

Having trouble viewing this email? [View as a webpage.](#)



March 2020

Welcome back to campus! We hope you had a fun and restful spring break... it has been an eventful week here in Nashville to say the least. There are lots of ways to get involved this month, attend one of the lectures or screenings on campus, or sign up for the Sustainability Leaders program which is kicking off with its first meeting next month! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the FutureVU Sustainability [website](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) page. Have a green start to spring and stay safe!

Andrea George, Director
Sustainability and Environmental Management Office
615-322-4551 | [e-mail](#) | [Website](#)

Wente, Kopstain launch new Sustainability Advisory Council

**The Future of Fashion –
March 10**

What is fashion sustainability? Learn how fast fashion impacts our economy and environment, discover how you can support fashion sustainability, and bring an item of clothing and give it a new life through upcycling at the Wond'ry from 4-6:30pm! More information [here](#).

**FutureVU- The
Engineering Perspective
– March 18**

The Society of Women Engineers will be holding a

Vanderbilt has established a new Sustainability Advisory Council to guide and support the university's progress toward its comprehensive long-term sustainability strategy. The council will include students, staff and faculty selected by Interim Chancellor and Provost Susan R. Wentz and Vice Chancellor for Administration Eric Kopstain.



The council will ensure the university is applying diverse viewpoints, varied expertise and a collective mindset to reach its sustainability goals, including Vanderbilt's carbon neutrality by 2050 pledge and recent commitment to achieve zero waste on campus by 2030.

"I am grateful to the members of the council, who embody Vanderbilt's dedication to shared governance, transparency and collaboration, for advancing sustainability and ultimately positioning our university and our region for long-term success," Wentz said.

The council will increase engagement as the university continues integrating and implementing the findings of its recent sustainability planning studies, such as the BlueSky Energy Vision Study, the Large-Scale Renewable Energy Study and the Zero Waste Study. Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility (SPEAR) and Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG) worked with administrators to form this council. Read more [here](#).



Vanderbilt Sustainability Summit 2020
UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES AND THOSE WHO FACE THEM:
Empowering sustainable actors to shape a new decade in a time of uncertainty
March 27th and 28th
Wilson Hall, III 21st Ave S, Nashville, TN 37212
View Schedule and RSVP:
<https://trngurl.com/SustainabilitySummit2020>



First annual Vanderbilt Sustainability Summit

Join Vanderbilt Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility for the 2020 Sustainability Summit at Vanderbilt University on March 28! This conference was created by SPEAR members after they worked with the

Vanderbilt administration to create Vanderbilt's carbon

presentation with a guest speaker to discuss the impact of FutureVU on our campus. SWE will be focusing specifically on the engineering design plan behind the many projects that make up FutureVU, as well as how students play a role in its efforts and the move towards greater environmental sustainability. The event will take place in Featheringill Hall at 5:30pm. More information [here](#).

Women and Wheels – March 18

Join Walk Bike Nashville, Bike Fun and Halcyon Bike Shop as they host a FREE bicycle maintenance skills workshop for women and women-identified folks! At this workshop, they'll cover common maintenance issues that you may encounter while riding your bike. Bring your own bicycle or use one of the stations set up to cover a variety of maintenance topics at Halcyon Bike Shop from 6:30-8:30pm. Register [here](#).

Religious, Ecology, and Economics Conference – March 19-21

neutrality and 100% renewable energy goals in early 2019. The experience mobilizing thousands of Vanderbilt students led them to one major question: “how can we empower more students to be change actors in their community?”

The theme of their inaugural Sustainability Summit is:

“Unprecedented Challenges and Those Who Face Them: Empowering Sustainable Actors to Shape a New Decade in a Time of Uncertainty”

Students from the Tennessee region will join together to build relationships, hone skills, and learn about issues of climate change, environmental justice, and sustainability heading into the new decade. Participants will be empowered to make an impact through collaborative workshops with grassroots activists, nonprofits, environmental lawyers, environmental researchers, sustainable business owners, and more.

Conference attendance is completely FREE and includes lunch and breakfast, starting at 8:30am. There will be a social event at 5pm Friday, March 27th to kick off the summit with a keynote lecture on Environmental Justice.

View the schedule and RSVP [here](#).

Students have front-row seat for international climate change negotiations

As part of its continuing commitment to understanding and combating climate change issues through education and action, Vanderbilt University is now an accredited, [official observer](#) of the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#). This designation allows students, faculty and staff to participate in negotiating conferences that bring together tens of thousands of lawmakers, scientists, activists and others to adopt international climate policy and discuss a diverse array of climate-related issues.

Vanderbilt earned the status in time for more than a dozen students to attend the [25th annual Conference of](#)



This three-day conference is interested not only in fresh analyses but also in fresh solutions: what agency and what solidarity emerges between exploited people, ecologies, and religion? Thursday’s talk will take place 7:30-8pm in Benton Chapel and Friday and Saturday’s events will take place starting at 9am in Vanderbilt Divinity School Room 124. More information and registration [here](#).

Emmanuel Henry, Guest Speaker – March 27

Emmanuel Henry is a professor of Sociology at Université Paris-Dauphine, PSL University, and a visiting professor at the Center for Health and Well-Being at Princeton. He will discuss his research on the links between scientific knowledge (and ignorance), expertise, and public policy in the field of public health in Garland 209 at noon. More details [here](#).

Clean Air Act Documentary Screening- April 7

30-minute documentary in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Clean Air Act. This documentary

[the Parties to the UNFCCC](#) (COP25) in Madrid, Spain, in late December. The students were led by [Leah Dundon](#) as the culmination of a new interdisciplinary course on climate change titled “Climate Change and the Global Response: A Multidisciplinary Perspective.” Dundon is director of the [Vanderbilt Climate Change Initiative](#), a lecturer in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, and an environmental lawyer. Read more [here](#).

Jim Rossi and Christopher Serkin have won the 2020 Morrison Prize for best scholarship in environmental law with their co-authored paper “Energy Exactions.”



Rossi holds the Judge D.L. Lansden Chair in Law and serves as associate dean for research; Serkin holds the Elisabeth H. and Granville S. Ridley Jr. Chair in Law and serves as associate dean for academic affairs. Both are affiliated with the [Energy, Environment and Land Use Program](#) at Vanderbilt Law School.

The paper proposes the use of “exactions” — fees or other requirements routinely imposed by local governments on real estate developers to ensure they bear all or a portion of the cost burdens their development projects place on schools, roads, water and other local services — be extended to include the cost of the additional energy burden each new real estate project creates. “This is one essential type of cost burden that is seldom accounted for up front,” Rossi said. “That’s a missed opportunity in several ways, including planning for sustainable energy.”

The Morrison Prize was established in 2015 to honor the authors of the most impactful sustainability-related legal academic article published in North America during the previous year. The annual Morrison Prize Contest is administered through the [Law and Sustainability Program](#) at the Arizona State University’s [Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law](#). The prize is named after its benefactor,

screening is a collaboration between SPEAR, graduate students at Peabody, and the American Lung Association. Refreshments will be provided! This event will take place in Buttrick at 7pm. More information [here](#).

Future VU Sustainability Leaders Meeting – April 8

Sustainability Leaders will meet regularly to learn about sustainability issues in depth, network with other sustainability-minded members of the Vanderbilt community and actively practice and share sustainability principles within their respective communities and work areas. The first meeting will take place in the Alumni Hall Memorial room 202 from 2-3pm. Sign up [here](#)!

Mansker Creek Clean Up- April 11

Help clean up Mansker Creek! Volunteers will remove litter and debris from the creek and its banks to improve the health of our waterways and beautify the area. Volunteers should expect to walk in muddy areas of dense vegetation. Email [Raychel Stata](#) to arrange

Richard N. Morrison, who is also a co-founder of the [Morrison Institute for Public Policy](#) at ASU. Read more [here](#).

transportation. Register [here](#).

For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit vanderbilt.edu/sustainability or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at futurevusustainability@vanderbilt.edu or 615-322-4551.

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:



Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action. Vanderbilt®, Vanderbilt University®, V Oak Leaf Design®, Star V Design® and Anchor Down® are trademarks of The Vanderbilt University. ©2020 Vanderbilt University. All rights reserved.