

The annual campus sustainability awards program started in 1997 as a means to recognize commitment to reducing the burden that the CU campus places on the environment. Outstanding efforts make CU's successful and challenging approaches to attaining sustainability possible. The awardees exemplify CU's continuing efforts to become a sustainable institution. This award announces the campus' appreciation and recognition of your commitment and dedication.

The awards ceremony luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, April 26. The Chancellor, Provost, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Vice Chancellor for Administration will present the awards.

The 2012 Campus Sustainability Awards go to:

Boulder Food Rescue, Partnership for Sustainability

Boulder Food Rescue was started by a team of current CU students and alumni with the purpose of redirecting food 'waste' from grocery stores and restaurants into the hands of people who can still use it. To date, the group has rescued over 31,000 pounds of food from Boulder businesses and has been able to support 23 different community organizations. The group has developed partnerships with stores throughout the city and currently rescues over 390 pounds of food every day. Boulder Food Rescue supports the environment by keeping methane-producing food waste out of the landfill and by using bikes to deliver over 78% of the total food rescued. Their efforts benefit the community by providing healthy food to low-income residents.

Fair Food Task Force, Partnership for Sustainability

In May of 2011, student leaders discussed sustainability and social justice related to the production of food with campus administrators. They agreed that the University's food purchasing agreements should reflect, as much as possible, the University of Colorado Boulder's values, goals and campus culture. A task force was convened to conduct a review of the university's food purchasing agreements for Housing and Dining Services (HDS) and the University Memorial Center. The task force developed a "Fair Food Statement of Values" (see below). This statement has received the official support of students at CU Student Government, Environmental Board and Residence Hall Association (RHA), as well as the support of major food purchasers on campus including HDS, UMC and the Department of Athletics. The Procurement Service Center (PSC) was engaged in developing the language and worked with the team to devise strategies for insertion of this language in future University food purchasing agreements with our food suppliers. This was the first time the three largest food "groups" on campus had convened with a common cause. The task force has now gone on to form the

Sustainable Foods Sustainability Action Team.

Fair Food Statement of Values

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) seeks to enhance the sustainability experience of our students, faculty, staff and visitors by providing food that is healthy for people and our planet.

We encourage social and environmental justice in purchasing through the humane treatment of all living things, safe and fair working conditions and agricultural practices, and stewardship of ecosystems while operating in an economically sound manner.

CU Boulder endeavors to support practices and vendors that actively seek strategies to reduce the overall amount of pesticides and carbon footprint, support Colorado economies, and stand alongside our peer institutions and private organizations in promoting a healthier, more sustainable agricultural system without significant financial impact on the University.

CU Boulder encourages its suppliers to support these practices and to share CU Boulder's values with others in order to have a global effect on sustainability.

National Snow and Ice Data Center, Departmental Achievement

The National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) supports research into Earth's frozen regions, currently archiving and serving more than 91 terabytes of Earth science data to researchers around the world. Established in 1982 as part of the University of Colorado's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, researchers there also investigate the loss of sea ice in West Antarctica and produce the maps that report the Arctic sea ice extent.

In order to deliver the cryospheric data to researchers worldwide, the full-time data center runs around the clock, which requires a constant energy demand. Just cooling NSIDC's computer room used to require over 300,000 kilowatt-hours of energy per year, enough to power 34 homes. "There was a certain irony that here we are working on climate research and our data center was consuming an awful lot of power," said David Gallaher, Technical Services Manager for NSIDC. So when the aging cooling system needed to be replaced, NSIDC decided to go green, and the NSIDC Green Data Center went online in the summer of 2011.

Now, thanks to the vision of Gallaher and a lot of hard work by numerous NSIDC colleagues, the new computing center cooling system is close to completing its goal of becoming one of the most energy-efficient data centers in the United States. A combination of novel technologies aims to drastically reduce cooling system power demand. The new indirect evaporative cooling system will replace energy-intensive

traditional air conditioning. The project also includes a rooftop solar array and a more efficient physical layout. Together, these changes will cut power needs for the center by about 95 percent.

The Green Data Center also has created a prototype for other data centers to extend these benefits nationally and internationally—potentially saving billions in energy costs and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The NSIDC Green data center project proved that air economizer, indirect evaporative cooling, reuse of working for humidity, and single fan operation for both intake and exhaust could cut cooling cost by as much as 95 percent. Wherever possible, this project sought to utilize Colorado-based technologies. NSIDC used Abound Solar and their new low-cost Cd/Te panels; Coolerado chillers; and SMA inverters and charge controllers.

Beth Osnes, Green Faculty

Beth Osnes has a long been a leader in the area of social justice, a key component of any vision for a sustainable future. She co-founded Mothers Acting Up, a movement to mobilize mothers around the world to advocate on behalf of children, who are our future and an ultimate reason for sustainability. This past year, Beth added two new pieces to her already impressive resume. Via her active organization with a handful of other sustainability leaders on campus, she helped bring together a highly interdisciplinary group of sustainability experts from around campus to discuss common goals and ideas. Out of the cauldron of ideas generated by this group came Beth's partnership with Max Boykoff, a media policy specialist in ENVS on one of the two Gamm Interdisciplinary Courses this spring entitled "Inside the Greenhouse: Using Media to Communicate Positive Solutions for Climate Change". Their collaboration and class will yield an educational television show that will showcase topics such as the role of media in climate change. Beth's other recent tour-de-force was her key contribution to the film "Mother, Caring for the 7 Billion", a film about population and role of the empowerment of women in addressing this highly charged topic, long the third rail of sustainability plans. Her film has won numerous awards including the Best Colorado Film at the Boulder International Film Festival in 2011, a Bronze Level Winner in Oregon Film Awards, and the Best Film of the Population Institute's 32nd Annual Media Awards. Beth is a campus leader in sustainability as well as an international leader.

Beth Osnes is an assistant professor in Theatre and Dance. She could easily focus solely on her career and getting tenure, but she has a social conscience that just won't be kept down. Her passion for sustainability and population issues, for women's rights, and for the role of mothers in advocating for children is palpable.

David Payne, Green Faculty

Dave Payne is an instructor in the Center for Education on Social Responsibility (CESR), teaching MBA courses.

Since becoming the faculty advisor to the CU Net Impact club, he has made some phenomenal improvements. He propelled the club to Gold status, which places it in the top 15% of chapters worldwide. This not only boosts CU's reputation in the business world, but opens the door for more opportunities for students to engage with sustainability.

Most recently he helped found the Leeds Sustainability Council, which will become the hub of sustainable business networking at Leeds. The Leeds Sustainability Council serves as a conduit for students, faculty and Boulder-area professionals engaging in an ongoing pursuit of values-driven business. They do this by providing access to resources, professional development opportunities, impactful events and a network of support that creates dynamic connections amongst participants.

Last year he led the charge on boosting the MBA programs rating on the Aspen Institute's annual "Beyond Grey and Pinstripes" ranking. This was a time intensive project that went beyond his normal commitment. The University of Colorado Leeds School of Business climbed from 38 to 21, putting the school in the top 25 with schools like Yale, Stanford, and Northwestern.

Dave Payne is a mentor and resource to many students. He is only a part-time faculty, but he is more available to students than most full-time faculty. Due to his passion for sustainability, he routinely goes above and beyond for students.

Program for Writing and Rhetoric, Partnership for Sustainability

Under the leadership of director John Ackerman, the Program for Writing and Rhetoric established a Sustainability Committee in 2009. The committee's main charge is to encourage and facilitate the teaching of sustainability-based assignments and courses for our writing and rhetoric classes. The committee now has seven members and many devotees in PWR. In March 2011, the Sustainability Committee put on a sustainability seminar where PWR faculty could learn more about sustainability concerns and how to incorporate them into writing and rhetoric courses. More than 30 PWR faculty attended. As a result, a whole spectrum of sustainability-based assignments and courses are now available to students taking writing and rhetoric classes at CU. At least 20 of PWR's teachers now shape all or part of their courses around sustainability issues. Teachers of these classes and assignments have received very positive feedback on this work from students. PWR teaches some 8000 students per year, so this is a significant achievement.

This year, the Sustainability Committee is organizing two presentations on sustainability and rhetoric, compiled more readings, is organizing a faculty reading group around sustainability, and is reaching out to community partners to develop service learning projects for students that involve sustainability issues.

Samantha Weintraub, Student Leadership

Samantha has been a true leader in bringing sustainability to the EBIO Department in two locations: Ramaley and INSTAAR. She joined Green Labs in her second year as a grad student in EBIO. Among her many contributions are: bringing block foam recycling to Ramaley and INSTAAR; convincing labs in both locations to retire old refrigerators and freezers, and to lower the temperatures of ultra low freezers; promoting access to green lab supplies such as recycled kimwipes and pipet tips; serving as a member of the committee to reduce Ramaley's energy use through which she has worked tirelessly to convince labs to perform energy audits; hanging up signs in Ramaley to make building inhabitants aware of ways they can reduce energy use; and maintaining a display in Ramaley that shows monthly building energy use. She remains in close contact with Kathy Ramirez in order to be aware of the latest and greatest innovations in sustainability. Samantha works tirelessly to bring awareness to the inhabitants of Ramaley about ways they can use less energy and fewer resources. She hopes that this awareness will inspire students, staff and faculty to reduce their footprints on the earth inside and outside of Ramaley.

In addition, Special Recognition Certificates will be awarded to:

- Jonathan Akins, Individual Achievement
- Carrot Mob Initiative by Gretchen Christoph, Swithin Lui, Wren Suess, Nathan Zick-Smith and Half Fast Subs, Partnership for Sustainability
- Kristin Creamer, Individual Achievement
- Environmental Health and Safety, Departmental Achievement
- Facilities Management CAD Department, Departmental Achievement
- Facilities Management Turf and Irrigation Teams, Departmental Achievement
- Pieter van der Mersch, Individual Achievement
- Don Seeley, Individual Achievement