

COCC Sustainability Committee Newsletter

WINTER 2023



COCC President Chesley Signs the Carbon Commitment

During the 2022 All-College Kick-Off in September, COCC President Laurie Chesley named sustainability as one of her top priorities for the year ahead. This past November, Dr. Chesley signed the Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitment (PCLC), a framework created by Second Nature in 1993 with the express goal to "accelerate climate action in, and through, higher education." Dr. Chesley signed on to the PCLC's Carbon Commitment, pledging the College to complete a greenhouse gas emissions inventory, identify opportunities for greenhouse gas reduction, and formulate a Climate Action Plan. This momentum is not only necessary in our ever-changing climate but also demonstrates the positive change that can be achieved through higher education. Thank you, Dr. Chesley!



Worldwide Climate Action Teach-In April 19, 1:30-5:30pm

Climate action is the theme of COCC's 2nd annual Climate Teach-In, on April 19th in Wille Hall. This free event will include speakers from the college and the community, including the city of Bend, the Environmental Center, OSU-Cascades, and Deschute County, who will share how we can engage in active climate work. Info booths will provide additional resources. Visit cocc.edu/committees/sustainability to learn more.



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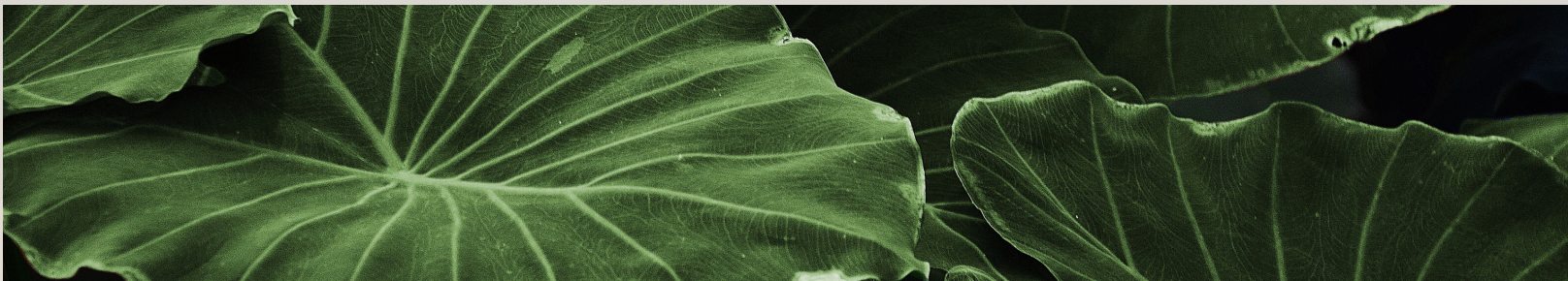
Hal Wershow's Geology Class Visits the Landfill

Waste Watch Training January 31

Sustainability Committee Meeting Schedule

Sustainability Curriculum

Did you know that COCC offers courses catered to developing literacy in sustainability and climate change? These courses include both electives and credits in Science, Health, Cultural Literacy, and Social Science. The courses are subdivided into two designations. Sustainability Designated (SD) courses have “a moderate-to-strong emphasis on sustainability content”, while courses with the SUS prefix are specifically and primarily focused on sustainability. Enrolling in these courses provides a simple yet effective way to expand your sustainability knowledge and meet your credit requirements. For a complete list of SD and SUS courses, see the [COCC Sustainability Committee website](#). Contact Owen Murphy at omurphy@cocc.edu or (541) 383-7766 for more information.



Student Opportunity: Washington-Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)

The last time students and staff attended the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC), minds were blown and lives were changed. The mission of WOHESC is *"to provide a platform for inspiring change, facilitating action, and promoting collaboration on sustainability and social justice within the region's higher education institutions"*. This year the conference will take place March 6-8th at OSU-Corvallis, and ASCOCC has graciously agreed to sponsor eight students (including registration, lodging, transportation, and meal costs)! If you are interested in joining us, please check out the WOHESC website (www.wohesc.org), then contact Owen to learn about the application process. His email is omurphy@cocc.edu. Thank you ASCOCC!



Aubrey Baldwin, Energy Intern



"It has been incredible to work so closely with staff and fellow students who are integral to making long-lasting change at the college. I have always had an interest in sustainability, specifically working with businesses and institutions to make a more significant impact on climate change. I am currently studying business and sustainability at COCC and this internship is a great stepping stone towards getting my double major in these fields at OSU."

Josh's Journal

I was delighted to be asked by the Sustainability Committee about my new role as COCC's Campus Services (CS) Director. I started at the College in October 2022 and had the great opportunity to bring new ideas, experience, re-engagement, excitement to the CS Department. The role of a facility manager is to provide the resources and environment in which staff and organizations can be the most safe and productive. It sounds boring, but you really need to take the time to get to know people on an individual level to see what is important to them. From Dr. Chesley to the department directors, the students, and everyone in between, their health, safety, and productivity all need to matter to an effective facility manager. Sustainability is one of the guiding principles I took to heart early in my career. A facility manager must be aware of the impact a building and an organization have on the environment and on the community while still creating positive contributions to the financial well-being of the organization. Campus Services plans on creating a sustainable environment by doing more with less, adopting greener technologies, and minimizing waste and wasteful use of energy.

Thank you, Bobcats! - Joshua Clawson, Director of Campus Services, jclawson2@cocc.edu



Hal Wershow 's Geology Class Visits the Landfill

Hal Wershow's class, "Geology 201: The Dynamic Earth," offers an in-depth and refreshing look at geology and science. Recently Hal invited his students on a tour of the local landfill, noting the duality of natural resources in our modern society. If you think about it, these resources are simultaneously precious and disposable in our world. By studying the science of recycling and disposal, students are better able to visualize the geological processes and phenomena around us. Hal noted that the landfill is as "environmentally friendly as it can be, but the only thing that would be better, is to put less in it." Nearly half of what ends up in the landfill can be composted or recycled. This fact in itself is striking, but the realization also provides an opportunity for change and continued education.



Taleah Zueger, Campus Services Sustainability Assistant

"Currently my major is a general transfer degree, but I'm thinking about going into sustainability or something sustainability-related. I also plan on working with Noelle Copley throughout my time here at COCC and will continue encouraging individuals (including myself) to make more green and sustainable choices. I care about the environment and want to do anything I can to help make a difference."

Get Involved!

Winter Term

Sustainability Committee Meetings

- Wednesday, January 25, 10 - 11am
- Wednesday, February 22, 10 - 11am
- Wednesday, March 22, 10 - 11am

Join us in Mazama 206!



Waste Watch Training

Got recycling questions? Join other interested COCC sustainability leaders in building a coalition of environmentally conscious ambassadors!

Space is limited, please RSVP:
ncopley@cocc.edu, x7779

Tuesday, January 31
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
RTEC 124

To keep updated on events:
<http://www.cocc.edu/committees/sustainability/>

Sustainability Committee Members:

Campus Services

Noelle Bell Copley
Joshua Clawson

Classified Association

Chloe Vogel
Karen Kruger

Student Positions

Aubrey Baldwin
Jessie Spendlove
Taleah Zueger

Faculty Senate

Owen Murphy
Carrie Walker

Presidential Appointment

Jenn Kovitz
Breana Sylwester



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