New Emphases: Fall 2017

Due to the rapid growth and interest in the ENVST Program and a need for ENVST graduates with specific skill sets, the ENVST Program has been working hard to provide students with a variety of emphases. Five new emphases are launching Fall 2017:

- Ecological Literacy and Social Change
- Food Systems and Community Resilience
- Climate and Energy
- Air, Water, and Health
- Land Management, Conservation, and Place

The new emphases will allow students to focus their studies to best fit the career path of their choice. Book an advising appointment with our ENVST advisor, Ally Holian for more information: ally.holian@csbs.utah.edu

SCIF

The Sustainable Campus Initiative Fund (SCIF) is the U’s green grant program that gives opportunities to students and staff to propose projects that enhance the sustainability of the campus and community. SCIF gives the opportunity for students to improve campus, collaborate across departments, gain unique professional experience and leave a legacy at the U. Many of our ENVST students participate in SCIF proposals and three projects have been accepted this spring.

Pioneer Garden Fence

The Pioneer Garden Fence project designates a parameter for the gardens, protects the gardens against damage from passing campus foot traffic, and creates possibilities for vertical gardening.

Solar in Centennial Valley

Solar Panels will be installed on the Taft-Nicholson Center located in the Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in Centennial Valley, Montana. This will help the center offset energy use and promote sustainable living.

Dyson Airblade Hand Dryer Installation

Dyson Airblade hand dryers will be installed in Fredrick Sutton Building. They will be replacing paper towel dispensers and will be saving the building ~$10,000 in cost, ~6,000g of CO2 per year, and drastically decrease waste.

Water

The panel was a success and had great attendance. The panelists included Zach Frankel from Utah Rivers Council, Brian Tonetti from Seven Canyons Trust, Laura Hanson from the Jordan River Commission, and Teresa Gray the Water Quality & Hazardous Waste Bureau Manager for Salt Lake County. The panelists discussed topics ranging from climate change, urban hydrology, daylighting buried creek beds in Salt Lake City, and the real issues that we will face in terms of water in Utah and the west as a whole. Attendees asked thought provoking questions, and the panelists were able to communicate potential internship and job opportunities to the crowd.

Social Soup

The Sustainability Leadership Committee hosted the spring semester’s Social Soup. This event is aimed at raising awareness about food inequity on the global and local scale while enjoying a bowl of vegetarian soup donated by University Dining Services. This semester, the committee invited four local organizations that work on local food issues to give a panel presentation. The organizations that participated were The Green Urban Lunch Box, Wasatch Community Gardens, New Roots Farm, and The Spice Kitchen. Each organization spoke about what they do in the Salt Lake Community and answered the audience’s questions. This event allowed students, faculty, and staff to learn about what is happening outside of the University on the issue of food justice in the Salt Lake area.

Contributors

This issue of the ENVST Newsletter was put together by the ENVST Student Leadership Committee of the Fall 2017 Semester, with help from those in the program’s office.