A Note from the Sustainability Coordinator

Happy February!

I’m pleased to share that we have had two students join our team as Sustainability Fellows! Elise Sawa will be supporting our zero waste related projects, including the ink and toner sharing and recycling initiatives. Andrew Aaflaq will be supporting our outreach and education programming. Welcome to the team, Elise and Andrew!

If you’ve heard me speak in public or in person, you’ve likely heard me mention the importance of sustainability to our students’ future careers. Employers are looking for students who understand sustainability, no matter their career path. This was exemplified this month when one of our graduate assistants, Derick Chick, was offered an internship at a major international airport. An aviation student, Derick has been working on our STARS report for the last year. When he was offered the internship, he was told that his sustainability knowledge and experience put him above the other applicants in the search process. We wish Derick all the best in this role!

For those who are waiting for our STARS score, we have just two criteria still under review. I look forward to sharing our news with you as soon as I am able.

Sustainably yours,

Geory Kurtzhals

UPDATES

RecycleMania Begins!

SIU has registered for another year in the 2017 RecycleMania Tournament, lasting from February 5th until April 1st! As many of you might remember, RecycleMania is a friendly recycling competition between colleges. As stated on their website, “Over an 8-week period each spring, colleges across the United States and Canada report the amount of recycling and trash collected each week and are in turn ranked in various categories based on who recycles the most on a per capita basis, as well as which schools have the best recycling rate as a percentage of total waste and which schools generate the least amount of combined trash and recycling.” To learn more, or to see how SIU is doing, check out https://recyclemaniacs.org/.
Career Closet

Donations are now being accepted for the Career Closet! Please support our students by donating your unwanted gently used professional clothing, which will be added to the Career Closet located at the Student Multicultural Resource Center. (This is the same Career Closet that was formally located at Career Services.) After the donation period, students will be able to browse through the collection to pick out a professional outfit that they can use for interviews and day to day career attire!

Please also share this info with your friends outside of SIU as an opportunity to support our students!

Read more about the Career Closet here in the Daily Egyptian!
The Big Event: A Saluki Day of Service, will be the largest one-day, student-run service project in the history of SIU Carbondale! Make sure you keep a look out for updates or ways to participate! To get registered for the Big Event on April 1st! You can register and learn more here.

Dawg’s Nite Out

As always, we had a ton of fun at our DIY Craft Night during Dawg’s Nite Out on Friday, January 20th in the Innovation and Sustainability HUB. We enjoyed making friendship bracelets and wristbands out of recycled materials with some fellow sustainable Salukis! What a great way to celebrate both friendship and sustainability all in one night!
SIUE Expands Use of Renewable Energy.
Tesla announces new, cheaper solar roof!
Panera Announces New “100% Clean” Menu.
Illinois Leading Nation in Green Building; State Ranked #3 for LEED Building.

Read about the Nature Conservancy and their journey to protect global fisheries! – “Sustainable fisheries mean secure livelihoods, stable seafood supplies, strong coastal communities and a healthy ocean.”
Phoenix Teams Up with Recyclebank to Tackle Waste and Recycling Goals.

Local Opportunities

Start Seeing Pink Scholarships Available

This year, due to fundraising efforts and generous donors, the Start Seeing Pink committee is able to award FIVE $1,250 scholarships to SIU undergraduates who have been affected by breast cancer.

Deadline to apply is February 15, 2017 and applications can be found by going to siu.academicworks.com, signing in with your SIU ID and typing in keywords “breast cancer”. For more information on scholarship requirements, to read about past winners or ways to donate, go to studentcenter.siu.edu/pink and click on the various tabs.

Join Saluki Environmental Educators!

Hello Salukis! Do you have an interest in nature, the outdoors, education and public involvement? If so, we would like to invite you to join the Saluki Environmental Educators (SEE). SEE is a professional development RSO that connects students to environmental groups in the community with the opportunity to interact and lead programs with members of the public. Some of our community partners include the Carbondale Park District, Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Green Earth, Giant City State Park, the Forest Restoration Support Team, the Shawnee National Forest, and Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge.

This month, we have volunteer opportunities with the Carbondale Park District, Green Earth, and Touch of Nature. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, in the Agriculture building, Room AG187 at 5pm. Our next meeting is February 15th. We hope to SEE you then!
Seed Swap at Community Farmer’s Market
Sat Feb 11, 2017, 9am-12pm
CCHS at 1301 Walnut Street, Carbondale

- Come learn about cultivating seeds, get seeds, start a garden, make new friends.
- Bring seeds and take seeds that you grew or gathered.
- Leftover commercial packages are ok as long as they are not GMO.
- Plants, bulbs and cuttings are also welcome.

Carbondale Seed Library!
After Event: 12:30-2:30
Seed saving workshop and Inauguration of a new Carbondale Seed Library with lunch
214-216 Washington St.

Become and Energy Ambassador!
Frog and toad survey - There will be a Frog and toad survey orientation taking place on February 4, 2017 from 1-3 p.m. It will be held at the Cache River Wetlands Center in Cyprus, IL. Here you will be able to learn how to survey the frogs and toads in the area that will aid in the Illinois Natural History Survey. If you need any extra info be sure to call 6186572064.

Regional Opportunities

First detector workshops - There are going to be first detector workshops that will be held on February 10, 15 and 25. The one on the tenth will be held in Sterling Illinois, on the fifteenth in Orland Park and the final one being in Taylorville. These workshops are going to focus on oak diseases as well as insect invaders, there will also be information on invasive species and there effect on the health of people. There will be many hands on activities to learn more about the many issues that will be discussed. If you need more information you can email Kelly Estes at kcook8@illinois.edu.

Jobs/Internships

Junior Geologist or Scientist - Environmental Remediation, Aurora, IL
Associate Director, Energy & Environment at Ohio State University
Office Manager & Events Coordinator University of California Santo Cruz
Secretary General International Association of Universities
Senior Sustainability Program Coordinator, Evanston, Illinois
Energy and Environment Projects Program Manager, Seattle, WA, Amazon
Sustainable Agriculture Outreach Specialist, University of Vermont
Organic Activist, Full Circle, Seattle, WA, $230 per day
Entry Level Environmental Scientist, Watertown, MA
Junior Geologist, Las Vegas, NV

Conferences

Touch of Nature SEEEC Conference

SEEEC is a conference geared towards (college) students, environmental educators, teachers, and individuals interested in Environmental Education. The event's mission is to empower students and educators to foster relationships, support, and networking across generational groups for the long term benefit of experiential and environmental education.

The conference will be held at Touch of Nature in beautiful Southern Illinois on March 10-12, 2017. Our keynote speaker, Michelle Nichols (from Chicago’s Adler Planetarium) will be joining us to speak about practical environmental education programming relating to the upcoming Solar Eclipse!

Click here to register!

Midwest Environmental Education Conference (MEEC)

***Call for Presenters!!!
Live in the NOW, with Focus on the FUTURE
October 11-14, 2017; St. Charles, IL

In today’s world of increasing global focus, how do your local environmental education efforts make an impact? Help MEEC attendees investigate themes that stem from our communities and grow far beyond. We challenge each participant with the question What is Your Niche? as we explore the conference strands Nature, Native, Neighborhood, Nurture and Nourishment. As a presenter you will make contacts throughout the all-inclusive experience of MEEC 2017. Help educators connect to people, places and opportunities and discover their niche by submitting a proposal for a presentation that will give them the tools to succeed!

Visit meeconference.org for more details and to submit your proposal today.

Proposals must be submitted by April 1, 2017 for consideration. http://meeconference.org/call-for-presenters/

GREEN TIP

Looking for a green valentine’s day gift? Sellers like Raw Chocolate Love and Lulu’s Chocolate sell confections that are good for the Earth and for your sweet tooth! For more ideas, check out this article: 14 Sustainable Valentine’s Day Gift Ideas For Earth Lovers. Our favorite is #5: Heart shaped seed bombs!

***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) or instagram @SIUsustainability or twitter (@SIUsustain)!
* To unsubscribe from the list send a blank email to:
SUSTAINABILITY-L-signoff-request@LISTSERV.SIU.EDU