

# CSUDH Annual Sustainability Report

**FY 2018-2019**

*July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019*

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## Executive Summary



Figure 1- Volunteers at CSUDH's 12th Annual Earth Day Festival

### **Campus Sustainability Highlights:**

In the 2018-19 fiscal year (FY), California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) made several important strides towards supporting sustainability on campus. A few prominent accomplishments include:

#### *Awards/Accomplishments:*

- Earned national Tree Campus USA recognition for 2018.
- Earned additional statewide Best Practice Awards in 2018 for Data Driven Communications and Battery Storage respectively which were presented in July 2018 at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference.
- Selected for energy efficiency pilot funding in excess of four million dollars for the campus to support energy efficiency projects and building upgrades.
- Attracted approximately \$27,000 in outside grant funding over the course of the academic year:
  - Earned \$9,000 worth of student internship funding from the Water Resources Policy Institute (WRPI) to hire two CSUDH students to work on green waste composting research and native garden support respectively.
  - \$9,000 from Shell Oil to support K-12 programming development for the on-campus Farm.
  - \$5,000 from the LA Clean Tech Incubator for an existing grant to support renewable energy collaboration which supported intern funding for a CSUDH student to continue working on renewable energy projects on campus.

# Executive Summary

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- \$3,000 from the CSU Chancellor's Office via a Basic Needs Microgrant to support additional growing projects at the Campus Urban Farm.
- \$1,200 from Shell Oil to support the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual CSUDH Earth Day event.

## *Projects:*

- Conducted comprehensive upgrades of lighting, HVAC, and Central Plant assets which increased the energy efficiency of the campus as a whole.
- Launched a student Sustainability Club to further engage and develop student leadership in campus sustainability issues.
- Solicited ideas and awarded six sustainability projects submitted by CSUDH students out of the newly formed Toro Green Initiative Fund.
- Sponsored the first on-campus weekly Farmers Market which launched in spring semester 2019.
- Founded the first CSUDH chapter of the national Food Recovery Network, distributing 1,500 lbs of food to students in need over the course of the academic year.

## *Engagement:*

- Reached 1,693 people via sustainability events and campus outreach.
- Reached 294 students from several different academic disciplines and an additional 291 students through academic efforts at the Campus Urban Farm.

*“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”*

*-UN World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987*

## Sustainability Staffing & Institutionalization

### Sustainability Institutionalization:



Figure 2- Sustainability interns with Teddy Toro in one of their solar-powered golf carts.

### **Building Student Leadership & Involvement in Sustainability:**

**Goal:** Create an avenue for students to engage with sustainability activities in a non-employment capacity and develop independent student leadership in sustainability initiatives.

- In Fall 2018, the Office of Sustainability worked with paid student interns to revamp the existing Farm Club into a Sustainability Club. Club activities were designed to provide weekly activities oriented around paid intern activities and projects. This enabled student volunteers to participate in hands-on sustainability projects like lighting assessments, waste audits, landscape mapping, and food recovery under the guidance of trained paid interns. This also helped ensure regular data collection for several campus-wide initiatives.

## Sustainability Staffing & Institutionalization

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- On October 28<sup>th</sup>, four student interns traveled to the statewide CSU Student Sustainability convergence at the statewide CSU Facilities Managers conference in Monterey. The CSU Chancellor's Office funded the students' travel to ensure CSUDH's representation in this statewide event based on the strength of student leadership in sustainability on the campus.
- During the 2018 fall semester, President Parham vested \$10,000 in the first-ever Toro Green Initiative Fund (TGIF). This fund was designed to build student leadership around campus sustainability by soliciting "green" project ideas directly from CSUDH students. Any current CSUDH student was eligible to submit an idea for a campus project, and proposals were reviewed and voted on in February 2019 by the campus Sustainability Committee. Six students submitted ideas for seven different projects, all of which were funded and supported to at least some degree. (More information on the projects is available [here](#)).

### Utilities & Services

Utilities include energy, water, and trash/recycling services. Since there is a delay in utility bill reporting, annual consumption is reported in calendar year for 2018 (unless otherwise stated) below.

#### Utility Consumption & Greenhouse Gas Impact



Figure 3- Campus Energy Manager Kenny Seeton in front of 20 Tesla batteries providing 1MW/4hr of peak energy reserve storage for the campus.

### Energy

#### Net Zero Energy & Carbon Neutrality:

*Goal:* Improve the energy efficiency of campus facilities and increase renewable energy generation with the goal of achieving a net zero energy bill and scope 1 and 2 carbon neutrality for the campus by 2045.

- Progress:
  - Electricity consumption for the 2018 calendar year was 16,961,920 kWh, a 162,782 kWh drop from 2017 despite campus FTE population growth and an increase in electrification of Central Plant assets.
  - Natural gas consumption for the 2018 calendar year was 987,607 therms, a drop of 17,975 therms from 2017 despite significant campus FTE population growth.
  - Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions (as reported by the CSU Chancellor's Office) dropped from 7,957 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent to 7,803 metric tons, a drop of 154 tons.
- 2018-19 FY Initiatives:
  - CSUDH was selected as a participant in the Clean Energy Optimization Pilot program in partnership with Southern California Edison, the University of California system, and the CSU system which launched in July of 2019. This will secure incentives for greenhouse gas reduction measures over the next five years through a variety of behind-the-meter energy efficiency projects. For more information on this momentous initiative, view this article [here](#).

- CSUDH was selected as a pilot site for two EPIC grants which are upgrading Welch Hall and LaCorte Hall with building-wide LED lighting, sensors, and HVAC improvements to thermal delivery. Construction will complete in 2020.
- The Central Plant underwent major renovations that switched its natural gas boilers and chillers with more efficient electric models. This already started saving significant amounts of energy when they were turned on in May 2019, and greatly assists the campus with efforts to de-carbonize its major energy assets.
- In winter of 2018-19, the campus put out a solar RFP that has since been awarded. The project is slated to provide the campus with 1.4MW of on-site solar on six of its building rooftops in 2020.
- In Fall of 2018, the campus retrofitted campus Housing with LED exterior pole lights and upgraded exterior porch lights to LED as well throughout Phase I and II.
- As part of an ongoing project supported by funding through the Chancellor's Office, Central Plant continued retrofitting pneumatic valve controls to DDC controls in LaCorte Hall and will be conducting additional retrofits throughout the campus from there. This significantly improves control over HVAC delivery to those buildings and assists in modernizing critical campus infrastructure.
- Grounds hosted a Zero Emission Equipment roadshow event in spring of 2019 in partnership with the California Air Resources Board to allow staff to test out electric grounds equipment.
- Behavior Change Campaigns:
  - After conducting baseline measurements, the Office of Sustainability worked with EHOS and the Chemistry/Biology department chairs to remind lab-users to shut fume hoods when not in use. Based on this simple intervention, lab users dropped fume hood heights by 43% and sustained this behavior for several months afterwards. Read more on this case study [here](#).
  - In March 2019, the Office of Sustainability conducted the second annual Race to Reduce energy competition in Housing Phase I and II that engaged 15 residents from 12 different units. The competition saved 77 kWh and 30 therms, representing a percent reduction of 10% and 16% reduction from resident baselines.

## Waste Management

### Net Zero Waste:

*Goal:* Striving for the highest possible diversion rate to non-landfill sources with the goal of becoming a zero waste campus by 2045. Reducing waste volume overall by integrating source reduction approaches into campus.

- Progress:
  - Began source reduction efforts related to food recovery, takeout food containers, and the elimination of single-use plastic water bottles on campus.
- 2018-19 FY Initiatives:



- Launched the CSUDH chapter of the national Food Recovery Network program in December of 2018 through Sustainability Club activities. The chapter rapidly rose to become one of the most active chapters in the state, distributing over 1500 lbs of left-over food from Campus Dining and gleaning produce from Food Forward to campus food pantries in the FY.
- Through Toro Green Initiative Funding (TGIF), the Office of Sustainability was able to partner with Campus Dining to launch a reusable container pilot program at Toro Fresh. This program launched in fall of 2019 with great enthusiasm by the campus.
- In support of the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy, campus auxiliaries (Campus Dining and the Bookstore) stopped providing plastic straws and bags in their operations. The Office of Sustainability is collaborating with other entities to coordinate an approach to achieving the plastic water bottle ban included in this policy prior to the goal year of 2023.
- Student interns conducted weekly Trash Talk outreach events during the school year to help educate students on what is accepted for campus recycling.
- CSUDH signed a five-year agreement with Republic Services to continue recycling and waste hauling services in summer of 2019.
- CSUDH established a campus standard for recycling and zero waste bins which feature photo-based graphics to assist users with proper recycling sorting.
- In Fall of 2018, the Office of Sustainability conducted an all-hands safety training for Facilities Services educating staff on the importance of recycling.

## Water

### Net Zero Water:

*Goal:* Only consuming water, regardless of source, equal to the amount that would be delivered to the same area based on natural precipitation by 2045.

- Progress:
  - After establishing the Water Action Plan in 2017, the campus was able to decrease its overall consumption (reclaimed and potable) of water by 2,997 CCF (or 2,241,756 gallons) in the 2018 calendar year to 110,301 CCF. The campus will need an additional 30,073 CCF in reductions to achieve a net zero water balance.
- 2018-19 FY Initiatives:
  - As part of the 2017 Water Action Plan's monitoring initiatives, Office of Sustainability interns and Sustainability Club members conducted a campus-wide assessment of interior water fixtures. Based on their findings, Facilities Services will be able to target retrofits based on areas with the least amount of efficiency.
  - The Sustainable Landscape Committee approved three landscaping plans for Capital Projects which comply with Model Water Ordinance (MWELO) standards to ensure efficient irrigation and low-water

using plantings in accordance with the Sustainable Landscape Plan approved plant palette. This will ensure Housing Phase III, the new Innovation and Business building/North Lawn, and Classroom Village projects integrate low-water use landscape into their construction.

- Grounds has also been reigniting the efforts to fix the CalSense irrigation control system for the campus, and worked with IT to restore basic connectivity and functionality to allow remote irrigation control. They are also working on integrating local weather data into CalSense to allow for more accurate weather-based monitoring and irrigation for maximum efficiency.
- Facilities Services approved the transfer of the student/faculty-run Pollinator Garden to a larger location, replacing turf grass in the lawn between the Natural Sciences and Mathematics building and Central Plant with California native species.

### Sustainable Landscaping

The Sustainable Landscape Committee continued to meet monthly during the school year to provide guidance and support for sustainable landscaping on campus.

- In May of 2019, students completed work on a campus-wide tree inventory identifying and locating all trees on campus. The results are available on iNaturalist here: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/csudh-tree-map-inventory>
- In recognition of the Sustainable Landscape Committee's comprehensive and coordinated approach to tree management, the Arbor Day Foundation awarded CSUDH national Tree Campus USA recognition for 2018.



Figure 4- CSUDH is a recognized Tree Campus through the Arbor Day Foundation for its comprehensive landscape management efforts.

### Transportation

As a commuter campus, CSUDH continues to make efforts to reduce the environmental impact of transportation by CSUDH students, staff, faculty, and visitors. Parking Services activities for the 2018-19 FY include:

- Ongoing recruitment of a Rideshare Analyst to support programs designed to encourage ridesharing and alternative transportation amongst students and employees on campus.
- Continuation of the campus Toro Express shuttle which provides free, regular drop off and pick-up to and from major mass transit hubs near campus.
- Continuation of the electric vehicle parking and zero emissions vehicle program which provides preferred parking for these vehicles when registered through the program.

- Continuation of the TAP card program which provides a 51% discount for TAP card re-loads for campus employees and students utilizing the Metro system.

### Procurement & Sustainable Food



Figure 5- Photo of the weekly CSUDH Farmers Market which brings fresh produce and EBT services to the CSUDH community.

As an entity with significant purchasing power, the campus has great influence over the embedded environmental impacts from the items it buys. By supporting and utilizing suppliers and vendors that incorporate waste reduction, recycled materials, and/or other environmentally friendly materials and practices, the university can support sustainability on a much larger scale. The campus also has an economic and environmental responsibility to attempt to encourage re-use as well as the use of recycled content in its purchases.

Food in terms of production, distribution, and disposal has a massive environmental impact that needs to be part of campus sustainability planning efforts. To that end, this fiscal year, the campus pursued the following initiatives:

- Supported implementation planning of the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy to being phasing out plastic water bottle purchasing on campus.
- The Office of Sustainability in conjunction with Student Affairs and Campus Dining sponsored a weekly Farmers Market in the Sculpture Garden. Hunger Action LA as the market organizer was able to provide EBT and Market Match benefits for its vendors, thereby providing the first EBT-friendly location on campus in addition to much-needed fresh produce for the campus community.
- Bolstered access to food resources for food insecure students through the activities of the CSUDH chapter of the Food Recovery Network as well as the Campus Urban Farm.

## Academics/Green Workforce Development

### Courses

Integrating sustainability concepts into the curriculum and supporting sustainability courses is critical in ensuring students graduate with a strong understanding of their role as global citizens.

*Goal:* Host at least one event per semester focused on engaging faculty members in support of integrating sustainability into curriculum.

### Office of Sustainability Academic Infusion Initiatives

The Office of Sustainability worked with several faculty members during the academic year to help integrate sustainability principles and projects into coursework. This ranged from the Sustainability Coordinator and/or Energy Manager guest-lecturing particular courses, leading classes on tours of sustainability features, to arranging sustainability activities for students as part of their coursework and class projects.

Description	Date	Students	Class Code
<b>Yann Abdourazakou</b> - conducted Central Plant Tour for the Managing Sports Facilities class	10/15/2018	25	SEH 330
<b>Sheela Pawar</b> - conducted Net Zero Innovation Center and Central Plant Tour for the Contemporary Moral Issues Class (special topics: Environmental Ethics)	10/18/2018	3	PHI 379
<b>John Menary</b> - conducted hour long Sustainability 101 presentation for Human Geography Class	10/22/2018	40	GEO 100
<b>Paul Fornelli</b> - two student team projects for the Office of Sustainability	Fall 2018	10	COMMS110
<b>Farhana Sidiqi</b> - 45 minute Sustainability 101 presentation for Principles of Management GE course	11/13/2018	40	MKT 350
<b>John Menary</b> - conducted hour long Sustainability 101 presentation for Human Geography Class	2/6/2019	35	GEO 318
<b>Farhana Sidiqi</b> - 45 minute Sustainability 101 presentation for Principles of Management GE course	2/19/2019	40	MKT 350
<b>Christian Russo</b> - class presentation and three Office of Sustainability class media projects	3/2019-4/2019	21	COMM 467
<b>Lihung Pu</b> - conducted Energy Efficiency 101 class presentation and tour of Central Plant	4/8/2019	40	CHEM 103


## Academics/Green Workforce Development

Description	Date	Students	Class Code
<b>Jenney Hall-</b> conducted Sustainability 101 lecture, class also participated in club activities throughout the semester as part of class requirement.	4/8/2019	40	IDS 350

To encourage and support additional infusion of sustainability into academics, the Office of Sustainability also hosted two faculty workshops over the course of the academic year: one on September 27<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the fall Farm Open House, and a co-sponsored event to present faculty member Roya Azizi's research on the IPCC report on climate change on March 13<sup>th</sup>.


# OPEN HOUSE

CSUDH URBAN FARM  
& LIVING LAB WORKSHOP  
Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018



NSM Central Plant  
100  
102  
104  
Parking Lot 7






Campus Urban Farm

Are you teaching classes that could benefit from integrating sustainability in a hands-on way? Attend our Living Laboratory workshop to learn more about our new living laboratories for sustainability: the 100% solar-powered Net Zero Innovation Center, and the Campus Urban Farm.

The faculty workshop will meet at the Net Zero Innovation Center (at Central Plant) from 1-2pm before taking the short walk over to the Campus Urban Farm's Open House event from 2-3:30pm.

**Register at: <https://csudhlivinglabworkshop.eventbrite.com/>**



# Academics/Green Workforce Development

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## Internships & Service Learning

In addition to having coursework related to sustainability, students can greatly enhance their understanding of sustainability through hands-on service learning and internships working on sustainability projects.

*Goal:* Support paid and voluntary internships for at least 3 CSUDH students per semester.

The Office of Sustainability works collaboratively with several departments to support a variety of paid and voluntary internships:

- Sustainability Internships: Facilities Services continued to provide paid funding for sustainability interns to work on energy, water, waste, food, and general education initiatives.
- CSU Basic Needs Micro-Grants (Farm): Both faculty liason Jenney Hall and Sustainability Coordinator Ellie Perry were successful in earning micro-grants from the CSU Chancellor's Office (distributed in Spring 2019) to support Campus Urban Farm activities. This resulted in additional funding for a student intern to be able to conduct basic needs support to increase food education on campus.
- Shell Donation Funding (Farm): The CSUDH Development program was successful in working with Shell Oil to secure a \$9,000 donation to the Campus Urban Farm which resulted in funding for two interns to work on K-12 curriculum content to be able to host high school workshops in the fall.
- Water Resources Policy Institute (WRPI) Internship: This USDA-funded internship is sponsored by the WRPI branch based out of CSU San Bernardino that funds student interns to work on resource conservation projects. During the 2018-19 FY, two CSUDH students were hired and funded out of this program: one to continue support for the Campus Urban Farm and work on composting research, and another to maintain the student/faculty-run native gardens and continue ecosystem restoration efforts.
- For-Credit Interns: Internships performed in exchange for academic credit are important elements of a robust internship program. This fiscal year, the Office of Sustainability supported one for-credit intern from Health Services as part of the major's internship requirement for graduation during the 2019 spring semester.

## Green Workforce Development

In addition to educating employees and students on the importance of sustainability, the campus can also take a role in encouraging the development of workforce skills in the green jobs industry.

*Goal:* Provide support for at least one green workforce event per semester.

# Academics/Green Workforce Development

To that end, the Office of Sustainability collaborated with the campus Career Center to host two events this academic year specifically designed to encourage the development of the green workforce:

- As part of October Sustainability Month, tabled at the Career Center's STEM career fair on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to engage students in opportunities in the green workforce.
- On Earth Day, April 2019, invited and supported the Career Center's participation in hosting a table on green workforce opportunities.

## Campus Urban Farm

Founded in February 2018 after approval by Presidential Cabinet, the CSUDH Campus Urban Farm (Farm) is an outdoor classroom, lab, and garden that uses a multi-disciplinary approach to address student food insecurity, urban agriculture, and sustainability. A venue for faculty-led research and experiential learning for students, the Farm is now the site for experiments with composting, solar, permaculture, and water-wise techniques.

The Farm occupies approximately .11 acres with 30'x 80' of available growing space. It also houses a large nursery shed, and an adjoining space that is used as an outdoor classroom. Once the site of a campus nursery, the Farm is fully enclosed with a gate and has a sidewalk encircling the main growing area which now consists of 15 raised planter beds, three solar-powered hydroponic towers, and several demonstration growing areas/exhibits.

## Mission

The Farm has a strong educational mission, and not only provides fresh produce to food-insecure students, but supports the study of urban agriculture, sustainability, and other faculty-led research projects. By weaving sustainability training and education into the farm experience, CSUDH is preparing environmentally-responsible community members who understand the importance of reducing their energy, water, and waste, as well as understanding the impacts that urban agriculture can have on a community.

The mission of the Farm is to serve as a resource for:

- Providing free and/or affordable produce to food-insecure students.
- Providing a living laboratory space for faculty and students to integrate sustainability into their coursework and research.
- Providing an outdoor classroom space and event venue to support relationship-building in the community, both on-campus and off.
- Piloting a campus composting program to support efforts to keep campus green waste on-site.



Figure 6- Teddy Toro in front of the raised beds at the Campus Urban Farm.

# Academics/Green Workforce Development

## Summary Metrics

To ensure the Farm is supporting its mission, it maintains metrics on several key performance indicators. The summary of those metrics is listed here:

Fiscal Year	Pounds of Food Distributed to Campus	Volunteers Engaged	Classes Engaged
2017-18 Fiscal Year (February-June)	0 (construction)	140	2
2018-19 Fiscal Year (July-June)	104	291	7

## 2018-19 FY Highlights

As it began its first year of full operations, the Farm completed its raised beds and started planting in fall semester of 2018. Despite only having one semester to harvest crops, the Farm was still able to deliver 104 pounds of produce to campus food pantries and Campus Dining in order to help feed fellow Toros. It also attracted significant funding and engagement with on and off-campus entities to help support further expansion of its operations.

### Funding

In recognition of the unique resources the Farm offers in terms of supporting basic needs for students, the CSU Chancellor's Office awarded Basic Needs mini-grants in all three of its offered categories to CSUDH to support Farm operations totaling \$20,500. This included a student research grant to support food/basic needs research, a faculty grant to the Farm's faculty liaison to build additional produce preparation and storage capabilities at the Farm, and a staff grant to the Office of Sustainability to build up the Farm's infrastructure and develop an aquaponics exhibit.<sup>1</sup>

Shell Oil also generously donated \$9,000 towards the development of K-12 educational workshops at the Farm to help build engagement with four local schools in the Carson area. These workshops will be taking place in fall semester 2019.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Pages/mini-grant-opportunities.aspx>



# Academics/Green Workforce Development

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The campus also provided \$8,000 in supplies for a Community Impact work day of service. This allowed the Farm to invest in three state-of-the-art hydroponic towers and build an accompanying solar panel array to power it with engineering support from Facilities Services/Central Plant. The additional supplies and tools will support all Farm users in the upcoming academic year as well as the re-scheduled Community Impact Day of service taking place on October 5 specifically.

## **Engagement**

As an ideal on-campus location for community service, the Farm served as an engagement hub for several different groups and entities via dedicated work day events. This included team-building days of service for the Loker Student Union's student leaders, Sharefest youth (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders), Shell employees, and the CSUDH volleyball and softball teams. Many CSUDH students and staff also volunteered on an ongoing basis to support the Farm either for personal enjoyment or for academic credit via formal coursework.

## **Academics**

Seven different academic courses from Earth Sciences, Interdisciplinary Studies, Sociology, and Clinical Sciences formally engaged with the Farm during the 2018-19 academic year. This included activities ranging from volunteering, class lectures, tours, and maintaining designated raised beds. The Farm also continued to offer Open House events once per semester to invite additional faculty to explore the Farm.

## **Contact Us**

**For more information, please visit our website at: [www.csudh.edu/sustainability/campus-urban-farm/](http://www.csudh.edu/sustainability/campus-urban-farm/)  
The CSUDH Campus Urban Farm regularly posts to Instagram @dhurbanfarm and can be reached directly at [dhurbanfarm@gmail.com](mailto:dhurbanfarm@gmail.com)**

## Engagement



Figure 7- Students pledging to reduce their carbon footprint at the carbon cube tabling activity hosted annual as part of October Sustainability Month.

## Outreach Campaigns

In order to support the sustainability goals of the campus, the Office of Sustainability supports educational programming to encourage sustainable user-behavior change on a variety of topics.

**Goal:** Reach at least 10% of the FTE campus population every fiscal year through direct interactions via outreach events and campaigns.

- Progress:
  - The 2018 FTE was 11,325 which means outreach efforts would need to reach 1,133 students to represent 10%. This year's outreach campaigns reached 1,693 people total, exceeding this target.
- 2018-19 FY Initiatives:
  - **Farm and Academic Infusion Engagement:** As mentioned in previous sections of this report, the Campus Urban Farm engaged 291 student volunteers, and the Office of Sustainability conducted academic programming that reached 294 students collectively.

- **Freshman New Student Orientation Activities Fair Tabling Events:** In order to orient incoming freshmen to sustainability concepts and services, student interns tabled at 6 orientation events over the summer resulting in 80 student sign-ups for the newly formed Sustainability Club.
- **October Sustainability Month** was a five-week effort to rally the campus around National Campus Sustainability Month through a series of tabling events and activities related to sustainability. 463 people were reached through this campaign. The activities included:
  - Week 1- The Office of Sustainability hosted a green activity raffle that engaged 26 students at the Career Center's existing job fairs on October 2nd and 3rd and attracted 18 sign-ups for the Sustainability Club.
  - Week 2- A carbon cube display made of 10'x10'x10' PVC pipe to represent the daily CO2 emissions of an average person was set up in front of the Loker Student Union next to a table where passers-by could pledge to reduce their carbon footprint. In exchange for prizes, 114 students and staff wrote their pledges on sheets of scratch paper and clipped them to the cube for everyone to see during this one-day event. An additional 11 students signed up for the Sustainability Club.
  - Week 3- Central Plant held its annual Open House and Tour event on October 17, offering tours of the campus tunnels all-day on the half hour. This event engaged 119 visitors from all parts of campus.
  - Week 4- The Office of Sustainability tabled on October 24th to educate the campus on sustainable food and food insecurity issues. After educating students on gleaning and avoiding food waste, interns conducted a "Trash Talks" waste sorting game that resulted in 25 sign-ups for CalFresh and 15 students participating in the game.
  - Week 5- On October 31, the Office of Sustainability set up a photo booth where students could write personal sustainability pledges and take a photo at the booth with them to publicize their sustainable action commitments. 56 students wrote pledges and took photos.
- **Trash Talks Tabling Events:** Starting in November 2018 and continuing through the spring semester, the sustainability interns hosted a Trash Talks tabling event that engaged 64 students in a waste sorting game to educate them on how to recycle when on campus.
- **Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week/Cal Fresh Outreach Day:** In support of Basic Needs' efforts to address food insecurity on campus and encourage sign-ups for CalFresh, the Office of Sustainability tabled on November 15, February 27, and May 7 to support Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week as well as two Cal Fresh Outreach Days. At all events, interns hosted a food distribution of Food Forward gleanings, food recovery collections from Campus Dining, and greens from the Campus Urban Farm to 93 students in the fall, and 65 in the spring.

- The **March Race to Reduce campaign** placed a larger emphasis on engaging the campus in sustainability activities designed to reduce campus resource consumption. This involved a three-week campaign just before spring break as a lead up to Earth Day that engaged 154 people:
  - Week 1: To draw attention to the importance of energy conservation, the Office of Sustainability set up a bicycle blender where students could guess how many kWh it would take to blend a smoothie and ride the bicycle to blend their own. 29 students participated in this activity.
  - Week 2: For week 2, the Office of Sustainability hosted a recycling round-up table on the East Walkway where students and staff could drop off e-waste, batteries, shoes, and other specialty items for recycling. 20 people dropped off items.
  - Week 3: As part of a food education tabling event, interns brought out samples of food recovery and Campus Urban Farm harvest for distribution to 10 students who passed by.
  - Week 4: The final week kicked off the Take Back the Tap campaign which also involved weekly tablings throughout the month of April. Collectively, this tabling event to have students text into a national competition to earn free hydration stations engaged 80 students.
  - From February 21-March 21, 15 students in Housing signed up to participate in CSUDH's second annual Race to Reduce energy competition.

### Additional Campus Outreach

In addition to formal campaigns, the Office of Sustainability pursued several other outreach initiatives to further sustainability education to the campus:

- Supported events and fairs coordinated through other campus departments including tabling activities at the Student Health Fair and Social/Environmental Justice Fair in April 2019 which resulted in outreach to 60 passers-by.
- Hosted an additional solar popcorn fundraiser event on the East Walkway through the Club that engaged 5 passers-by.

### Community Outreach

The largest sustainability event catered to reaching the outside community specifically is the annual Earth Day Festival. This FY's 12<sup>th</sup> annual festival was the largest on record, bringing in 36 unique vendors and organizations as well as the weekly Farmer's Market as participants. In addition to high volumes of foot traffic (approximately 2,000+ in visitors every year), this year the Office of Sustainability hosted a dedicated extra-credit activity where students could fill out an educational free-response bingo card based on features and vendors present at the Festival. 55 students from 5 different classes participated in this activity. There was also an additional extra credit activity where passers-by could engage in 30-minute educational trivia rounds hosted by faculty, staff, and student experts from the campus for the chance to win grand prizes. 69 students from 9 different classes participated in this activity.

Other notable features of the Earth Day Festival agenda included:

- A greater diversity and number of vendors and organizations than ever before including the City of Carson, Republic Services, Southern California Edison, Cal Water, several nonprofit organizations, campus departments, and student clubs.
- Green Hero Award Ceremony that awarded Campus Dining Manager Ed Fimbres, Biology Chair John Thomlinson, and student Scarlett Zamora with glass globes to recognize their individual staff, faculty, and student contributions to sustainability on campus.
- A tree-planting event that planted an orange tree in the new “Earth Day Grove” located next to the Loker Student Union loading dock. This area will be the home of future fruit trees as part of a new annual tradition to plant a tree every Earth Day moving forward. These trees are watered by Campus Urban Farm interns with potable water to ensure the tree will produce fresh edible fruits for the campus.
- Student interns created an overview video of the event which is available here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V60QgmVdA5I>
- Shell provided \$1,200 in funding through their NEED program to support costs for this event.



Figure 8- Students planting a citrus tree as part of the annual Earth Day Festival

## Contact Information



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*Additional questions?* Contact Sustainability Coordinator Ellie Perry at [eperry@csudh.edu](mailto:eperry@csudh.edu) or (310) 243-2303

### Information on the Office of Sustainability

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California State University, Dominguez Hills and other state institutions are major consumers of energy and natural resources. The university has a responsibility to be a wise steward of scarce resources by reducing the use of non-renewable resources, increasing energy efficiency, and as part of the larger CSU system, promoting continued economic and ecological viability in California. CSU Dominguez Hills is on the cutting edge of sustainability efforts by an urban campus, and is actively providing leadership in engaging faculty, students and staff in on-campus sustainability efforts. We are looking at ways to increase partnerships and funding to support the educational, research, and public service missions of the university as they relate to sustainability.



*Please consider the environment before printing this report.*