

March 9, 2018

IN-25 UCI Innovation B: College Sustainability Cookbook and Outreach

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to confirm that the “College Sustainability Cookbook” created by UCI students for UCI students is unique in that it couples student-tested, budget-oriented recipes with other information geared toward reducing student reliance on packaged foods that contribute to landfill waste as well as information on issues such as fair trade, organic, or non-GMO certifications. Further, distribution of this visually appealing cookbook has been augmented by an awareness campaign incorporating one-on-one presentations, cooking classes, an Instagram account, and the creation of three 60-second videos allowing students to quickly see how to cook three different recipes. The three videos – quick tutorials on making Udon Noodles, Soba Salad, and Spring Rolls – are available on our YouTube page.

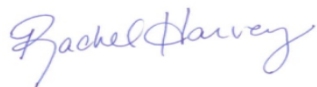
A copy of the cookbook was given to most students living in on-campus housing during 2017 move-in. Nearly 4,300 copies were distributed in this fashion and also through UCI’s FRESH Basic Needs Hub, the Global Sustainability Resource Center, the Anteater Recreation Center Kitchen, and The Green Initiative Fund. Additionally, the following student-governed clubs received copies to distribute to their members: Climatepedia, the Public Health Association, and the Earth System Science Club.

Gracie Wong, the UCI Food Waste Fellow who brought this project to fruition, has been hosting cooking programs in student housing since the winter quarter of last year. Her presentations include information about minimizing food waste as well as sorting and disposing of it appropriately to minimize landfill waste.

While I am aware of one or two other college sustainability cookbooks, none appear to have been circulated as widely as the UCI cookbook or to have been promoted as extensively in ways that would engage college students and help to expand their sustainability skill sets!

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions about this worthy student-focused project: raharvey@uci.edu.

Sincerely,



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