

SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

NEWSLETTER



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 resources and opportunities in and around the Gainesville community.

IN THIS ISSUE

1. GLOCAL IN GAINESVILLE

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| SHOP..... | p. 2 |
| EAT..... | p. 3 |
| ORGANIZE..... | p. 3 |
| VISIT..... | p. 4 |
| LOCAL EVENTS..... | p. 4 |
| CONTRIBUTE..... | p. 5 |

2. GATORS GO GREEN

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| CAMPUS EVENT..... | p. 6 |
| STUDENT ORGANIZATION..... | p. 7 |
| PROFESSOR..... | p. 8 |
| ALUMNI..... | p. 11 |

3. BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| EDITOR..... | p. 13 |
| DESIGNER..... | p. 14 |
| Director..... | p. 14 |

1 GLOCAL IN GAINESVILLE

Explore and find out where to shop and eat in Gainesville. Discover a location conservation area or an organization dedicated to a sustainable future. At the end of this section, there is a list of fun, *green* local events

glo·cal

/ˈglōk(ə)l/
adjective

Reflecting or characterized by both local and global consideration, essential to sustainability

1.1 SHOP

Florida Vintage Market

Shopping from thrift stores and buying secondhand at local markets are beneficial to both the environment and a budget. In Gainesville, there are ample places and events where individuals can be both fashionable and sustainable like the Florida Vintage Market

The Florida Vintage Market is an ongoing event that occurs in various locations across Gainesville. It brings together thrifted fashion, local art, affordability, and most importantly: community. From Orlando Magic jackets, to uniquely potted succulents, Edward Cullen t-shirts and over 50 vendors in attendance, the market offers new ideas, conversations and unique experiences to every customer!

FVM is a FREE event for shoppers and visitors. The current vendor fee is set at \$67.50 for those looking to sell their locally crafted merchandise and/ or thrifted items. Food is another attraction the market provides.

Please note that Bo Diddley Plaza and High Dive are venues that are pet-friendly, so visitors can feel free to bring their own furry friends to enjoy the atmosphere, cool clothes and friendly faces.

WHERE

(may vary, visit website)

*The Bo Diddley Plaza
Cypress & Grove Brewing Co.
The High Dive*

WHEN

*2nd Sunday of the Month
12 p.m. – 5 p.m*



1.2 EAT

Karma Kream

HOURS

Mon. – Thurs. 8am to 8pm**Friday.** 8am to 10pm**Saturday** 10am to 10pm**Sunday** 10am to 4pm

ADDRESS

607 W University Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601

Sustainable eating habits are formed by consuming plant-based foods through local vendors and restaurants. Karma Cream, a local Gainesville restaurant, offers both Vegan and Organic options.

Karma Cream is known for its delicious coffee, vegan bakery, vegan sandwiches, and vegan ice cream. It provides locals with a diverse and inclusive twist to classic meals.

The restaurant opened in 2009 by co-owner Kyle Fick, soon becoming one of the leaders in vegan cuisine in Gainesville. The vegan substitutes provided for customers are comparable to non-vegan food options. With affordable prices and healthy food choices, Karma Cream has become a popular restaurant everyone can enjoy.



1.3 ORGANIZE

Cinema Verde

The Environmental Film Agency, Cinema Verde, is an award-winning non-profit dedicated to environmental education through film. Based in Gainesville, Cinema Verde hosts an annual film festival and seasonal film screenings of films from all over the world, bringing together environmental enthusiasts, students and residents. The company's year-round channel receives international films that can help students understand real-world problems that people are facing today in the realm of sustainability.

Students have access to a two-week free trial of the channel, with Cinema Verde offering a 25% discount for students who extend their subscription with the discount code Education25.



1.4 VISIT

Sweetwater Wetlands Park

The conservation area, Sweetwater Wetlands Park, has a unique history. The area was once home to the La Chua in the 1600s, a cattle ranch in Spanish Florida. Two hundred years later, the Seminole Nation occupied the area. After the second Seminole War in the 1800s, the prairie flooded and became a lake used for steamboat crossing. Following the draining of the marsh in the 1930s, the current Sweetwater Wetlands Park was created out of the Paynes Prairie Sheetflow Restoration Project in 2009, opening in 2015.

Today, Sweetwater Wetlands Park is a habitat of more than 125 acres, shaped like the head of an Alligator. The park, while teeming with walking trails and interesting wildlife, was designed to improve water quality by filtering out pollution from the Alachua Sink and Floridan Aquifer. The land was also created to protect and conserve the land within Payne's Prairie Preserve State Park.

Visitors can access the many walking trails and enjoy the local flora and fauna during daylight hours. The spot is well-visited and popular amongst locals.

HOURS

Open Daily
From 7am to Sunset

ADDRESS

325 SW Williston Road,
Gainesville, FL, 32601

ENTRY FEE

\$5 per vehicle



1.5 LOCAL EVENTS

Free Fridays Concert Series

Bo Diddley Plaza
Every Friday
7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Fall Plant Sale and Orchid Show

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Saturday, October 22nd
9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

18th Annual Florida Bat Festival

Lubee bat Conservancy
Saturday, October 22nd
10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

47th Annual Micanopy Fall Festival

Micanopy Historic District
Saturday, Oct 29th-30th
9 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Gainesville Market at Heartwood

Heartwood Stage
Every Thursday
4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Forest Workshop

FCPJ, 10665 SW 89th Ave,
Corner of CR 18 & CR 227, Hampton
FL
1st Sunday of the Month
3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Alachua Main Street Harvest Festival

Main Street Alachua
Sunday, November 13th

Pride at Prairie Creek

Prairie Creek Lodge
Sunday, October 16th
10:00 A.M. – 3:00 PM

1.6 CONTRIBUTE

Job Opportunities

Garden Gate Nursery

Gainesville, FL

Accepting resumes.

Gator Hydroponic (Good Grow)

Gainesville, FL

Good Grow offers both job and internship opportunities working with propagation, soil systems, etc. Internships include a monthly stipend.

The Repurpose Project

Gainesville, FL

Accepting resumes. Looking for people who are passionate about the organization's mission You can apply through their Instagram Linktree and website.

Internships and Volunteering

Cinema Verde

Gainesville, FL

Currently accepting new interns for the Fall 2022 semester.

Green Market Nursery

Gainesville, FL

Accepting resumes. Owned by Tom Thurston, who has years of horticulture experience.

more info STUDENT CLUBS

Many volunteer opportunities are available through different local companies and student organizations. Volunteer opportunities can be found [here](#).

**Students who are looking for research opportunities that align with their career goals are encouraged to reach out to professors whose work interest them.*

2 GATORS GO GREEN

A close look at how UF students, clubs, alumni, and faculty contribute to a sustainable future

This section includes ways to get involved in sustainable practices across campus and *exclusive* interviews with Sustainability Studies alumni and professor

2.1 ON-CAMPUS EVENT

Career Showcase

The University of Florida has many sustainable initiatives on and around campus. UF's Office of Sustainability regularly updates its website with sustainable tips and events. In the Fall semester, a notable event that caters to students of all majors is the career showcase in the O'Connell Center. The career showcase is the largest career fair in the southeast, bringing together students, alumni, and employers for recruiting and networking. This campus event showcases professions in all fields, ranging from business to social service and non-profit work, providing a place for all students to connect and network. The showcase spans two days, showcasing different technical and non-technical careers. There is an opportunity for students pursuing different interdisciplinary careers in sustainability to find new opportunities at the event. To register for the event, visit the [website](#)

MEET

September 27th and 28th,
9 a.m. – 3 p.m

LOCATION

Stephen C. O'Connell
Center

2.2 CAMPUS ORGANIZATION

Warrington Goes Green

MEET

Wednesdays at 7pm

LOCATION

HVNR220

1325 West University
Avenue Heavener
Gainesville, FL 32611

Warrington Goes Green (WGG) is a student organization that focuses on the intersectionality between business and environmental sustainability. The purpose of this organization is to spread awareness regarding the need for environmental sustainability within the business world. The weekly involvement includes events like vegan potlucks, clothing swaps in the plaza, cleanups, and Business Bashes presenting panels of sustainable entrepreneurs.

Warrington Goes Green was the first Sustainability organization within the business school to begin the spread of awareness regarding the importance of sustainability. Warrington Goes Green was the 2020 Heavener New Student Organization of the year and has continued to spread sustainability awareness since it was founded.

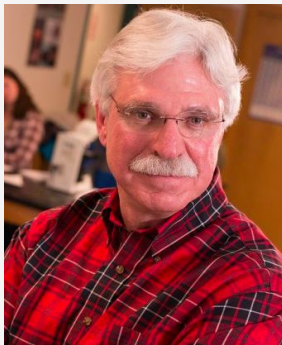
This society meets in the Heavener School of Business on Wednesdays for their General Body Meetings. Member applications for the Fall Semester will be released on September 9th, and events and activities will be posted on their Instagram @warringtongoesgreen.



more info STUDENT CLUBS

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

2.3 PROFESSOR INTERVIEW



Professor Mulkey

Professor Mulkey, an environmental scientist who earned a Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, has dedicated much of his career to graduate and undergraduate education. Between 2011 and 2015, Mulkey was the president of Unity College in Unity Maine, progressing the college to become the first in the US to adopt a sustainability framework throughout all of its academic coursework. Prior to pursuing a career in environmental and sustainability education, Mulkey spent more than 20 years as a tropical forest ecologist. Now, Mulkey lectures on several sustainability and environmental topics at the University of Florida and serves as both an officer at the National Science Foundation and a science officer for the state of Florida.

Could you please elaborate on your experience as a professor at the University of Florida while lecturing on topics like Sustainability Science, Climate Science, and Environmental politics?

The students are great and I love them. I try to both sober and honestly lecture students on difficult climate related topics, but I also try to teach hope in the realm of climate change. There is always hope, we can still reduce the worst effects of climate change. I am an ordinary lecturer at the University of Florida, so my experience with the faculty is mixed. When I first began work with the University, I was co-director of the School of Natural Resources and the Environment with IFAS, and I was essentially fired due to my public lectures about climate change. I was sent back to my tenure department, Botany, where I soon left in 2008 to work at the University of Idaho under the esteemed Margrit von Braun. I was then recruited to be president of a small environmental college in Maine. I recruited 10 young UF graduates to fix up the college, transforming the college into becoming the first college to create its entire academic program around sustainability science. After five years I came back to Florida, and after a 6th year at the National Science Foundation, I came back to UF. I went to the department of Biology and applied for an introductory lecturer position to teach climate change, and the department was very happy to welcome me back. I've attracted some negative attention from the upper administration, however, as I've been vocal about the fossil gas plant that UF plans to extract its energy from. Some of the faculty focuses on grants and papers more than the overall sustainability of the school, disengaged with how dire the climate situation is.

When you were president of the Unity College in Unity, Maine between 2011 and 2015, your leadership enabled the college to become the first in the U.S to adopt a Sustainability framework for all of its academic coursework. How do you perceive that this sustainability framework has paved the way for other sustainability colleges and programs in the U.S.?

Through divestment and adopting sustainability science, the college was a first and provided inspiration for other colleges and universities. Unity college, itself, has sadly gone very commercial, with 60%-70% online programming now following the pandemic. I think we did, in fact, inspire other colleges. Flagstaff college, for example, is one of the colleges that was inspired by us. Before they got started, they called me up and asked: How do we do this? My answer was simple, and that was marketing. What transformed Unity was a great staff that understood how to do online marketing and how to use search engine optimization, which made a huge difference for us.

PROFESSOR INTERVIEW (cont.)

Throughout your notable career in environmental and climate politics, which of your contributions do you believe has made the most lasting impact?

I hope what I am doing right now has made the most lasting impact. Teaching and speaking with students. In retrospect, however, the biggest impact I had was at Unity College. I think what we did there changed some lives, and I think we had a positive impact on the students. We had a tradition of putting some students and faculty into buses going to DC to march around the White House or the Capital building for different climate and environmental causes. The students would be in the front of the marches in big groups, and I think that's an example of the effect I had on Unity College.

Could you elaborate on your experience working as a tropical forest ecologist affiliated with the Smithsonian?

The Smithsonian is a great institution. They have a lot of donors, and they are relatively well-funded, also receiving federal dollars so they are both a public and private institution. The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute is one of the premier tropical research groups in the world. Scientists come through there from all over the world, and the institute has some of the best and most unique resources in the world as well. The BBC has done a lot of work there, and the quality of work done there is extremely high. Like all research organizations, however, I do wish they would focus more intensely on the impacts of climate change itself. A lot of the scientists in the organization are still studying things like evolutionary ecology, which is interesting but not as relevant to the more modern emergency of climate change.

The majority of the devastation we see is in the Brazilian part of the Amazon basin, with all the projections showing the amazon facing drought and dieback from fires. This is going to release an immense store of carbon into the atmosphere, and if we allow that to proceed, we will easily breach 3 degrees Celsius. The rivers and hydrolysis in the basin depend on the old-growth forest, along with the other animals and fungi species. The book Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard goes more into these connections.

Regarding your experience in the world of climate politics, is there any specific legislation or Climate agreements that students and Alumni should be watching out for? Are there any news sources or newsletters that students and Alumni should be following?

You should be watching out for a lot of misinformation, for example, Exxon et al. The company has just funded and put forward a front organization called the international carbon capture and sequestration group. It's all about selling technology that doesn't work. You have to realize anything that comes out of the fossil fuel industry is tainted. Both BP and Exxon are talking about how they are creating offsets and going green, but the reality is if you look at their budget, and I have, their real allocation for funds to those efforts is around 1%. There are certain pieces of news that are coming through that are likely to be promoted online, and they are trying to sell you on the idea that they are doing the right thing. Young people have to realize that CCS has been around for 15-20 years, and it does not work.

There are a number of places where you need to get your news, set up for ordinary folk. The best places are Yale Climate Connections and Yale 306. One group to follow online is Climate Croc of the Week. If you want to get a little more complicated, you should always bookmark Climate Brief as well. Inside Climate News and Inside Energy News are both produced by the same organization, and they have won two Pulitzer Prizes. They've done some excellent work. I always check the Guardian and its environmental section. They have long feature articles that they produce periodically. Every now and then they say something that is environmentally incorrect, but you can find that out through scientists on Twitter, like Michael E. Mann for example.

PROFESSOR INTERVIEW (cont.)

As an active educator, are there any actions that current students should be actively taking to fight climate and environmental injustice?

I don't want anyone to go to jail or have their career tarnished, but we are down to the wire and what we need in mass numbers is civil disobedience. I don't advocate violence in any case, I always am for non-violent civil disobedience. But no one is listening. Biden is stuck. It is very clear that the climate bill is dead in the water now. Definitely vote, and take one step in, more or less, the right direction. Vote, civil disobedience and organize. Follow Sunrise.org and 350.org. Climate Fridays are also a good group to follow. If you want to be entertained, you should subscribe to Juice Media.

Do you have any advice for current Sustainability Studies students who are actively pursuing higher education and research in the Sustainability sector?

Arizona State is probably the premier organization to pursue higher education, both the masters and Ph.D. A master's degree you have to pay for, but if you go the Ph.D. route there are basically two tracks. There is the professional Ph.D. track, and you have to pay for that, more or less. The other approach is a regular research track. The new School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan has great interdisciplinary work across the departments. University of Washington, Seattle, a new environmental standalone college is interdisciplinary and has good faculty. A place with good environmental science across the board is Oregon State. The Bren School of the Environment at UCSB is also a good school to look at.

For new graduates, make sure that what you do is meaningful, in the context of your ethics. Meaningful work is something that you have to define for yourself. What constitutes meaningful work during your career? You may have to walk through some open doors, rather than banging on doors that are closed. Sometimes the open doors come without funding, without money. Make sure you find like-minded people and learn how to become a community. Do meaningful work. Whatever job you take, it has to be a step in the right direction, but it does not have to be the end all be all. You might have to work for peanuts and work for people who are not the greatest. The main thing is to take a step in the right direction and keep doing it. What you don't want to do is wake up in your 50s and ask: what am I doing?

2.4 ALUMNI INTERVIEW



Alyse Tristram

Alyse Tristram works in the Development Review Program of Orange County's Environmental Protection Division. Alyse reviews development plans and ensures that the plans follow Orange County's environmental codes and comprehensive policies, along with state regulations. Some of the most common topics Alyse reviews include site location, land use history, and permitting and legal agreement history. Alyse graduated with a B.A. in Sustainability Studies in 2018, and further went on to earn an M.A. in Global Sustainability with a concentration in water from the University of South Tampa in 2020.

Could you elaborate on your journey into higher education after earning your B.A. in Sustainability Studies at the University of Florida?

Yeah, so I always knew I was going to go to grad school because I really enjoy school. I like learning, and wanted to continue. I did not have a specific path in mind, however, and started out at UF as undecided. I joined Sustainability because I knew I wanted to work somewhere in the environmental field. I always had a love for nature and the outdoors, and sustainability is so interdisciplinary, so it opens different environmental doors. I was looking into graduate schools, and I saw the program at USF, Patel College of Global Sustainability, and the course that they provided look interesting. The University worked out for relocation purposes, and I wanted to explore my career field before I joined the workforce. I earned a concentration in water because of my first internship with the Alachua County Environmental Protection Division and I was working in their water program prior to graduate school.

How do you believe that earning a Sustainability Studies degree has been utilized in your current position as an Environmental Specialist at the Orange County Environmental Protection Division?

So, in my current job, it involves more policy and a lot of working with other divisions within the county. There is a lot of planning and Sustainability in the Built Environment work integrated within the overall workload. It helped having the different and diverse classes that the Sustainability degree offers with my current position, and the general knowledge that the coursework offered. You are never sure what is going to come along, so the different social, economic, and policy classes offered help with the different challenges I might face. I am really grateful to have that, for sure.

For your current position, you utilize resources such as GIS maps, aerial images, and historical records to conduct research on the environmental effects of different development propositions. Do you recommend these skills for current students and Alumni for different careers in the Sustainability Sector? If so, what are some other skills that you have seen be beneficial in the Sustainability Sector?

From what I have experienced so far, GIS is definitely a big thing that almost everyone utilizes. I know in Grad school they were offering courses on GIS as well. I think that is definitely a key skill to have and get some experience from for mapping and different tools. GIS is a cool program and is something everyone should look at. Key skills to have include public outreach and communication. Communicating with strangers and speaking in public are key skills that should be harnessed because they can pop up. In my job, we have to communicate with developers, attorneys, landowners, public officials, and members of the public in community meetings. It's a key skill to be able to communicate science terms and environmental aspects with the general public.

ALUMNI INTERVIEW (cont.)

In your time with Orange County's Environmental Protection Division and your past work experience, what has been the most beneficial experience for your career in sustainability?

In every single internship and experience I have had in the past, I have connected really well with my supervisors and I learned so much that I think crossed over into every new opportunity that I came across. For example, I had an internship with the Sea Turtle Conservancy and the main thing I was doing with them was helping them with their single-use plastic program. They were trying to help restaurants in Florida eliminate their use of single-use plastics, more specifically straws. The experience helped me when I had my internship in graduate school with the City of Largo because they were doing a similar program where they partnered with a non-profit to help restaurants in the area reduce their use of single-use plastics, so the internships build on each other. Working with the local government now, I was already familiar with how counties and city governments operate because I had an internship with Alachua County and with the City of Largo, so I was comfortable with that work environment.

Do you believe that the connections you've built and the people you've met have assisted you in your career journey?

For sure, I think that's really important because they are going to open you to new opportunities and introduce you to new people and help build your network. I think most importantly, writing you those letters of recommendation, those are crucial for sure. Building those connections are very important and I have gratitude for the people I have come across in my experiences. I have learned a lot from them.

Do you have any career advice for current Sustainability Students? Do you believe that earning a Master's degree has been beneficial towards your career?

In the past few years, the term sustainability has become more well-known, and it has become more of an attainable career field. The college that I went to for graduate school was only ten years old when I went into that program. Sustainability has become more integrated into a lot of other career fields. I would say leave your options open and leave yourself open to different career opportunities because you never know what your skills in sustainability can translate to. Other areas are hiring sustainability people even if they previously wouldn't have. Keep your options open. When applying for jobs, you can explain how your skills in sustainability integrate into what they are looking for, I think that is a really good way to go. Building those connections while you're still in school and taking advantage of everything that UF has to offer is really important. Utilize these opportunities while you are still in school, and later bring these opportunities with you into the job market.

3 behind THE NEWSLETTER

The Sustainability Studies newsletter is brought to you by...



Katherine Monagas
EDITOR

Katherine Monagas is a senior Sustainability Studies student who is earning a minor in Economics and is a member of the Beyond 2050 program, along with being an active member of the International Scholars Program. Katie was born in Palm Harbor, Florida, where she graduated from East Lake High school in 2019. At the University of Florida, Katie is involved in student PIRG, Cinema Verde, the Global Business Society, and is currently involved in research that engages farmers in agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) through Virtual Extension Programs. Since a trip to Alaska when she was 17, Katie has understood the importance of both sustainability and conservation through activism and education. In her free time, Katie enjoys reading books, hiking nature trails and heading to the beach when she has a free weekend



Ila Nodal

DESIGNER

Ila Nodal is a senior pursuing a B.A. in Education Sciences with a specialization in Educational Technology and Education Policy along with a B.A. in Sustainability Studies from the University of Florida. Ila's passion for both education and the environment, combined with her digital art experience, has enabled her to innovate and re-imagine the Sustainability Studies Newsletter. Ila is highly skilled in creating vibrant visual designs and is currently at zSpace, Inc as an associate product manager, working closely with graphic designers to improve user experience and interface. Ila enjoys biking and painting in her free time, being particularly skilled in pet portraits.



Dr. Thiele

Director

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



This is an image of **Paynes Prairie**, taken by designer Ila Nodal. Visit @ilanodal on Instagram for more local photography or contact ilayalinodal@gmail.com

Contact

If you have suggestions or contributions for future newsletters, please email Katie Monagas at kmonagas@ufl.edu