

Education, Research, & Measurement of Composting, Recycling & Sustainable Activities Related to Student Learning Outcomes

Sustainability Team Leader:

Jenny Larson, Associate Director, Dining Services

O: 970-351-1983

jennifer.larson@unco.edu

Department of Dining Services

Team Members/Partners:

Steven Abbath, Facilities Management, Manager of Custodial Services

Jay Dinges, University Center Operations, Director

Alena Clark, Nutrition and Dietetics, Program Coordinator

Dianne Gaede, Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality Program, Associate Professor

Susan Gould, Nutrition and Dietetics, Assistant Professor

Richard Jurin, Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program,
Associate Professor and Director

Kirk Lechlitter, Facilities Management, Associate Vice President

Kyle Tiernan, Athletics-Facilities & Events, Assistant Athletic Director

Karen Turner, Monfort College of Business, Interim Dean

UNC - Student LEAF, Student Leadership for Environmental Action Fund

UNC – YES - Youth of the Environment & Sustainability

Signatures

Team Leader: _____
Jennifer Larson, Associate Director, Dining Services (Division of EMSA)

Director: _____
Hal Brown, Director, Dining Services (Division of EMSA)

AVP: _____
Tobias Guzman, AVP, EMSA (Enrollment Management & Student Access)

Purpose

Dining Services strives to be a leader on campus for sustainable practices. Our department continually adds new processes and products or services, to support the mission of the University, and most importantly, to lead the charge of making a significant impact on the amount of waste that goes to the landfill. As part of a multi-phase approach, Dining Services seeks to receive funding to support Phase II of our Sustainability Initiative. Phase II includes multiple internship opportunities for academic year 2014-2015. Phase I has already been completed.*(See page 4)

Phase II Sustainability Initiative: Transformative Learning & Student Learning Outcomes

1. *Develop Leadership Skills working with and Across Teams/Departments/Faculty & Staff*
2. *Create, Plan and Organize Educational Materials & Events*
3. *Create Marketing Calendar*
4. *Develop Marketing Message & Mode of Delivery*
5. *Develop Project Management & Fiscal Responsibility Skills*
6. *Create Benchmarks and Surveys, Compile Results, and Plan Future Goals & Initiatives*
7. *Provide Progress Reports and Results through Presentations, Blogs & Posts*

Internship Opportunities

The addition of multiple internship (unpaid) / course credit opportunities through Dining Services for students is crucial in the implementation of Phase II of our Sustainability Initiative.

Internship Responsibilities (Fall & Spring 2014-2015)

- **Compost/Recycle Stations**
 - Operate & Staff Recycle/Compost Stations at Outdoor Events and Home Football Games (new this year, operate as pilot program for home games)
 - Identify Team Responsibilities & Roles
 - Coordinate With and Across Various Departments and Colleges
- **Surveys** (Current & Future Sustainable Activities)
 - Survey student, faculty and staff population, to include benchmarking of current and future sustainable activities
 - Create Questions, Conduct Survey, & Compile Results
 - Incorporate Results into Future Goals/Initiatives
- **Marketing Materials & Education**
 - Create & Organize Marketing & Educational Program for Outdoor Events, Football Games and the University Center
 - Create Marketing Calendar
 - Plan & Coordinate Educational Events at the University Center to Promote Sustainable Activities
- **Results/Measurements**
 - Compile Results of Educational Efforts and Measure Composting & Recycling Weights from Prior Year to Current Year
 - Publish, Present, Post, & Blog as Appropriate

Timeline

- **May 31st** Apply for Mini Grant
- **May 31st** Apply for Funding, Student LEAF – 8 Recycle/Compost Receptacles at Nottingham Field
- **July 15th** Meet with Professors from each Program to Establish & Promote Internship Opportunities through Dining Services for Fall/Spring 2014
 - Identify, Review, & Revise Plasticware Products for Food for Football Games
- **August 1st** Send Internship Scope/Description to Program Professors Identified
- **August 21st-August 30th**
 - Set-up Time to Present & Recruit Interns from Identified Programs
- **August 22nd**
 - Set-up Compost/Recycling Station at Taste of UNC/Bear Fest
- **September 8th**
 - Hold First Meeting, Organize Process, Roles, Materials, & Educational Aspects of Composting/Recycling Program 2014-2015
- **Football Games**
 - Work at all Home Football Game Compost/Recycle Stations
 - Educate Guests on Composting/Recycling at Football Game & Fan Fest
 - **September 13th 1st** Home Football Game
 - **October 4th** Community Fest (Homecoming)
 - Operate separate recycle station at Community Fest
 - Operate Sustainability Booth for Dining Services
 - **October 11th** Friends & Family Weekend
 - **October 25th** Home Football Game
 - **November 22nd** Home Football Game
- **September 30th** Identify & Create Survey Questions for Student Population
 - Set-up and Promote Survey through Qualtrics, Social Media, and Email Distribution List
- **October 15th** Distribute Survey & Promote
 - Compilation of Photographs, Materials & Other Required Information to Enter Sustainability Contest through NACUFS (National Association of College & University Food Service)
- **November 15th** Compile Results of Survey
 - Discuss Next Steps based on Results & Create an Implementation Program
- **December 1st** Compile Results of all Activities for Fall Semester
- **January 1st** Step Two Compilation of Materials for Sustainability Contest- NACUFS
- **February 15th** Implement Plans based on Fall Summary of Results
 - Begin plans for Earth Day/Week & Arbor Day, Discuss Community Involvement
- **March 15th** Create Survey Questions for Faculty/Staff
- **March 22nd** Distribute Survey to Faculty/Staff
- **April 4th** Compile Results & Determine Future Goals/Initiatives
- **April** Present Results through Avenues identified below. **

- **May** Develop Further Goals & Initiatives for the Future

Project Results**

- Sustainability Council Presentation (once per semester)
- Sustainability Web/Facebook Page (monthly posts)
- Student LEAF/YES Web/Facebook Page (monthly posts)
- Periodic Blogs (monthly)
- Residential Hall Association Meeting (once per semester)
- Student Senate Meeting (once per semester)
- Dining Services Student & Classified Staff Training, & Management Council (once per semester)
- Enter Sustainability Contest through NACUFS (compilation of data August-January 2015)

Program Improvement

- Formulate Goals and Initiatives for the Department Complete with Budget/Timeline
- Measure Results by Weight Comparison: Improvement on Post-Consumer Composting & Recycling at the University Center.

BUDGET

Category	Details	Location	Quantity	Price
Educational Events	Educational/Promotional Swag	Outdoor Events/Fairs	500	\$325
Educational Signs	Pull-up Banners	Holmes Hall, Tobey-Kendel	2	\$400
Educational Signs	Compostable/Recyclable Items (Post Consumer)	Nottingham Field	7	\$560
Promotional T-shirts	Let's Talk Trash T-shirts for Interns & for Give-a-ways	Outdoor Events Educational Events	50	\$325
Miscellaneous Materials	Paper Supplies, Pens, Clipboards	Office/Educational Events	n/a	\$50
				\$1,660

Additional Funding Resources: UNC Student LEAF, fund four receptacles at Nottingham Field (\$10,000) for fall 2014. The University Center asking for funding for receptacles on the lower and main level, and all of the event rooms. Educational materials, which the mini grant would support, would enhance student learning, and proper use of receptacles.

***Phase I Sustainability Initiative:** Completed in Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

- Compost/Recycle Design Creation for Future Marketing Materials for Dining Services
- Implementation of Multi-Phase Marketing & Education Sustainability Campaign
- Implementation of Pre-Consumer Recycling in all of our Dining Operations
- Addition of Composting of Pre- and Post-Consumer Waste at the University Center
- Implementation of Sustainable Outdoor Events such as Taste of UNC & Community Fest
- Design & Implementation of Edgy "Let's Talk Trash" T-shirts to Promote Sustainability