC HAS A BLOG! Help generate campus sustainable conversation!
<http://enviroslug.blogspot.com/>

Students for Organic Solutions

This campaign focuses on collaborating with dining services to continue to increase the purchasing of organic and local produce in the dining halls. Now, all the dining halls are at least 35% organic, from just five years ago there was none! Not only do we collaborate with dining services, but we help outreach to students to let them know that they have a voice and dining services wants to know what students want. Throughout the quarter we visit ALBA farms, one of the suppliers to our dining halls, have potlucks, and host guest speakers that talk about food-related issues.

This quarter we will be hearing Sandor Katz talk about fermentation, probiotic

diets, and the benefits of bacteria, as opposed to microwaves, preservatives in our food, and antibiotics. He will be talking about our industrial food system, and how this system conflicts in more ways than one with our own human anatomy and immunity systems. He will give a demonstration on how to ferment vegetables, so bring your veggies and join in!

Also, as a human being consuming resources, I've been greatly affected by the worldwide depleting resource of WATER! This natural resource is essential to our food systems, as well as our own existence (we are 70% water). As to practice the phrase "Think Global, Act Local," I feel that UCSC could be doing a

better job to conserve this sacred and natural resource. I've been drawing up a proposal of a grey water catchment system to be used at the Trailer Park. This recycled water will then be used hopefully next quarter in the nearby gardens where we harvest and eat from, thus completing the cycle.

If you are interested and would like to help out in any way (research, building, etc), or have questions please email me at jessicawonyee@gmail.com.

Focus the Nation

Thursday January 31st the Student Environmental Center and the Sustainability Office will be hosting the **7th Annual Campus Earth Summit** at the College 9/10 Multipurpose Room. This all day event starting at 9:30 AM and ending at 4:30PM will feature inspiring local speakers, a 'low carbon' lunch sourced locally from our neighboring organic farms,

educational workshops on reducing your carbon footprint and world café' conversations about implementing sustainability on campus. This event will be happening in conjunction with Focus the Nation, a nationwide climate change teach-in happening simultaneously at over 1,000 colleges and universities nation-wide. Tune-in for more up-



dates, volunteer and internships opportunities at

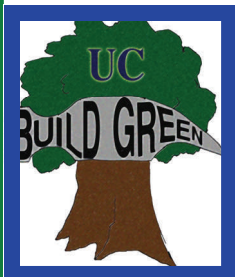
sustainability.ucsc.edu or e-mail lburt@ucsc.edu.

Green Building

SEC and UCSC Health Center are working together in the expansion of the Health Center. The new expansion will involve LEED Certification; LEED Certification is the global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through accepted tools and performance criteria. There's 4 Levels of LEED Certifi-

cation: LEED Certified, Silver level, Gold level, and Platinum Level. The UCSC Health Center expansion wants to construct a LEED Certified Silver Level, however in order to achieve this certification funding is needed. Since the Health Center is a student service, students must fund this project. Therefore this campaign will involve writing a referendum that will be placed in the spring ballot. The referendum will involve many steps which include a

petition signed by 10% of the student body. Once petitions are gathered it will go to the SUA, and if approved will go on to the ballot. This campaign will need help with outreach: gathering the signatures, getting organizations to support the ballot, getting the vote out, and many more. If passed it will be the first LEED certified building on campus, and will set the standard for new buildings on campus.



The Culture and Community of the Bicycle

(Sustainable Transportation)

“Action in Movement” A Class Created and Instructed by Students

As the campaign coordinator for sustainable transportation in the SEC, I have been working with others from the bike club in putting together a bike class that will be offered through Oaks College for 5 credits this spring quarter in 2008.

The class will be an integrative bike course geared towards inexperienced bikers providing a thorough understanding of the culture behind the bicycle in the lecture portion of the class, as well

as an intimate knowledge of the mechanics of the bicycle in the lab portion of the class. A thorough understanding of the history and philosophy of bicycling allows the students to explore the various roles the bicycle plays in society, and its connection to sustainability.

In this class the students will be making bikes which will go into a bike library on campus, from which students can rent bikes for a small membership fee or work exchange.

After gaining the knowledge from this class, we hope that students will then have the opportunity to make real change happen by implementing projects in the community and through association with the Bike Library. Each student will gain personal empowerment through the creation of their own bicycle as well as a complete understanding of the mechanics behind it. The ultimate goal of the course is to provide students with the ability to make the wheels of change, pedaling the UCSC campus and the larger community to a more sustain-

Education For Sustainable Living Program

ESLP had a fun filled fall, and the future is looking just as bright. Here's a summary of fall activities and a look forward to the future:

The World Café - Monday nights at the Kresge Student Lounge 20-50 people gathered to share tea, food from the campus farm and gardens, and conversations focusing on what matters. The Café is both a social event, as well as a place to engage intellectually about what you find most meaningful. Each night has a theme, special guests, and 2-3 meaningful questions to set the tone for the conversations. Some of the key outcomes from the fall World Café are:

1. 10 people signed up to enroll for the winter ESLP course (5 units) (and we are seeking 10 more!) and are planning to practice their leadership and facilitation skills this winter, and host Café conversations across campus during the spring quarter ESLP.

2. Besides those who are signing up to get credit to work on the Café and ESLP, there are 5 more folks who feel empowered to take (extra-curricular) leadership roles in the Café hosting/planning process, including preparing the meals, framing the questions, and dynamically facilitating during the conversations.

3. Documentation of the Café is a focus, and we have proceedings of the conversations including photos and about 50 pages of text dripping with richness and shared meanings. On the web soon!

4. Because of the recent attention on the future of the University (LRDP, tree sit, etc.) and seeing value in the World Café process as a way to connect diverse perspectives and share meaningful dialogue a number of participants in the Café are working with Kresge/Porter CAO Mike Yamauchi-Gleason

and Campus Ombuds Laurie McCann to host a campus wide World Café (Jan 10) and campus wide Open Space (Jan 17) at 5pm at the Kresge Town Hall. Keep your eyes out for the forthcoming details. *Thanks to the co-sponsors - Kresge Garden Coop, Kresge Food Coop, SEC and ESLP.*

Fall Gatherings - In addition to two Cafés and a short discussion at the SEC General Gathering focused on ESLP, we hosted an ESLP Fall Gathering at the Stevenson Fire-side on November 29. We co-created a beautiful vision for the winter and spring ESLP courses, including:

□ Developing a curriculum for the winter course which builds and maintains our core group, is fun, interactive and practices creative and innovative teaching methods, takes a critical look at what works and what doesn't work in education, invites us all to share social change lessons, activates our leadership and educational skills, and helps us all love and feel glad to be alive!

□ A complete transformation of our classroom space (spring - Classroom Unit 2) into an interactive positive learning environment and sacred space.

□ Non-typical discussion sections. Hosting World Cafés with food, tea, and student-generated questions for the discussion section portion of the spring course, with both two- (CRAFT) and five- (ART) unit participants.

□ Taking a narrative approach for organizing the springtime speaker series, so that it tells a story. AND MUCH MORE!

o ESLP Core Organizers have been meeting

weekly to chat about the future and plan for what is to come.

o **ESLP is looking to expand our leadership team.** We have lots of fun and have a low tolerance for stressful situations, so don't worry (too much) about getting in over your head with another student organizing project. We are offering an opportunity to bring out your best qualities, make valuable contributions, take part in something big, and work with a cool group of youth world-changers; and, get paid. Contact shawstafari@gmail.com for more information.

- **ESLP Winter Seminar** (5 units) is Tuesday evenings from 5-8pm, with a weekly section. Developed and taught by ESLP core, with numerous guests from the campus community, our course focuses on the wisdom and skills necessary for facilitating personal and social transformation. While the processes and overall instruction of the course are guided by Kaycee Paller and Dave Shaw, the course content itself is largely decided upon by the group as the quarter progresses, utilizing innovative approaches to teaching and learning creatively and effectively.

o For enrollment information, please contact shawstafari@gmail.com.

o CRAFT Section - M 6-9:10 at Kresge College (includes the World Cafe as part of section).

o ART Sections - TBD during the first week. Likely to be 2 hours Tu with Dave and Th with Kaycee.



Education for Sustainable Living Program

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Student Environmental Center
Office is located in the Red
Building at College 8

► Come visit us by
appointment!

www.enviroslug.org



STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

GENERAL GATHERINGS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8:30

COLLEGE 8

RED ROOM

(FREE FOOD AND FUN)

COMING UP COME JOIN US!

In January we are having our biggest event of the year, it is called the Earth Summit. This is an event that is designed to bring together faculty, staff, administration, community members and students to discuss and give input about how to make the University more sustainable and how to proceed with concrete next steps. Out of this event we produce a document called the "Blue Print for a Sustainable Campus".

This year, however, we are doing a hybrid event with the "Focus The Nation" event which is hap-

pening nation-wide. This event is designed to get everyone in Universities across the country (and the world?) to devote a little bit of time discussing *Global Climate Change* and what can and needs to be done about it. It is happening on January 31 and we encourage everyone to either come and participate, or get your professor(s) to devote a little bit of class time to talk about this issue. For more information on how to do this and what this is all about, please visit www.focusthenation.org/

We are also giving attention to the Blue Print, which is being reworked a little bit to be more accessible to the general public year-round in the form of a wiki - which will be transparent for all the campus public to see and participate in!

Other than those big things we have lots of exiting things happening at our general gatherings and other campaign events. Check our website and come to *General Gatherings* for more information!