

The Footprint *Issue No. 2 | August 17, 2015*

It is almost time to start back to school! Here are some things the Institute has been up to over the break and a few upcoming activities for you to consider.

Want to learn more about the Institute? [Check out our website for more information](#)

New Student Orientation Goes Green!

The Office of Student Involvement and Development eliminated box lunches and single serving chips at New Student Orientation this year. Sandwiches, chips and cookies were bulk ordered and served on larger platters, replacing the need for an individual box for each lunch. This eliminated 8,000+ square feet of cardboard from this year's event. The Student Handbook used creative icons and links to cut down on paper use by 26%.



CSUN Receives Best Practice Award

CSU Northridge received an award for Best Practices in Innovative Waste Reduction for our project, "Integrating pre-consumer waste diversion and organic food gardening in a learning opportunity" at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference. The project lead was Institute for Sustainability Faculty Associate, Mario Giraldo, who heads the coordinated effort between the Institute and CSUN dining services, diverting waste

from campus kitchens and coffee shops. This provides cost savings to the university, advances a zero-waste agenda, fosters a culture of sustainability, and provides work experience for students. To learn more about this program, [click here](#).

Pick My Solar Partnership

Thinking of going solar? Give yourself and the Institute a break by going solar through [our partnership referral](#) program with Pick My Solar and check out our upcoming workshop on Oct 7th at 12:30 pm in the Oviatt Library. Pick My Solar was founded in 2013 by CSUN and Institute alum, Max Aram and his colleague, Chris Blevins, and was recently named [Outstanding Small Business](#) by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Development Center.



NSO outreach



The Institute staffed a table at New Student Orientation August 4-14th, offering information about the Institute and sustainability curriculum at CSUN. 90 students are enrolled in the Sustainability Minor and our outreach efforts at NSO will let more students know about this option! We will have a table set up August 17, 18, and 21st. Come by and learn about sustainability at CSUN!

Self Guided Tour

The new school year is almost here! If you are a new student or faculty or just want to acquaint yourself with the many sustainable features at CSUN, come by the Institute office (SN 116) to pick up a self-guided tour brochure or [download one from our website](#).



Register for the 2015 AASHE Conference

If you are planning on attending the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) 2015 [Conference & Expo](#), save money and register by

August 31st! Prices increase on September 1st. [Register today](#) to lock in the reduced rate and join like-minded sustainability professionals in Minneapolis, October 25-28th.



[A Place at the Table Sustainability Conference](#)

Saturday, Sept 19 9-5 PM
Sunday, Sept 20 9-6 PM
San Diego State University

A conference for innovators, change-makers, and leaders, this is the greatest sustainability "un-conference" the world has seen thus far! Join us for a Hackathon-inspired event where attendees solve a sustainability issue in 48 hours. There will be prizes, networking, and inspiration for real action or research outside of the event!



[CivicSpark: Connecting AmeriCorps and Climate Change](#)

CivicSpark places AmeriCorps members with local governments to implement climate change research, planning, or implementation projects to support California's response to climate change. Members have at least a college degree in a relevant field, and typically have workplace and community service experience. Applications are accepted until October.

Interested graduates and young professionals can [learn more](#) and [apply](#) by following the links.



[9th Annual EarthFest LA](#)

Sunday, September 13
700 Exposition Park Dr,
Los Angeles, CA

The EarthFestLA Concert for the Environment and Expo is a one-day free music festival and celebration to raise awareness for environmental protection, sustainability, and energy conservation. This year's Honorary Celebrity host is Ed Begley, Jr. Support a great cause while enjoying great music, great food, and all around family fun.



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