

CSUDH Annual Sustainability Report

FY 2019-2020

July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020

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Executive Summary



Figure 1- Teddy Toro helping to promote the newly launched Toro Token program.

Campus Sustainability Highlights:

In the 2019-20 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 AASHE STARS Silver recognition on June 30, 2020.
- Earned national Tree Campus USA recognition for CSUDH's 2019 activities.
- In July 2019, CSUDH Sustainability Coordinator Ellie Perry was recognized with the 2019 CSU Statewide Sustainability Champion best practice award. Earned additional statewide Best Practice Awards in 2020 for CSUDH's Sustainable Food System and Electrification respectively which were presented in July 2020 at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference.
- Participated in year 1 of the Clean Energy Optimization Pilot program which awarded \$1.1 million in performance incentives based on CSUDH's energy efforts to support further energy efficiency projects and building upgrades.
- The Faculty Development Center sponsored the first-ever faculty learning community (FLC) around sustainability which engaged faculty members from five different academic disciplines in integrating sustainability into the curriculum.
- The Office of Sustainability attracted approximately \$15,500 in outside grant funding to support campus activities over the course of the academic year:
 - \$7,000 from Shell Oil to support development of a Farm Docent Training program and community workshops for the on-campus Farm.
 - \$7,500 from faculty member Jenney Hall and the CSU Chancellor's Office via a Basic Needs Microgrant to support cooking education at the Campus Urban Farm.

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- \$1,000 from West Basin as a rebate for a bottle filler installation in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics building.

Projects:

- Conducted comprehensive upgrades of lighting, HVAC, and Central Plant assets which increased the energy efficiency of the campus as a whole.
- To support zero waste efforts, the Office of Sustainability continued pick-ups for commercial organics at eight recycling/zero waste stations throughout the campus in the 2019-20 academic year.
- The Office of Sustainability also worked to launch several source reduction initiatives to further zero waste efforts on campus including:
 - Partnering with Campus Dining to launch the Toro Token program, the first-ever reusable container initiative in campus eateries in Fall 2019.
 - Supporting the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy by arranging for single-use plastic water bottles ordered through Facilities Services for the campus to be replaced by reusable CSUDH co-branded Pathwater bottles in April 2020 and supporting a 100% campus-wide retrofit to include bottle fillers on all campus water fountains (installation in progress).
 - Installed a recycling technology pilot of Clean City Networks sensors in January 2020 to track fill levels in campus recycling bins.
- Continued to sponsor the on-campus weekly Farmers Market throughout the 2019-20 academic year.
- Continued to support the CSUDH chapter of the national Food Recovery Network, which distributed 524 lbs of food from Campus Dining and 259 lbs of produce from the Campus Urban Farm to students in need over the course of the academic year.
 - Also partnered with the Farmers Market organizer Venaver Events to create the Toro Pantry Box program, a charitable giving initiative which allows people to donate farm produce directly to CSUDH students attending Basic Needs Distribution events.

Engagement:

- Reached 2,831 people via sustainability events and campus outreach. New outreach initiatives included regular cooking demonstrations featuring Farmers Market produce, the first-ever fall energy competition in Housing, as well as the first-ever Take the Stairs campaign in March.
- Reached 424 students through sustainability activities directly through academic courses from several different academic disciplines and 371 students specifically through academic efforts at the Campus Urban Farm.
- For the Campus Urban Farm specifically:
 - Conducted a Campus Urban Farm tour for visiting state senators Steve Glazer and Steven Bradford as a follow-up to the California Senate College Tour forum on the CSU 2025 Graduation Initiative/Student Basic Needs event hosted at CSUDH on October 7, 2019. During the tour, the Office of Sustainability

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presented on Campus Urban Farm work related to student food security and conducted a sample cooking demonstration to exemplify the campus' efforts around sustainable food education.

- In September 2019, hosted three high school field trips with Carson High School and CAMS respectively for a Campus Urban Farm tour and a four-hour educational workshop on sustainability.

Sustainability Staffing & Institutionalization

“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- Student volunteers accompanying paid interns in Food Recovery chapter activities to distribute leftover food from Campus Dining to the on-campus food pantry in Housing.

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 the 2019-20 academic year, the Office of Sustainability worked with paid student interns to continue facilitating volunteer internships through the 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. Three students completed volunteer internships as a result, representing Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences, and Advertising/Marketing in terms of majors respectively.

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 2019 (unless otherwise stated) below.

Utility Consumption & Greenhouse Gas Impact



Figure 3- Welch Hall (pictured above), was the focus of a California Energy Commission case study to retrofit the building with state-of-the-art LED lighting and controls in addition to HVAC improvements.

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 2019 calendar year was 17,902,088 kWh which represented an increase from 2018 due to an increase in FTE, new buildings coming online, and the electrification of major energy assets.
 - Natural gas consumption for the 2019 calendar year was 504,471 therms, a major 49% drop from the 987,607 therms consumed in the 2018 calendar year. This was due to a concerted effort to switch to electricity instead of natural gas for major Central Plant boiler and chiller assets.
 - Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions (as reported by the CSU Chancellor's Office) dropped from 7,803 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent to 5,432 metric tons in the 2019 calendar year, representing a drop of 2,371 tons.
- 2019-20 FY Initiatives:

- CSUDH participated in its first year of the Clean Energy Optimization Pilot program in partnership with Southern California Edison, the University of California system, and the CSU system. The program launched in July of 2019. This will secure incentives for greenhouse gas reduction measures over the next four years through a variety of behind-the-meter energy efficiency projects. For more information on this momentous initiative, view this article [here](#). At the conclusion of year 1 activities, CSUDH was the top performer amongst all participating campuses, reducing its campus baseload by over 17% (even factoring in COVID-related drops starting March 2020) resulting in a \$1.1 million rebate check for the campus.
- CSUDH was selected as a pilot site in 2019 for two EPIC grants which have upgraded Welch Hall and LaCorte Hall with building-wide LED lighting, sensors, and HVAC improvements to thermal delivery. Construction was mostly complete as of July 2020.
- Construction of 1.4MW of on-site solar on six of the campus' building rooftops has been delayed to January 2021 due to COVID-related complications in construction scheduling.
- Behavior Change Campaigns:
 - In October 2019, the Office of Sustainability conducted the first fall Race to Reduce energy competition in Housing Phase I and II that engaged 15 residents from 12 different units. The competition saved 262 kWh, representing a percent reduction of 16% reduction from resident baselines.
 - In March 2020, the Office of Sustainability worked with IDS 101 to run a weekly Take the Stairs challenge campaign in Welch Hall. During the two weeks the event was able to run, approximately 65 students and staff climbed a collective 855 floors in the west stairwell of Welch Hall adding up to 2,138 kWh saved in electricity from equivalent elevator use.



Figure 4- Facilities Services staff enjoying the roll-out of reusable CSUDH co-branded Pathwater bottles, the sustainable replacement for the campus' previous stock of single-use plastic water bottles.

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 (90%+ landfill diversion rate) before 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.
- 2019-20 FY Initiatives:
 - Continued support for the CSUDH chapter of the national Food Recovery Network program through Sustainability Club activities. The chapter distributed over 524 lbs of left-over food from Campus Dining 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. The new Toro Token program was available at Toro Fresh and popular enough to support expansion to other Campus Dining-operating eateries such as DH Sports Lounge. Additional eateries will be approached for additional expansion of the program upon return to a non-virtual environment/post COVID.
 - In support of the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy, Facilities Services committed to the following measures in support implementation of the plastic water bottle ban included in this policy prior to the goal year of 2023.
 - In April 2020, Facilities Services began offering reusable CSUDH co-branded Pathwaters at \$1.55/bottle to departments as a replacement to the single-use plastic water bottles offered previously.
 - In Fall 2019, interim Vice President of Administration and Finance provided funding to cover a 100% retrofit of all campus water fountains to include bottle fillers. Facilities Services has completed retrofitting over 90% of the locations, and will complete the 100% retrofit of all campus water fountain locations in the 2020-21 FY.
 - In February 2020, Facilities Services also procured an event water bar for use by Campus Dining to support reusable water bottle usage at campus events.
 - Student interns conducted weekly Trash Talk outreach events during the school year to help educate students on what is accepted for campus recycling. They also continued bi-weekly pick-ups of organic waste for commercial recycling at eight campus zero waste stations to help divert organic waste away from the landfill.
 - In January 2020, launched a six-monitor pilot of Clean City Networks technology which provides real-time fill levels on waste bins, helping to schedule pick-up service and analyze campus waste trends.

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 consumed only 66,407 CCF in the 2019 calendar year, mostly as a result from demolishing the Small College complex which represented some of the oldest buildings on campus.
- 2019-20 FY Initiatives:
 - In spring of 2019, the Small College Complex was demolished and taken offline to make room for new construction. As soon as these buildings were taken offline, campus water consumption dropped by almost 50%, demonstrating these buildings were highly inefficient and were likely suffering from ongoing leaks.
 - The Sustainable Landscape Committee continued to review landscaping plans for Capital Projects for compliance with Model Water Ordinance (MWELo) standards to ensure efficient irrigation and low-water using plantings and in accordance with the Sustainable Landscape Plan approved plant palette.
 - Grounds has continued 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.



Figure 5- CSUDH is a recognized Tree Campus through the Arbor Day Foundation for its comprehensive landscape management efforts.

Sustainable Landscaping

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

- Throughout the 2019-20 fiscal year, a paid student intern with the Office of Sustainability conducted a hydrozone mapping project to comprehensively identify plant material on campus landscaping in order to zone landscape based on watering needs. The student's work is available here:
https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1_Z3jhfllezjEvKqV_9hXSX-QC49nww3jb&usp=sharing

- 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 2019.
- In spring 2020, the Office of Sustainability promoted an online Green Graduation Pledge, where students from the graduating classes of 2020-2025 were encouraged to pledge to consider the environment when making future career decisions. Facilities Services offered to provide \$1 towards campus tree planting efforts for every student who took the pledge during their graduating year. As a result, 301 students took the pledge with 232 of those students representing the graduating class of 2020. Grounds will be planting three new trees in Fall 2020 as a result.
- The Office of Sustainability also created an earmark fund specifically for donating trees out of the existing Office of Sustainability Give Now fund in collaboration with Philanthropic Foundation in May 2020. This new option allows donors to donate online to fund new trees to be planted on campus.



Figure 6- CSUDH student interns enjoying a ride in one of their solar powered golf carts with Teddy Toro.

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 2019-20 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.
- Formation of a campus-wide Transportation Advisory Committee in February 2020 which will reconvene after in-person activities resume.

Procurement & Sustainable Food



Figure 7- Teddy Toro promoting 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 of the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy to being phasing out plastic water bottle purchasing on campus via the ordering of reusable CSUDH co-branded Pathwaters and supporting reusable water usage throughout the campus (see *Waste Management Initiatives* for more detail, previous section).
- The Office of Sustainability in conjunction with Student Affairs and Campus Dining continued to sponsor a weekly Farmers Market in the Sculpture Garden in the fall of 2019 as well as its move to its new location on the South

Walkway in spring 2020. 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. 524.04 lbs of food from Campus Dining were distributed through the Food Recovery Network as well as 259.4 in produce from the Campus Urban Farm.
- To support in-need students after in-person campus activities shutdown in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Sustainability worked with the campus Farmers Market organizers to establish the Toro Pantry Box program. This program enabled anyone to donate a \$30 Farm Box containing fresh Farmers Market produce, eggs, and other essentials to be delivered to the CSUDH Basic Needs drive-up distribution events. Between initial launch at the end of May 2020 through June 25, 2020, the program delivered 483 lbs of food to 159 CSUDH students in need thanks to 53 boxes donated by the CSUDH community.

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
Jenney Hall- conducted presentation for Intro to Environmental Studies class.	9/9/2019	50	IDS 101
Cheyenne Cummings- conducted presentation on campus sustainability topics.	9/12/2019	33	GEO 433
John Menary- conducted sustainability presentation for Human Geography Class	10/1/2019	25	GEO 100
Carolyn Oudiz- conducted cooking/food demonstration at Campus Urban Farm.	10/15/2019	80	KIN 235
Carolyn Oudiz- conducted pumpkin-carving activity at Campus Urban Farm	10/31/2019	80	KIN 235
Paul Fornelli- presentation on Office of Sustainability by SLICE resulted in two students working on a Campus Urban Farm-related video for their class project (Video available here: https://youtu.be/QYF2wGo7YNo)	11/12/2019	2	COMM 101
Giacomo Bono- Campus Urban Farm tour for freshman seminar class.	11/14/2019	22	UNV 101
Giacomo Bono- Cooking demonstration at weekly CSUDH Farmers Market for freshman seminar class.	11/22/2019	22	UNV 101
Janine Gasco- class presentation on sustainability for Biological Anthropology class.	11/19/2019	40	ANT 101
Nancy Roback- presentation for CHE 102 Science	2/25/2020	38	CHEM 102

Academics/Green Workforce Development

Description	Date	Students	Class Code
for the Citizen class to follow up on Central Plant tour on 2/13.			
Jenney Hall - conducted Sustainability 101 lecture, class also participated in club activities throughout the month of March as part of class requirement.	2/26/2020	32	IDS 101

- On October 23, 2019, the Campus Urban Farm hosted an Open House event attended by 43 people to encourage faculty to explore this living laboratory space and consider incorporating it into future courses.
- During spring semester 2020, the Faculty Development Center sponsored the first-ever dedicated faculty learning community (FLC) around sustainability under the leadership of faculty member Roya Azizi. Five other faculty members from Psychology, International Education, Philosophy, Accounting, and Anthropology respectively participated in the FLC to integrate sustainability into their courses. The Office of Sustainability presented at the opening and closing meetings of the FLC to express support and provide resources for this initiative.

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 \$7,000 donation to the Campus Urban Farm which resulted in funding for two interns to support three high school workshops in the fall of 2019.

Academics/Green Workforce Development

- 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 Advertising/Marketing as part of the major's internship requirement for graduation during the 2020 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.

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:

- Participated in the Career Center's On-Campus Employment Fair on August 16, 2019 to introduce 50 new students to the Office of Sustainability's volunteer internship program.
- As part of October Sustainability Month, tabled at the Career Center's STEM internship fair on October 15, 2019 to engage 17 students in opportunities in the green workforce.

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



Figure 8- Teddy Toro in front of the raised beds at the Campus Urban Farm.

Academics/Green Workforce Development

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.

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
2019-20 Fiscal Year (July-June)	259.4	371	3

2019-20 FY Highlights

As it began its second year of full operations, the Farm was able to deliver 259 pounds of produce to campus food pantries and Campus Dining in order to help feed fellow Toros despite a shortened spring 2020 semester due to COVID. 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

Academics/Green Workforce Development

operations totaling \$20,500 in spring 2019. 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.¹ These funded activities continued into fall 2019.

Shell Oil also generously donated \$7,000 in early 2020 towards the development of community workshops and a Farm Docent Training Program at the Farm to help build engagement with CSUDH Osher Lifelong Learning Institute volunteers and the local Carson community. These workshops and the docent training program will be taking place in fall semester 2020.

Engagement

As an ideal on-campus location for community service and education, the Farm served as an engagement hub for several different groups and entities via dedicated work day events. As part of Shell Oil's original 2018-19 FY donation, the Farm hosted three high school workshops with local Carson high schools with a fourth planned in March 2020 that was cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

- Carson High School farm tour and educational workshop for 41 11th and 12th grade students on September 20, 2019.
- CAMS High School farm tour and educational workshops for 33 10th and 11th grade students on November 7, 2019 and a second class of 33 10th and 11th graders on November 14, 2019.
- Planned farm tour and educational workshop with Rancho Dominguez High School on March 5, 2020 was postponed indefinitely due to COVID restrictions on travel.

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. The Farm also helped to facilitate additional formal events to engage the campus community including:

- Conducted a Campus Urban Farm tour for visiting state senators Steve Glazer and Steven Bradford as a follow-up to the California Senate College Tour forum on the CSU 2025 Graduation Initiative/Student Basic Needs event hosted at CSUDH on October 7, 2019. During the tour, the Office of Sustainability presented on Campus Urban Farm work related to student food security and conducted a sample cooking demonstration to exemplify the campus' efforts around sustainable food education.

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

Academics/Green Workforce Development

- An Open House event on October 23, 2019 attended by 43 people to encourage faculty to explore this living laboratory space and consider incorporating it into future courses as well as welcome potential and continuing volunteers.
- Served as a project site for SLICE's Community Impact Day on October 5, 2019 which engaged over 40 volunteers in farm-related maintenance tasks.

Academics

Three different academic courses from Interdisciplinary Studies, Kinesiology, and a Freshman Seminar course formally engaged with the Farm during the 2019-20 academic year. This included activities ranging from volunteering, class lectures, tours, and maintaining designated raised beds.

Contact Us

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

Engagement



Figure 9- Student facilitators conducting a cooking demonstration of Farmers Market produce for the Faculty Development Center as part of March Race to Reduce 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 2019 FTE was 13,948 which means outreach efforts would need to reach 1,394 students to represent 10%. This fiscal year's outreach campaigns reached 2,831 people total, exceeding this target.
- 2019-20 FY Initiatives:

- **Farm and Academic Infusion Engagement:** As mentioned in previous sections of this report, the Campus Urban Farm engaged 371 student volunteers, and the Office of Sustainability conducted general academic programming that reached 270 students collectively.
- **Welcome Events:**
 - **Freshman New Student Orientation Events:** In order to orient incoming freshmen to sustainability concepts and services, the Office of Sustainability presented at three hour-long Toro Success Workshops over the summer reaching 90 incoming CSUDH students.
 - **Housing Move-In:** The Office of Sustainability tabled at the Housing move-in events for freshmen, transfer, and returning in August 2019, reaching 61 new residents as a result.
 - **LSU Loker Leader Training & Open House:** The Office of Sustainability also supported the Loker Student Union by providing sustainability leadership training at their student leader training event on August 20, reaching 27 LSU student assistants. The Office of Sustainability also provided tabling supporting during the LSU Open House event on August 18, which resulted in 100 passers-by signing sustainability pledges.
- **Toro Token Tabling:** To support the launch of the Toro Token program, Office of Sustainability interns provided Q&A services next to Toro Fresh as well as giveaways of free Toro Tokens in exchange for completed Take Charge sustainability pledges on August 26 and 27, resulting in 18 giveaways.
- **Weekly Cooking Demos & Trash Talks Sorting at Farmers Market:** In support of the weekly CSUDH Farmers Market, the Office of Sustainability assisted with ongoing set-up for the market as well as a dedicated help booth featuring weekly cooking demonstrations of seasonal produce from the farmers as well as a sustainability-related tabling display. The tabling display usually consisted of the popular trash-sorting game called Trash Talks, but also featured other zero-waste related specialty displays throughout the academic year such as compost pledges, or reusable water bottle sticker giveaways.
 - 406 students were reached over the course of the fall semester, and 166 students were reached in spring semester through this weekly programming before the campus moved to virtual instruction only in March 2020 due to COVID-19.
- **Housing Programming:**
 - Eco Living Workshops (35)/energy competition (15-Eco Wrap party)
- **October Sustainability Month** was a four-week effort to rally the campus around National Campus Sustainability Month through a series of tabling events and activities related to sustainability. 150 people were reached through this campaign. The activities included:
 - Week 1- 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, 30 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.

- Week 2- The Office of Sustainability hosted a table at the Career Center's existing job fair on October 15 to introduce students to green employment opportunities and attracted 17 passers-by.
 - Week 3- The Campus Urban Farm hosted an Open House event that attracted 43 visitors.
 - Week 4- Central Plant held its annual Open House and Tour event on October 31, offering tours of the campus tunnels all-day on the half hour as well as a photo-booth for people waiting to depart. This event engaged 60 visitors from all parts of campus.
- The **March Race to Reduce campaign** placed a larger emphasis on engaging the campus in sustainability activities designed to reduce campus resource consumption. This was intended as a three-week campaign just before spring break as a lead up to Earth Day that engaged 121 people:
 - Throughout:
 - 32 students in Housing signed up to participate in CSUDH's third annual Race to Reduce energy competition from February 21-March 21 (postponed due to COVID).
 - The Office of Sustainability partnered with IDS 101 to staff a Take the Stairs campaign weekly on Mondays in Welch Hall. Over the two weeks the campaign was allowed to run before the campus moved to virtual instruction due to COVID 19, 65 staff and students climbed the west stairwell of Welch Hall during their lunch breaks to log a collective total of 855 floors climbed (which would equate to 2,138 kWh in equivalent elevator usage)
 - Week 1: On March 3, 2020 at the weekly Farmers Market, the Office of Sustainability featured a reusable water bottle sticker giveaway in exchange for pledges to avoid single-use plastic water bottles which had 35 participants as well as sign-ups for a special cooking demonstration tour that took 19 participants behind the scenes of the weekly Farmers Market.
 - Week 2: On March 10, 2020 the Office of Sustainability worked with the Faculty Development Center to host an hour-long cooking course for three attendees before the campus closed for in-person operations on March 12.
 - In May 2020, the Office of Sustainability sponsored an online Green Graduation Pledge which promised to donate \$1 towards campus tree re-planting efforts in the graduating year of any CSUDH student who would sign the pledge from the graduating of 2020-2025. 232 seniors from the graduating class of 2020 signed the pledge, and a total of 301 students collectively signed the pledge to consider the environment in their future career.

Additional Campus Outreach

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

- To help educate the CSUDH community on campus sustainability services, the Office of Sustainability sponsored an online Take Charge Pledge drive which allowed takers to commit to specific actions such as using a reusable water bottle, or purchasing a Toro Token, within five different sustainability topic areas. In exchange for

opportunity drawings for Toro Tokens, 106 CSUDH students, faculty, and staff took the pledge throughout fall and spring semesters.

- In support of the CSU Single Use Plastics Policy and announcement regarding reusable CSUDH Pathwaters and the commitment to retrofit 100% of campus water fountains with bottle fillers, the Office of Sustainability issued a special Hydration Station Voting drive. In it, participants were encouraged to vote for which station locations they were most excited about in exchange for opportunity drawings for CSUDH reusable Pathwaters. 99 CSUDH students, faculty, and staff participated as a result.

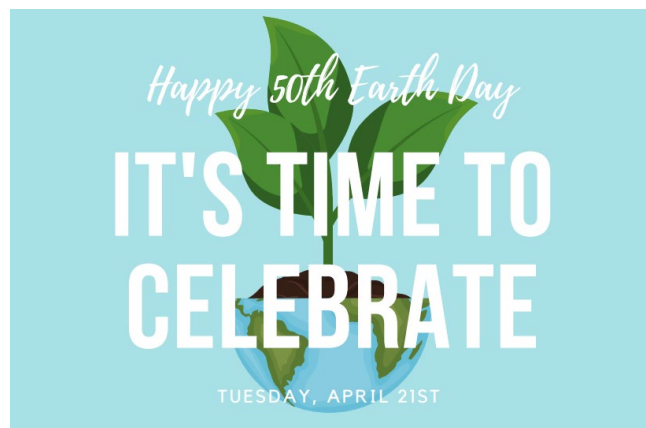


Figure 10- Header for the virtual online CSUDH Earth Day bingo card activity.

Community Outreach

The largest sustainability event catered to reaching the outside community specifically is the annual Earth Day Festival. Due to COVID-19, the scheduled 13th annual festival on April 21, 2020 was limited to virtual activities only. To that end, the Office of Sustainability offered two virtual activities to enable the CSUDH community to celebrate the event remotely:

- In the week leading up to the Earth Day festivities on April 21, the Office of Sustainability offered a virtual Earth Day Bingo activity whereby participants could view profiles on all the organizations that had originally planned to attend the in-person festival. They were then asked to fill out a bingo/trivia quiz that asked for the names of organizations that fit different criteria or categories, with opportunity drawings for participants who could fill out at least five of the questions. 51 people participated online.
- On the day of the originally scheduled Earth Day festival, the Office of Sustainability hosted hour long lectures and Kahoot trivia quizzes for prizes from 9am-2pm on a variety of different sustainability topics. 147 people called in throughout the day to participate in the games and educational content.

Contact Information



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Information on the Office of Sustainability

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.



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