

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

Engage Green: What's in Your Morning Cup? – March 2

Join [Team Green Adventures](#) and [Urban Green Lab](#) each month for their Engage Green Series as they discover the organizations, businesses, and government agencies setting the trends for a more sustainable Nashville. This month tour [Bongo Java's](#) roasting facility and learn all about what it takes to brew a sustainable cup of coffee! Read more [here](#).

Prof. Richard Keller Seminar – March 3

The [Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies](#), the [EOS Project](#), and the [Robert Penn Warren Center](#) are hosting professor Richard

Just as spring is a time of rebirth and renewal, SEMO has been renewed by relocating to a new office space! We can now be found in Wesley Place in the previous Traffic and Parking office, and we hope everyone will stop by and say hi to us and check out our new space! Spring also means warmer weather, so please don't forget to power down your office or dorm room before you leave campus for spring break. Doing so can save a lot of energy while you are away. A big congratulations to Dr. Maulik Patel's lab on being named the Greenest Group on Campus during the VU basketball game February 10th! The [Environmental and Sustainability Studies program](#) and [VUCO2](#) have a great lineup of seminars also happening this spring. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. Have a happy and green start to spring!

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Sustainability and Environmental Management Office
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Keller, from the University of Wisconsin- Madison, March 3 in Rand 308 from 12:20-1:30pm. Professor Keller is the author of *Fatal Isolation*, which asks why people in poverty died in disproportionate numbers during the Paris heatwave in August 2003. The book examines how the natural disaster exacerbated social inequalities that stemmed from historical choices in urban planning, public policy, and cultural expression. More details [here](#).

Bridging the Gaps: Connecting Active Transportation to Transit – March 3

Join [Walk Bike Nashville](#), the [Transit Center](#) and [Transit Now Nashville](#) for a special discussion on how to connect our active transportation systems to our mass transit system at the Nashville Civic Design Center from 5:30-7:00pm. Jon Orcutt, currently Director of Communications and Advocacy at Transit Center and formerly Policy Director for NYC DOT, will kick things off by sharing international best practices for multimodal integration. After, [Nashville Planning](#), [MTA](#) and the [Mayor's Office](#) will speak to the successes and challenges in connecting the various components of Nashville's transportation system. More details [here](#).

Kim Wasserman-Neto Seminar – March 4

The [Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies](#) and the [EOS Project](#) present Kim Wasserman-Neto

SEMO office moves to Wesley Place



The Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)) office is relocating to Wesley Place on Monday

February 29 and will be located in the office previously occupied by Vanderbilt Traffic and Parking. The new SEMO office is located behind CVS and Bruegger's Bagels and across from Ben and Jerry's at 2034 Scarritt Place. We welcome everyone to stop in and say hi as our doors are always open!

New office address:

Sustainability and Environmental Management Office

Vanderbilt University

PMB 407761

2034 Scarritt Place

Nashville, TN 37240-7761

Dr. Maulik Patel's Lab wins 2016 basketball "Greenest Group on Campus" award

Dr. Maulik Patel's lab group has been named winner of the 2016 Vanderbilt Basketball Sustainability Competition. Dr. Patel's lab staff celebrated their title of "greenest group on



campus" at the Vanderbilt vs. Missouri game February 10 with a catered hospitality event, tickets to the game, an autographed basketball from Coach Stallings, and an on-court award ceremony during the game. Accepting the award on behalf of the lab was Sarah Sturgeon.

Dr. Patel's lab group was recognized for their recycling efforts which include recycling all pipet tip boxes. The lab also purchases products with post-consumer content and uses reusable mugs, utensils, and food storage items. The lab uses the smallest refrigerator possible for their lab size and also conserves energy by turning off lab and other equipment whenever possible.

on March 4 in Buttrick 206, 4:00pm. Kim Wasserman-Neto will speak on the environmental justice movement as part of [Seeking New Metaphors: Mobilizing Culture to Confront Environmental Crises](#), a series of films and talks that asks: How do we collectively move from recognition of environmental problems to the moral commitment to adequately address these problems? More details [here](#).

Spring Resolution Health & Recreation Fair – March 12

Step back in time as you look to your future resolutions! The Resolution Health & Recreation Fair, at the Riverwood Mansion on March 12 from 11am-3pm, offers you the chance to meet retailers, outfitters, industry leaders, and non-profit organizations promoting health, fitness, sustainability, and commitment to our community all in one place! This event is free to the public and will include door prizes and giveaways. More details [here](#).

CityThink: #DontBlockMyWalk – March 15

Join Walk Bike Nashville and bring a lunch to discuss pedestrian walkability and safety with Nora Kern, Executive Director. The meeting will be held from 11:45am-12:45pm in the Nashville Civic Design Center. The #DontBlockMyWalk campaign was designed to create safer pedestrian access around construction zones. More details [here](#).

The sustainability competition was presented by [Waste Management](#), [Vanderbilt Athletics](#), and the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)). Read more [here](#).

Vanderbilt receives record donation from cartridge recycling



[Guy Brown](#), Vanderbilt's partner for ink and toner cartridge recycling, had a record-setting year in 2015. The overall number of cartridges recycled, the recovery rate of cartridges, and donations made from recycling proceeds were at all-time highs in 2015, resulting in the donation of \$6,000 each to the [Monroe](#)

[Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt](#), the [Susan Gray School](#), and the Work/Life Connections–EAP [Faculty and Staff Hardship Fund](#) from recycling these items.

Vanderbilt staff recycled more than 13,700 cartridges, with a 63 percent recovery rate—almost double that of 2014. Ink and toner cartridges for printers, fax machines or copiers contain chemicals that could be hazardous to the environment if landfilled and left to leak into the soil and groundwater. Additionally, the materials used for the casings (plastic and metals) do not readily biodegrade. Thus, it is preferable to recycle these materials to keep them out of landfills. Recycling locations for cartridges and more information can be found [here](#).

Eos Project funds environmental awareness planning and programming projects on campus

Thirteen seed projects in environmental awareness and campus greening have been



funded by the [Eos Project](#), an initiative to promote greater understanding of environmental issues through diverse disciplines and channels across Vanderbilt.

“We are taking a broad approach, aiming to implement permanent changes in the curricula, supporting undergrads working on environmental and social justice issues, and also encouraging interdisciplinary dialogue,” said program coordinator Anna Guengerich, research assistant professor of

Water Issues Seminar – March 17

The [Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies](#) is hosting Irene Klaver, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Philosophy of Water Project at UT Denton, on March 17 in the Curb Center at 4:10pm. Dr. Klaver co-directed (with Melinda Levin) *The New Frontier: Sustainable Ranching in the American West*, a documentary film that explores cattle ranching and rangeland management in the American West. More details [here](#).

Greenway Fun Run – March 28

Get to know Nashville's Shelby Bottoms and Stones River Greenways while achieving your running goals on these weekly fun runs! Each week the group will run timed out-and-back routes along either Shelby Bottoms or Stones River Greenway. More details [here](#).

Climate Connections – March 29

Climate Connections, presented by [SPEAR](#), addresses the intersection of environmental sustainability with other topics relevant to Vanderbilt students' lives. The event will feature keynote speaker Jacqui Patterson, Director of the [NAACP Environmental Climate Justice Program](#), discussing "Black Lives matter & Saving the Planet: How the movements for racial justice and the environment converge." followed by a question and answer session to foster open discussion of sustainability issues. In addition, there

anthropology. "We organize symposia and networking events and give fellowships to faculty and graduate students who are developing their own projects to pursue these broader goals."

"The Eos Project is about jump-starting environmental awareness all across campus. Climate change connects to almost every discipline and department. We want to empower students and faculty to develop ideas and new initiatives wherever they're located at Vanderbilt. Universities are places for thinking big, about how to make the changes we need for a healthier future. This is the most urgent work we can do" said director Beth A. Conklin, professor and chair of anthropology. Read more about the selected projects [here](#).

The Mobile Lab has launched!



[Urban Green Lab](#) launched the Mobile Lab in February, which will bring sustainability education to Nashville students. The lab explores 5 important topics in sustainability: energy, water,

green building, food & agriculture, and sustainable transportation. It challenges students to make everyday choices that save money, resources, and improve their quality of life.

[SustainVU](#), the [Vanderbilt Center for Science Outreach](#) and [Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science](#) are subgrant recipients of a \$91,000, two-year EPA grant to Nashville's [Urban Green Lab](#) to deliver hands-on science and sustainability education to Nashville middle- and high-schoolers.

The EPA funding provides two Vanderbilt student interns to facilitate mobile lab site visits, gaining valuable field experience and boosting the project's success. Read more about the Mobile Lab [here](#).

Earth still on a hot streak

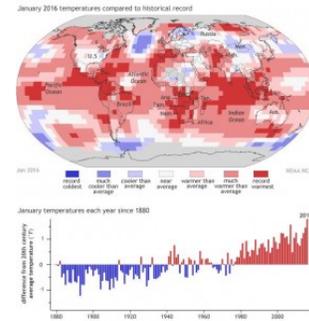
will be numerous environmental organizations tabling during the event to connect students to sustainable resources in Nashville. More details [here](#).

Green Jobs Project Seminar – March 30

As part of the [VIEE](#) regular meeting in Buttrick 162 at 8am, Jon Shefner, Chair of Sociology and the Betty Lynn Hendrickson Professor of Social Science at the University of Tennessee, will speak on the Green Jobs project that he directs for Eastern Tennessee. At 12:30 in Kissam 312C, Shefner will speak on “The Seeming Inevitability of Austerity.” This talk examines how economic policy set the stage for austerity policies to be seen as inevitable, and it draws on other cases to suggest some potential responses. Both events are open to the Vanderbilt community and cosponsored by the [Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies](#). Read more [here](#).



The planet has been on a hot streak recently. [NOAA's](#) National Centers for Environmental Information reported earlier today that January 2016 became the ninth month in a row to set a new record-warmest monthly temperature. According to the report:



- A strong El Niño that evolved in 2015 continued to impact global weather and temperatures at the beginning of 2016. The January 2016 globally averaged temperature across land and ocean surfaces was 1.04°C (1.87°F) above the 20th century average of 12.0°C (53.6°F), the highest for January in the 137-year period of record, breaking the previous record of 2007 by 0.16°C (0.29°F).
- January 2016 also marks the ninth consecutive month that the monthly temperature record has been broken and the 14th consecutive month (since December 2014) that the monthly global temperature ranked among the three warmest for its respective month.

For more stats on the January climate, visit the [NOAA NCEI website](#).

Follow us on our social media accounts!

We have added more accounts to our social media arsenal! Here are more ways you can connect with us online:

- [Facebook @SustainVU](#)
- [Instagram @SustainVUVanderbilt](#)
- [Twitter @SustainVU](#)
- [Google+ @Vanderbilt SustainVU](#)

For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit the SustainVU website at www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu or (615) 322-2057.