GREEN CAMPUS

## 2021 Green Campus End of the Year Report



representing 8 student clubs & organizations were present at the Sustainability Summit



# GREEN CAMPUS END OF YEAR REPORT 2020-2021

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## **Overall Achievements**

In its efforts to outreach and educate Cal Poly's campus community about sustainability practices, Green Campus acheived the following statistics for the 2020-2021 academic year:

40+ INDIVIDUALS & 8 CLUBS	> Attended the Student Sustainability Leadership Summit
10+ INDIVIDUALS & 6 CLUBS	> Attended Sustainability Roundtables virtually every week
OVER 100 STUDENTS	> Engaged during Earth Week events
11 COLLABORATIVE EVENTS	> Successfully promoted and implemented for Sustainability Month
15 DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS	> Secured by the Eco Reps program
200+ NEW FOLLOWERS	> Gained on the Green Campus Instagram

## Strategic Goal Advancement

The events and focuses of Green Campus for the 2020-2021 academic year helped pursue and add to the advancement of the following University Strategic Goals:

- **3B** > create and sustain a more diverse, equitable and inclusive university community that reflects and serves the diverse people of California.
- **3D** > further develop a campus climate that reflects the values of diversity, equity and inclusion as well as free inquiry and mutual respect.
- **4C** > pursue innovative and sustainable initiatives in graduate, post-baccalaureate and alternative academic programs that build on the university's mission and expertise.
- **4D** > address real-world problems, such as environmental sustainability, through interdisciplinary and international experiences as well as community and industry partnerships.
- **5B** > ensure that all students engage in effective, out-of-the-classroom experiences that prepare them for a life-long relationship with Cal Poly.
- **5D** > cultivate a campus environment that emphasizes all aspects of personal and community wellbeing.
- **7D** > ensure the sustainability of the whole campus environment by making it smart, resilient and carbon neutral.

## Eco Reps

#### **No Earth Without Art**

For Earth Week this year, Eco Reps held a space for a discussion of the current and future states of our world through a variety of art mediums and artistic prompts. Participants were split into breakout rooms, in which a prompt was given that inspired them to represent an aspect of sustainability artistically. Attendees could share their art and world views in breakout groups and finally with the entire group at the end.

#### **Public Trust Film Screening**

Eco Reps hosted an interactive guided discussion of Patagonia's film "Public Trust". The film discusses the issue of public lands in the united states and why they need to be protected from exploitation of their resources and degradation. The film screening and discussion were held on separate days. The discussion in particular attracted many students from Environmental Design who brought new and fresh perspectives.

#### Zero Waste Cooking

Eco Reps Collaborated with "Food Science Fellowship" graduate students to promote ways to use traditional food scraps and eliminate waste. The goal was to educate students about food waste through presentations and activities led by experts in that field.

#### Kahoot and Craft

A Kahoot game was created to educate participants about where waste goes in Cal Poly, in SLO, and around the globe. The educational game transitioned to an up cycled crafting activity designed to promote waste reduction. Attendees were taught how to propagate vegetables, construct planting pots, and build compost bins all out of re-used materials.

# Virtual Green Campus

#### **Overall Review**

This year Green Campus and all Green Campus related events or activities were conducted on a virtual platform as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Green Campus adapted to this by conducting team meetings and weekly check-ins virtually using Zoom, and utilizing Slack and OneDrive as primary communication and organizing tools. In addition, Weekly check-ins were conducted on an as needed basis to conserve energy and time spent on projects. All events this year (Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters) were conducted virtually with varying levels of attendance and participation.

Green Campus retained student engagement despite this transition to an all-virtual platform, showing the teams adaptability and perseverance. This was accomplished through the optimization of technology and social media to properly promote events and conduct extensive outreach to the Cal Poly community. Through this, Green Campus Team members gained onlineorganizing and professional technical skills associated with remote work.

# **Community Organizing**

## Sustainability Roundtables

Sustainability Roundtables occurred on a weekly basis for the entirety of the academic year. They were hosted by the ASI Secretary of Sustainability with extensive participation by the Green Campus Team. The gatherings were conducted virtually using Zoom and were a place where all individuals and club members interested in participating in the sustainability community could collaborate and conduct goal setting. The Roundtables focused on community building, the designation of high-level goals for the sustainability community, and tasks by which these goals could be achieved. Attendance was constant and similar to what could be expected had the Roundtables been in person.

## Sustainability Leadership Summit

The Fifth annual Student Sustainability Leadership Summit was hosted by Green Campus in the Beginning of Fall Quarter, 2020. This year's Summit was held virtually using Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. With this online format, the event was split into three different sessions occurring across 6 days with each day being 2 hours in length. The sessions were split into the following 3 parts each with its own specific focus:

#### Part 1: Sustainability Leadership Training

• The goal of this session was to train sustainability clubs and groups on various topics related to inclusivity, virtual event planning, social media and club communication, and recruitment and retention of club members in a virtual setting. 30 individuals from various clubs on campus participated in a combination of presentations and activities.

#### Part 2: Social Justice Learning Sessions

This part of the Summit consisted of 4, 2-hour long sessions spread across 4 consecutive days. Each day, an expert guest speaker presented on that session's topic and Green Campus Team Members conducted breakout room activities to encourage discussions. The topics covered included intersectional environmentalism, indigenous peoples, health and wellbeing, food sovereignty, the Green New Deal, political activism, and Racial Justice. Around 40 people participated in each of the sessions for this part of the summit which is similar to what would be expected at an in-person version of this event.

#### Part 3: Final Community Gathering

• The final day of the Summit immediately followed the 4 social justice learning sessions and served as a way to debrief the summit as a whole. The summit planning committee conducted a summit debrief through live polling questions and flagpole discussions in breakout rooms. The goal of this session was to encourage participants to share what they had learned during the summit as well as set long term goals for various projects within the sustainability community.

The Summit as a whole was successful in addressing a wide variety of sustainability related issues in an online format. Experts from various fields were able to share their knowledge with the sustainability community. This resulted in concrete goals being set for the community as a whole and projects being brainstormed to be carried out throughout the year with accountability being held at weekly roundtables.

## **Student Succession Retreat**

The student Succession Retreat was an event hosted by Green Campus designed to prepare the next generation of club leaders through the development of succession and leadership strategies. The Retreat was held during Winter Quarter, 2021 through 3 1-hour long sessions occurring over 3 consecutive weeks. Each session had a different focus including social justice in recruitment, the social change model of leadership, and engagement and retention strategies in a virtual setting. Speakers led discussions on each of these topics designed to teach leadership skills to club members and prepare them to carry on the goals of their various clubs into the next year.

#### Social Media

The use of social media was essential this year to promote events given the online nature of Green Campus. Throughout the course of the school year, Green Campus made over 50 posts on Instagram and countless more stories that advertised events and highlighted opportunities for students to get involved both on and off campus. Calendars planning out the details and timing of these posts allowed Green Campus to be as effective and efficient as possible with social media engagement. Over the course of the school year we gained 200+ new followers bringing our total to 1165 followers on Instagram.

# Sustainability Month

## **Overall Review**

Sustainability Month was done in partnership with many organizations across campus, and consisted of various events throughout the month of October. Green Campus hosted events included 'Sustainability Speed Dating' and 'Sustainability Jeopardy' while Eco Reps hosted events included 'Kahoot and Craft' and the "Public Trust Film Screening and Discussion' (explained in more detail above). All events in addition to various club and CSU wide events were held virtually using Zoom. They were advertised using an extensive social media campaign as well as through weekly roundtable meetings and the sustainability newsletter.

# Earth Week

#### **Overall Review**

Green Campus organized Earth Week to be in a virtual setting and take place over a variety of Zoom based club events and social media campaigns, all encompassing the theme of "Start Where You Are". This theme encourages students to participate in community and environmental activism no matter where they happen to be: in SLO, at Cal Poly, or at home. The Green Campus Team did not organize any of their own events and instead dedicated their time to the promotion of club events through social media outreach. In addition, the team hosted a raffle where any students who participated in activism could enter for a chance to win one of many prizes. Green Campus collaborated with over 5 local sustainable businesses who donated the prizes. These included Bliss Cafe, Ziggys, Lincoln Deli, HumanKind, and All Good. Over 100 students were reached during Earth Week with over 50 participating in the raffle. From this raffle, 50 students participated in activism at home, 21 in events at Cal Poly, and 9 at various volunteer opportunities around SLO

