

## WELCOME!

Greetings from the SIU Sustainability Office! If you are receiving this newsletter for the first time, welcome!

*Why should you care about sustainability?*

- Employers are looking for employees who understand how sustainability affects the workplace. (Want proof? Check out these articles from [Harvard](#) and [MIT](#)!)
- Student recruitment and retention: Today's students care about sustainability when choosing a school. [Quantitative evidence](#) supports this.
- Being sustainable is smart and saves money! Reduce waste. Rethink processes. Be energy efficient. All of this saves money, time, and resources ([examples](#)).

*New face of Sustainability at SIU!*



If you haven't heard, Geory Kurtzhals joined SIU as Sustainability Coordinator 6 months ago. She is supported by an enthusiastic team of undergraduate and graduate assistants. In addition, we've started a new Fellows program with four unpaid interns. This is a nod to our students' passion for transdisciplinary problem solving and making our future a little brighter.

Together, we are working on strategic initiatives that counter six critical issues that we identified as a part of a needs assessment last fall. We will share more about these critical issues and strategic initiatives next month. In the meantime, check out our current news and happenings below!

Thank you!

Geory and the Sustainability Office Team

## UPDATES

### **Career Closet**

Throughout January and February, faculty and staff donated professional clothing for our *Career Closet*. We collaborated with Career Services and Financial Literacy to showcase some of these donated items at a fashion show on February 9<sup>th</sup>, which highlighted outfit ideas for students to wear to interviews! Afterwards, students could browse through the closet and take one outfit home with them—for free! We were able to repurpose 68 apparel items and leftover apparel was donated to the Career Services Career Clothing Closet.



## Film Series

Our Sustainable Saluki Film Series continues! We have one more film scheduled this semester that will include an expert presentation and discussion afterwards.

On **March 1<sup>st</sup>**, our audience of students and faculty watched "[Revenge of the Electric Car](#)," and participated in a discussion led by Ralph Tate, Associate Professor of Automotive Technology. Thanks to Dr. Tate, several students left with new outlooks on how new methods can change our transportation habits.

On **April 5<sup>th</sup>**, we will host our final film, "[Urbanized](#)," followed by an in-depth discussion by Craig Anz, associate professor of architectural studies. Join us as we watch a team of architects, city planners, and others try to use new sustainable measures to deal with advantages and disadvantages of urban living.

## Recycle Mania

It's that time of year again! As you may recall, RecycleMania is a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. Over an 8-week period each spring, participating colleges report their numbers for recycling and trash collected each week, which are then ranked in various categories. While we like to promote recycling throughout the entire year, RecycleMania is a fun way to rally our campus to reduce and recycle even more! You can track SIU's progress [here](#). Let's aim for first place! Go Salukis!



## Farm to Fork Dinner

We are currently planning a Farm to Fork Dinner to take place on April 26<sup>th</sup> in the Student Center. The dinner will educate students on local food and support for sustainable decisions, as well as provide students with an affordable sustainable dinner!

## NEWS

### **Concrete and Asphalt Recycling at SIU saves dollars, reduces our environmental impact**

Concrete and asphalt are common building material. Traditionally, when sidewalks, roads or buildings are demolished, the demolition waste is transported to landfills for disposal. This process is costly and results in a significant amount of environmental pollution.

In the fall of 2015, the university initiated a concrete and asphalt recycling program. Instead of hauling concrete and asphalt waste to a landfill, the waste is crushed and ground into aggregate material. Concrete is crushed into gravel, while asphalt is ground into a product called bituminous asphalt material.

Since the program was initiated, approximately 3,188 tons of concrete and 500 tons of asphalt have been recycled. The university plans to use the recycled materials for future concrete work and maintenance of tertiary roads and parking lots on campus. In addition, the material will be reused to prevent foundation settling in campus buildings. By using the existing concrete and asphalt, the university is not only reducing construction costs, but also environmental costs.



### **More News:**

[Students push universities to invest in sustainability and divest from companies that pollute.](#)

[Japanese chaff flower: A rising threat to southern Illinois.](#)

[U Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Offers New Sustainability Minor.](#)

[Evanston residents launch a new campaign, 'Plates over Waste', to reduce food waste.](#)

[Flights from the UK to the US could take longer due to climate change, according to a new study.](#)

## JOBS/OPPORTUNITIES

Ready to get involved? Below are a few local and regional jobs/opportunities to look into for more experience and education, and FUN!

### Jobs/Internships:

#### Local:

[Researcher II: Environmental/Analytical Chemistry, SIU Carbondale](#)

[Environmental Service Worker, Union County Hospital, Anna, IL](#)

[2016 Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium, Native Landscapes: April 1-3, Carterville, IL](#)

[Keep Carbondale Beautiful offers SIUC student internships](#)

[Keep Carbondale Beautiful is seeking multiple positions: Videographer, Business Proposal Writer, Recycling Bin Designer](#)

#### Regional:

[Community Programs Manager, Backyard Growers \(MA\)](#)

[Waste Diversion Coordinator, NC State University](#)

[Environmental Health Specialist III, Williamson County, Illinois](#)

[Newton Community Farm \(MA\): Summer educator positions](#)

[PLAN \(Post-Landfill Action Network - NH\): Summer internships/fellowships](#)

### Other Opportunities:

[Green Power Leadership Awards Application Period Opening Soon](#)

[Upcoming EPA Green Power Partnership Webinar, An introduction to community solar programs](#)

[Volunteer with SIU Touch of Nature!](#)

[Join LOGIC for 'Fun in the Field', volunteer work days every Friday](#)

[EPA Grants available for locally-focused environmental education projects](#)

[6th annual Summer Institute on Sustainability and Energy, "Nexus" program, University of Illinois at Chicago, August 4-16](#)

### Conferences:

[4th Annual Massachusetts Urban Farming Conference](#)

[Student Research Conference on Asia and the Environment, April 14-15, Bard College](#)

[Massachusetts Sustainable Campuses and Communities Conference, April 15-16, Northampton, MA](#)

[Green Schools Conference & Expo, March 31- April 1, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania](#)

## INSPIRATION

[ISCN Report: Demonstrating Sustainable Development in Higher Education.](#)

[Fulton Hogan and Reid Technology – sustainably solving power supply issues.](#)

[Solarcity – enabling solar power through new service models.](#)

[Four cities that are getting rid of all of their garbage.](#)

## GREEN TIP

Research whether you can sign up for [green power](#) from your utility company. Also, pay your bills online and stop having the paper bill sent to your home. Not only is it greener, it's easier!

\*\*\***Ink and Toner Cartridge Recycling:** This program is a recently developed and rapidly expanding method of diverting hazardous electronic waste from local landfills. Through this program you can recycle both your unused and used ink and toner cartridges, and possibly receive unused cartridges depending on our inventory. Click [here](#) to learn more about the process.

Want more news and tips?

Join us on social media: [Facebook \(SIU Sustainability\)](#), [Twitter \(@SIUsustain\)](#), and [Instagram \(SIUSustainability\)](#).



Want to be added to (or removed from) this email list? Email us at [sustainability@siu.edu](mailto:sustainability@siu.edu).



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