

Fall 2023 / Volume 7

SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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ABOUT

The Sustainability Studies Newsletter provides information about events, people, and places dedicated to sustainability. It is published at the beginning of fall, spring, and summer semesters and is exclusively available to University of Florida Sustainability Studies students and alumni. This edition focuses on events and opportunities in and around the Gainesville community.



GLOCAL IN GAINESVILLE

Find out more about sustainable stores, restaurants, organizations, places to visit, events to participate in, and career opportunities that think glocal in Gainesville.

glo·cal

*/ˈglōk(ə)l/
adjective*

Considerate of local and global impacts, essential to sustainability

Life Unplastic



Life Unplastic is a Zero-Waste shop and full service refillery. Their mission is to find sustainable alternatives to disposable plastic. Their goals are to find solutions through reducing, reusing, refilling, and rethinking plastic waste.

This local store has a plethora of sustainable products ranging from natural cleaning supplies, to locally made candles, to soaps of all scents and sizes. At the refillery counter, you can bring your own reusable container, or use one of the community donated jars. The refillery is stocked with food items, cleaning supplies, and even pet treats!

Curia on the Drag



Curia on the Drag is an urban oasis with a coffee shop that offers local coffee, tea, beer, wine, baked goods, and desserts. Their Food Truck next to the solar pergola features a plant-based menu, and Dad's Bar offers a selection of beer and wine that you can enjoy anywhere on the property.

The AUK Market hosts a series of pop up markets throughout the year featuring local artists and makers, and sells a variety of locally produced and vintage items in the store. Curia is also home to a podcast recording studio space hosted in partnership with Spotify, and the space is free to use by appointment.

WHERE

2441 NW 43rd St. ste
24B-1 Gainesville, FL,
32606

WHEN

Monday - Tuesday
10AM-4PM
Wednesday-Friday
12PM-6PM
Saturday-Sunday
10AM-4PM

MORE INFO

Phone Number:
(352-225-3116)
Website:
www.lifeunplastic.co
m

WHERE

2029 NW Sixth St
Gainesville,
FL 326091

WHEN

Monday-Friday
7AM-9PM
Saturday-Sunday
9AM-9PM

MORE INFO

Website:
www.curiaonthedra.com
info@curiaonthedrag.co
m

GLOCAL IN GAINESVILLE

Find out more about sustainable stores, restaurants, organizations, places to visit, events to participate in, and career opportunities that think glocal in Gainesville.

UF #Unlitter Sustainable Halloween Event



#Unlitter is a national movement working to reduce waste and promote sustainable lifestyles. The University of Florida chapter is hosting a series of sustainable events throughout the fall semester.

One of these upcoming events, is the Sustainable Halloween Party at The How Bazar. This event will feature swamp records and tips for sustainable event planning. Attendees are encouraged to wear their best second-hand costume, to promote sustainable fashion.

WHERE

60 SW 2nd St,
Gainesville, FL, 32601

WHEN

October 19, 2023

MORE INFO

Website:
<https://www.unlitter.org/gainesville>
Instagram:
@unlitteruf

Local Events

recurring

Alachua County Farmers' Market

Date: Saturdays

Location: 5920 NW 13th St,
Gainesville, FL 32653

Hours: Opens: 8:00 AM

Haile Village Farmers' Market

Date: Recurring Saturdays

Location: 5213 SW 91st Terr,
Gainesville, FL, 32608

Hours: 8:00 AM- Noon

upcoming

Composting Orientation with Green Greeks

Date: September 22, 2023 @ 4:30PM

Location: to be announced

#Unlitter Thrift Swap

Date: October 18, 2023 @5pm

Location: to be announced

47th Annual Micanopy Fall Festival

Date: October 29-30, 2023

Location: Micanopy Historic District, Micanopy

41st Annual Downtown Festival & Art Show

Date: November 19-20, 2023

Location: Bo Diddley Plaza, Gainesville

Hours: 10AM-5PM

GLOCAL IN GAINESVILLE

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more info LOCAL ORGS

Visit
<https://gatorsvolunteer.ufl.edu/for-volunteers/volunteer-with-environment/>
for more information.

Community Weatherization Coalition



The CWC seeks to help Alachua County residents, especially those with disproportionately high energy burdens, save money on utilities. This is done via *home energy tune-ups*, where trained volunteers, or Energy Coaches, visit clients' homes and take stock of their energy losses. Clients working with the CWC save an average of \$255 per year on utility bills. This allows for 2.3M kilowatts of energy and 8.8M gallons of water in the local area to be conserved yearly.

Every Fall and Spring, the CWC holds a 3 day training for new volunteers. Signup today to make a difference at the nexus of climate and housing equity.

Opportunities

intern

UF Bike Program

*UF Office of Sustainability
Accepting Resumes. Involve handling operations of the Office's existing Departmental Bike Share Program and the Gator Gears student bicycle rental program.*

Biodiversity Internship

*Gainesville, Florida
UF Department of Sustainability is hiring an intern to perform hands-on habitat work along with campus engagement activities.*

Keep Alachua County Beautiful

*Gainesville, Florida
Their mission is to beautify, conserve resources, recycle, educate and preserve our community's environmental legacy. Sustainability Interns and volunteers are always needed.*

volunteer

Earth Day Organization

www.earthday.org/

We are Neutral

www.weareneutral.com/

WHEN

*Fall Training:
October 18th & 25th
5:30PM-8:30PM
November 4th
9AM-3PM*

MORE INFO

*Sign Up To Volunteer:
<https://communityweatherization.org/volunteer-with-the-cwc/>*

MORE INFO

*Internships:
<https://communityweatherization.org/intern-with-cwc/>*

GATORS TRAVEL

Some new ideas to improve your summer vacation and explore new places both within and beyond the Gainesville community!

Lake Wauburg



Lake Wauburg is a University of Florida owned lake located in Micanopy. This lake grants free access to all GatorOne card holders. The Lake consists of two shores—North and South.

The North shore has pavilions, a swimming area, and equipment rental such as kayaks, volleyballs, Jon boats, and hammocks. The South shore has activities such as rock climbing, mountain biking, and disc golf available.

WHERE

133 Regatta Drive,
Micanopy, Florida
32667

WHEN

Monday–Tuesday
closed
Wednesday–Friday
12PM–6PM
Saturday–Sunday
10AM–6PM–

MORE INFO

Website:
<https://recsports.ufl.edu/locations/lake-wauburg/>

Vacation Opportunities

day trip

Rainbow Springs

10830 SW 180th Ave Rd, Dunnellon, FL 34432
www.visitrainbowsprings.com/hours-and-fees/

Weeki Wachee

6131 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, Florida
www.weekiwachee.com/

Three Sisters Springs

601 Three Sisters Springs Trail, Crystal River, FL
34429
www.threesistersspringsvisitor.org/sisters
Ichetucknee Springs

night trip

Florida Keys

Take a trip down to the Florida Keys and explore what the outdoors have to offer, with opportunities to boat, fish, kayak, and experience some unique wildlife.

Cocoa Beach

Cocoa Beach has a unique surfing and beach community that attracts visitors from all over the country. Take a trip over and book a surfing lesson to experience what the beach has to offer.

St. Petersburg Beach

St. Petersburg Beach, also known as St. Pete, is a beautiful beach town near Tampa. There is an abundance of local restaurants and shops to explore. Visit the St. Pete Pier for beautiful views.

GATORS GOING GREEN

A closer look at how UF students, clubs, alumni, and faculty all contribute to a more sustainable future.

more info: STUDENT CLUBS

visit orgs.studentinvolvement.ufl.edu
> Log in
> Organization
> Find an organization.

Green Greeks



Green Greeks is a student run club on campus that strives to make greek life and University of Florida more sustainable.

Each chapter has a delegate representative that acts as a liaison between the club and the respective sorority/fraternities.

Green Greeks puts on events such as a Boutique to resell clothes, volunteering at local schools, and doing beach cleanups.

Another main event is a recycling challenge among fraternities during gameday tailgates.

LinkedIn Alumni Network



Gator Sustainability Studies Alumni Network

Listed group

The UF Sustainability Studies Alumni Network on LinkedIn aims to connect current students and alumni with each other. This network frequently features local and global career opportunities, local UF Sustainability news, and general environmental current events.

By creating a network of Gators passionate about sustainability, new opportunities and insightful conversations can arise. This network is also open for alumni and students to post their own content regarding career opportunities.

WHERE

Meeting location:
To be announced

WHEN

GBM meetings:
Every other Tuesday at
8pm

MORE INFO

instagram:
[@ufgreengreeks](https://www.instagram.com/ufgreengreeks)

WHERE

Online Platform:
LinkedIn

Contact

Cameron Delgado
919-360-2550

MORE INFO

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12501462/>

GATORS GOING GREEN

Professor Spotlight William Kenney III

Professor William Kenney III is an associate scientist in the Land Use and Environmental Change Institute, and adjunct lecturer for the department of geological sciences at the University of Florida. He specializes in the use of nutrient chemistry and has a wide array of publications surrounding water sustainability.



As a triple gator, why did you initially decide to go to UF and stay here for your academic career? Do you recommend pursuing a master or PhD degree for Sustainability Studies Students?

I was born in Gainesville and grew up in Jacksonville. I enjoyed living in Florida and thought I would live in Florida for most of my life, so UF seemed like a good choice. Graduate school is a good idea for some people, but others may do better by getting out into the workforce. If you want to go to graduate school, you should be very good at writing and willing to operate autonomously in research.

What classes would you like to teach in the future, and why do you think it would be an important addition to students' learning.

I only teach Sustainability and the Changing Earth (GLY2038). Sometimes I guest lecture for other courses (Oceanography, Biogeochemistry, Lake Science, Environmental Engineering). I would like to teach a class related to quantitative

methods in environmental science. Quantitative methods are necessary in environmental sciences to precisely evaluate current conditions relative to pre-disturbance conditions.

One of your hobbies outside of work is upcycling and repurposing furniture and discarded items into art. Can you expand on some projects you have done and how you got into this activity.

My wife and I use scrap pieces of wood to make artwork representing fish common to Florida. This is a fun way to spend time with my family, use a discarded item, and produce a product that may be otherwise unavailable or quite expensive. The following picture is of a Red Snapper my wife and I made over 10 years ago that we now display on our porch. My wife drew the fish on a scrap of wood, then I cut it out and she painted it.

GATORS GOING GREEN

Professor William
Kenney III
(cont.)



Your research focuses on nutrient cycling in aquatic systems and in using sediment cores and environmental histories of ecosystem change. Can you expand on your involvement with this research and any interesting findings you have had? How would you say this research is meaningful to advancing environmental research?

I started working on sediment core studies in 1994. At that time I was a student assistant in a laboratory. Since that time, I have contributed to every aspect of these kinds of studies: project design/development, field collection of samples, laboratory analyses, data processing/modelling and publication/presentation of findings. Because water quality data has only been collected in relatively recent times,

we use sediment core data as environmental records of ecosystem processes. The sediment core data is a proxy for past ecosystem conditions. If we want to understand if an ecosystem is impaired, then we need to compare the current conditions to the pre-disturbance conditions to demonstrate the ecosystem change. Also, sediment core data can help quantify the degree of ecosystem change and the trajectory of that change through time. This information will help establish targets for ecosystem restoration and guide ecosystem management.

Do you have any advice for new Sustainability Studies students looking to be more involved in research?

Talk to your professors about getting involved in their research. Ask to tour a laboratory and see how the research is done to see if it seems like something you might enjoy doing.

GATORS GOING GREEN

Alumni Spotlight

Tanner Felbinger

Tanner studied entomology and sustainability studies at the University of Florida. Once finishing her studies at Florida, she decided to widen her personal and professional scope and move to Germany to discover a different world view. She completed a Master's in environmental sciences at the University of Freiburg, where she further explored social motivations and crucial factors surrounding climate change in environmental education programs for children. Tanner now works at Carbonfuture, a climate-tech start-up based in Freiburg, Germany. Her role as a carbon sourcing manager involves close collaboration with project developers of biochar carbon removal projects to help translate their real-time climate action into available offsets for corporations.

What led you into pursuing a degree in Entomology and Sustainability Studies at UF?

I was always interested in bugs as a kid. They fascinated me and I loved going in my backyard and turning over rocks to find new treasures and discoveries. It was always a moment of joy for me and I just found it really cool. When I was thinking of what to study and where to study, I always came back to the idea of biology. However, I wanted to be able to really dive deeper into a topic, so I came to the idea of entomology and found that UF had the #1 entomology



program in the country. So during my entomology studies at UF, I learned about the basics of biology and evolution, but also learned how insects can be related to medical and veterinary biology, as well as forensic sciences. As I took more classes, I wanted to broaden the scope and see how entomology could fit into the bigger picture of our environment. We know that climate change is such a huge hurdle that we're going to have to overcome in our generation, so I wanted to supplement my studies with this in mind. Picking up the minor of Sustainability Studies seemed like the perfect solution, so I did.."

After graduating from UF, you decided to pursue a masters program in Freiburg, Germany. Did you always know you wanted to study and/or work abroad post-grad? How did you decide that was the right career choice for you?

"I found Freiburg through a study abroad program I did at UF, titled UF in Europe. It was specifically tailored to environmental policy and sustainability studies. The first city that we visited was Freiburg, Germany,

GATORS GOING GREEN

Tanner Felbinger
(cont.)

which is dubbed the European green city. It's a picturesque town in the Black Forest, and when I arrived I fell in love and knew I had to come back there. My motivation to move abroad was therefore due less to the concept itself,, but rather an attraction to Freiburg as a city. I felt like I could really live here because the quality of life is excellent, it's beautiful and well connected, and there were so many boxes it checked for me. That was my main motivation to get me to explore something different. With my masters, I allowed myself a trial period to test out the waters abroad, and it paid off in the end. I've been living here ever since! "

Have you felt a difference in terms of sustainability- either with policy or day to day life living in Germany versus the U.S.?

"The culture in Germany has a different mindset towards sustainability, especially when it comes to being more integrated in the environment you are in. I can only speak to Freiburg (because I haven't lived in other German cities), but it's such a bikeable city, and you can use trains and trams, so it all feels so connected. All of these means of transportation mean that I don't need to own a car. Compared to living in Gainesville I had to drive most places in my day-to-day life. Although the main reason for using greener transportation in Freiburg, is convenience, which also contributes to sustainability goals by not limiting fossil energy to get you from point A to point B. The recycling

is also really incredible in Germany. They recycle all bottles and cans, using a deposit system, separate recycling from trash, and have robust composting systems in place, which is just the norm here. "

You currently work at Carbonfuture, a climate-tech start-up, where you work in carbon removal, specifically with biochar. Can you expand on some of the work you do and how you think it will have an impact on our climate future?

"Carbonfuture works to scale durable carbon removal, and increase trust within the voluntary carbon market. Currently, the best market-ready and scalable solution to remove carbon is via carbon removal (BCR). Biochar is basically baked biomass (think of it as an organic-carbon alternative to fossil-coal) during which process carbon is captured. Carbon must be captured and stored to create carbon sinks, and therefore generate bankable carbon removal credits. At Carbonfuture, we offer a suite of products to both product developers of carbon removal projects and buyers of the carbon removal credits. In 2023, we are aiming to remove 100,00 tons of CO2 from the atmosphere, and are on track to scale to a gigaton of carbon removals by 2030. planning on getting to the gigatons scale by 2023."

GATORS GOING GREEN

Tanner Felbinger
(cont.)

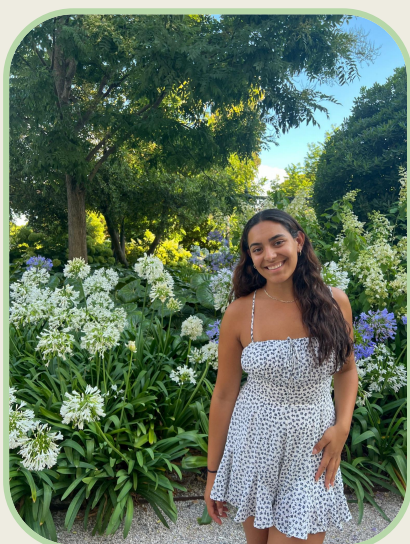
Do you have any advice for current sustainability studies students who are potentially looking at following a similar path to your own?

“When it comes to career potential, carbon markets are going to continue to grow in terms of relevance and opportunity. Regardless of experience or technical background, the industry is seeking young talent that is equipped with an open mind and the ability to be taught. It truly is a very rewarding job where you do make an immediate difference every day. You can actively shape the industry and that is not something many people have the luxury of doing. I would also strongly encourage current sustainability students to explore beyond their comfort zone, whether that’s moving abroad or going to a networking event where you don’t know anyone. In times where you’re out of your comfort zone, or participating in something that may be scary or thrilling, you’re fully present and are therefore going to get the most out of the experience. I would also advise everyone to participate in experiences that you might not call “productive.” I believe that if you’re doing something to better yourself holistically, then it’s worth doing. For me, that was working as a full-time yoga teacher for almost a year following graduation. Life doesn’t always work out on a linear path, and it’s okay to take loops, turns, and

pauses. I would just encourage people to let these experiences nourish you as a person, because that is what is going to make a difference in finding who you are.”

BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER

Cameron Delgado EDITOR



Cameron Delgado is a third year Sustainability Studies student who is earning minors in Environmental Justice and Policy, Communication Studies, and Public Relations. She is also working towards a certificate in Geospatial Information Analysis and participating in the Social Impact and Sustainability Initiative Scholars Program. At UF, Cameron is involved in Green Greeks as the Assistant Vice President of Public Relations, and the Sustainability Chair for her sorority- Kappa Alpha Theta. She is also involved in undergraduate research surrounding environmental education. This past summer, Cameron participated in an REU surrounding Urban Water Sustainability at the University of South Florida, where she studied the human impact on restored springs. Cameron hopes to continue her postgraduate education in a sustainability-specific program.

Dr. Thiele DIRECTOR & DEPARTMENT HEAD



Dr. Leslie Thiele is the Director of Sustainability Studies and oversees the Active Learning Program (ALP) in the Center for Adaptive Innovation, Resilience, Ethics and Science (UF CAIRES). He teaches the gateway and capstone course for the Sustainability Studies Program as well as political theory courses and seminars in the Department of Political Science.



Photo of Crescent Beach Boardwalk

Contact

If you have questions, suggestions, or contributions for future newsletters, please contact Cameron Delgado at camerondelgado@ufl.edu