



Stanislaus
State



Committee for Sustainable Futures Annual Report AY 2017-2018

Respectfully submitted by the Committee for Sustainable Futures

May 23, 2018

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The Committee for Sustainable Futures – AY 2017-2018

Committee membership:

Administration:

- Darrell Haydon (VP/CFO Business and Finance)
- Julia Reynoso (Director - Facilities, Planning & Finance)
- Wendy Olmstead (Manager of Sustainability and Commercial Services)

Faculty:

- Austin Avwunudiogba (Geography – sabbatical fall 2017)
- Phil Garone (History)
- Alison McNally (Geography)
- Tony Perrello (English)

Students:

- USU Representative – German Silva (S18)
- ASI Representative – ASI Director of Environment (student was unavailable to attend due to schedule conflict in S18)

Progress during first semester (Fall, 2017):

Per responsibilities set forth in the initial job announcement for sustainability coordinators, the Committee for Sustainable Futures (CSF) met to develop the structure and charge of the committee. The CSF met every two weeks during the fall, 2017 semester, and accomplished the following:

1. Conceptualized and created the structure and charge of committee
 - a. Members of the CSF feel that it is important to include student input and invited one student member from the University Student Union (USU) and one student member (the Director for Environment) from the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) to attend regular CSF meetings.
2. Joined the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
 - a. AASHE is a premier organization aimed at incorporating and implementing sustainability practices into higher education. Due to efforts of our committee, every member of the CSU Stanislaus community has access to the AASHE resources through the organization's website (www.aashe.org).
3. Developed a campus wide survey designed to be delivered to faculty, staff, admin, and students
 - a. The CSF worked throughout the semester to develop a survey aimed at learning how our faculty, staff, and administration view, conceptualize, incorporate, and implement sustainability throughout our campus. The committee believes that it is imperative to understand the campus climate as related to sustainability as the CSF begins to develop future opportunities and communities related to sustainability. (The survey was delivered early

February, 2018.) A separate survey more tailored to student interests will be developed and delivered in AY 2018-2019.

4. Created the structure of the website
 - a. The structure of the website has been created, with some materials added
5. Created a Blackboard site meant to share resources between committee members
6. Met with USU and provided a brief introduction to the CSF
 - a. Julia Reynoso met with the USU and provided a brief introduction to the CSF. Members of the CSF were present to provide a note about the CSF.
7. Discussed funding opportunities
 - a. The CSF discussed the possibility of building sustainability opportunities into future commercial operations contracts (Chartwells, Starbucks, Pepsi, etc.)
 - b. Also discussed the possibility of attracting local sponsors for various events
 - c. On campus funds available (around \$1,000)
8. Coordinated a webinar viewing of *Core Concepts for Teaching Sustainability: Using "Tips" to Deepen Learning across the Disciplines, Grade Levels and Cultures* by Dr. William M. Timpson, hosted in the JSRFDC, Sept. 27, 2017. Attended by faculty, staff, and administration.
9. Coordinated a campus wide event for fall, 2017
 - a. The CSF invited a guest speaker to campus – Mr. Ryan Hollister, a geoscience and environmental science teacher at Turlock High School, presented a lecture on local water issues, and invited audience members to participate in a hands-on learning activity ("Fishing for Answers"), which was designed to have participants think about water resources. The talk was held in late November, at the JSR Faculty Development Center, with faculty, students, staff and administration in attendance.



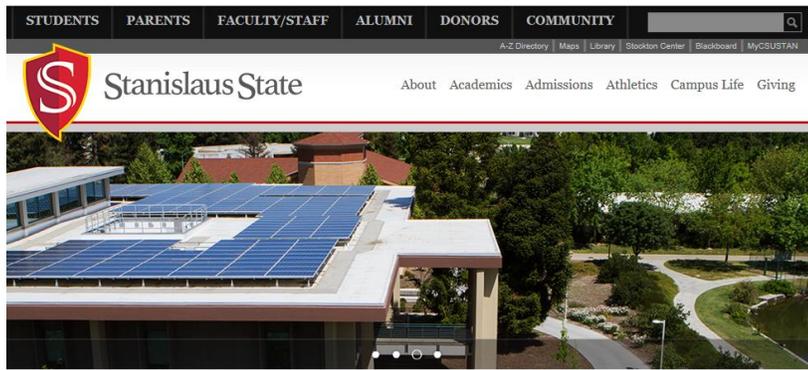
Mr. Ryan Hollister, first CSF speaker at JSRFDC. Nov. 29, 2017.

10. Coordinated a campus wide event for spring, 2018
 - a. The CSF invited conservationist Mr. Tim Palmer, award winning author and photographer, as the next CSF guest speaker. (Mr. Palmer presented on campus May 7, 2018.)
11. Discussed next steps for spring 2018:
 - a. Implement a “brown-bag” type series whereby campus or community members will be invited to participate in a more casual talk as it relates to sustainability. The topics may be widespread and can relate to any of the three pillars of sustainability (Economy, Environment, Equity).
 - b. Create funding opportunities similar to mini-grants (perhaps up to \$500 each) designed to aid faculty in incorporating sustainability activities, content, HIPs, etc. into their coursework or other programming.
 - c. Deliver a fully functional CSU Stanislaus CSF website
 - d. Administer the student survey
 - e. Analyze data from the fac/staff/admin survey, then the student survey
 - f. Create a long term plan for the CSF that would
 - i. be in alignment with the CSU Stanislaus strategic plan (link sustainability to the strategic plan)
 - ii. outline goals, objectives for campus, faculty, students, admin, staff
 - iii. explore opportunities for funding (involve ORSP) or other projects (Campus as a Living Lab project)

Progress during second semester (Spring, 2018):

Per responsibilities set forth in the initial job announcement for sustainability coordinators, the Committee for Sustainable Futures (CSF) continued to meet every two weeks during the spring semester, and accomplished the following:

1. The sustainability survey was administered in early spring to faculty, administration, and staff. A total of 269 took the survey (117 faculty, 119 staff, and 33 administration).
 - a. The CSF worked with Dr. Dave Colnic’s PADM 5310 class to have the results of the survey analyzed
2. Designed a student survey, with plans to deliver in early fall, 2018. The survey aims to better understand what students know about sustainability, and what sort of programming they may wish to see on campus.
3. Worked with Mandeep Khaira to develop the Sustainability website <https://www.csustan.edu/sustainability> . Progress on the website is ongoing. (Initial design of the landing page is at top of page 4.)



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Sustainability

The Committee for Sustainable Futures (CSF) is the California State University Stanislaus committee dedicated to the development, growth, and institutionalization of sustainability initiatives on campus and in partnership with the local community. The CSF will foster awareness, understanding, and a culture of sustainability on campus.

4. Successfully coordinated the first of what will be a continuing film series highlighting issues related to sustainability. Together with the University Library, the CSF hosted a screening of DamNation, attended by 30 students, staff, faculty, and admin., with a discussion following.

Flyer for DamNation.

5. The fall 2018 film was already chosen to be the award winning *A Fierce Green Fire: The Battle for a Living Planet* by Mark Kitchell (Bullfrog Films), with a discussion to be hosted afterward. The CSF is working with the University Library to schedule a day/time for the event.
6. Hosted Mr. Tim Palmer, a renowned river conservationist, who shared his body of research and knowledge in his presentation *Wild and Scenic Rivers: An American Legacy*, which was attended by nearly 30 students, staff, faculty, and members of the public (a local river conservation organization the Tuolumne River Trust was there), with a Q&A session following. One graduate student commented on how she was thrilled that this sort of programming exists on our campus.



Stanislaus State



**Tim Palmer presents:
*Wild and Scenic Rivers:
An American Legacy***

Date: May 7, 2018
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Bizzini Hall 102

Wild and Scenic Rivers: An American Legacy, published in 2017 by Oregon State University Press, presents an illuminating portrait of the world's premier system for the protection of natural rivers. This book by award-winning author and photographer Tim Palmer reveals the history and essential policies of a unique program and showcases 160 spectacular color photos of designated rivers from all parts of the country. Tim will show photos and tell stories about this vital public initiative. Please join us in celebrating this path-breaking approach to conservation as we near the 50th anniversary of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 2018.

Sponsored by the Department of History and the Committee for Sustainable Futures
csustan.edu/history; csustan.edu/sustainability

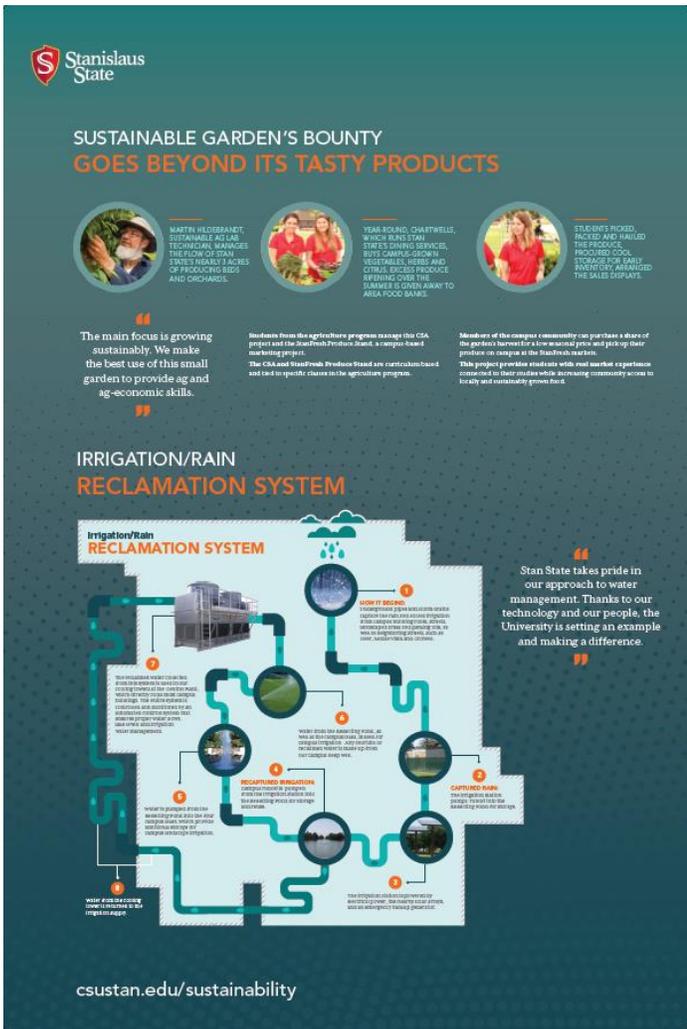
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Above: River conservationist Tim Palmer presenting his work about *Wild and Scenic Rivers* (in Bizzini 102).

Left: flyer for Tim Palmer presentation.

7. Continued to discuss grant funding opportunities including:
 - a. The Campus as a Living Lab project proposal *Teaching Sustainability Across the Curriculum*
8. The Committee was profiled on the Signal's website. Initially meant to advertise the DamNation movie screening, the story also provided exposure to our committee and its charge. https://www.csusignal.com/campus_culture/article_f4f74cbe-4ef2-11e8-b001-6b1c7629bad6.html
9. Sustainability efforts were profiled at the March 2018 Board of Trustees Sustainability Poster Session. Highlights include the CSA, Sustainability Garden, and the campus water reclamation system (see top of page 6 for the poster that was presented).



Above: Poster presentation with Trustee Wenda Fong, Julia Reynoso, and CSU Stanislaus President Ellen Junn.

Left: Sustainability poster presented at the March 2018 Board of Trustees meeting.

10. Secured funding for members of the Committee for Sustainable Futures to attend the 2018 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference in July at UCSB.
11. Edited and added to WASC Essay #7, which discusses the Committee for Sustainable Futures.
12. Presented a brief synopsis of CSF activities at the end-of-year General Faculty Meeting in May.
13. Due to the need for the advanced planning of academic schedules (often a year in advance), the Committee determined the membership of the CSF for AY 2018-2019 to be the same as this year.
14. Developed a strategic plan for the CSF, which is linked to the CSU Stanislaus strategic plan.
15. Discussed objectives for next year, which include:
 - a. Investigating ways to decrease the campus use of plastic
 - b. Administering the student survey
 - c. Continuing with the film series
 - d. Continuing with the speaker series
 - e. Developing strategies to increase sustainability in the curriculum
 - f. Initiating a brown-bag discussion series