



UofL Sustainability Council FY 2010-2011 Report

Executive Summary

Both the scope and depth of sustainability initiatives at UofL expanded significantly over the course of the year. Major milestones this year included achieving a [STARS Silver Rating](#) from AASHE and [Tree Campus USA](#) status for the first time from the National Arbor Day Foundation, the certification of [LEED Gold buildings](#) on all three of our campuses, the release of a comprehensive [Climate Action Plan](#) for UofL, and the expansion of a massive energy-efficiency [performance contract](#) to reduce our utility bills by about \$11,800/day. Highlights:

OPERATIONS

BUILDINGS & ENERGY

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

- Phase I of \$21.7M [performance contract](#) with Siemens completed on Belknap and \$18M [Phase II](#) agreed for HSC & Shelby. UofL expects to reduce utility costs by about \$11,800/day. [\\$373k rebate](#) already received for reducing electricity use 23%.
- [Center for Predictive Medicine](#) opened with one of the largest solar photovoltaic arrays in KY.

LEED Buildings

- Renovated [Duthie Center](#) for Engineering & [Center for Predictive Medicine](#) received LEED Gold certifications.
- Foundation began construction of the [first LEED certified multi-tenant office building in Kentucky](#) at ShelbyHurst.

Model Green Room Renovations

- [Urban Design Studio](#) installed a high-visibility vegetated green wall & window box vegetable garden.
- Interior architecture students collaborated on the design and green renovation of A&S Dean's conference room.
- [Model green dorm room](#) in Louisville Hall was occupied by the RSA's Student Director for Sustainability, who gave tours.

Behavior Change

- Council publishes [Green Tips](#) weekly in UofL Today, Campus Health News, [UofL Connection](#), Mortar Board planner, and [The FRY](#).
- UofL participated in [World Paper Free Day](#), and annual [RecycleMania](#) national competition. [Story](#). [Cardinal Cam Video](#).

GROUNDINGS

Trees

- Council formed Campus Tree Advisory Committee, developed a [Tree Care Plan](#) & [Campus Tree Tour](#), achieved [Tree Campus USA](#) status, got [UofL trees featured on WFPL's "Homegrown"](#), and inoculated all ash trees from emerald ash borer.

Stormwater Management

- Installed [pervious pavers in the SAC West plaza](#) & 3 large [rain barrels at the Garden Commons](#).
- Designed, in partnership with MSD, a variety of [green infrastructure projects](#) (infiltration basins, bioswales, rain gardens, etc).

SOLID WASTE

Recycling & Composting

- Roll-out of new [single-stream recycling system](#) completed on all campuses, helping to increase 2010 landfill diversion rate to 47.8%, [recycling enough to cover Grawemeyer Oval four feet deep](#).
- [UofL began on-site composting](#) of all pre-consumer food waste from UofL Dining kitchens (50,000+ lbs. composted).

Reuse and Waste Reduction

- Reusable items were captured through launch of [UofLSwap.com](#) (SGA), [Swap Shop](#) (Housing), and an [old eyeglasses collection](#).
- Partnered with Barnes & Noble to greatly expand the [textbook rental plan](#) to over 300 titles, reusing thousands of books.
- Uniprint stations switched to automatically print double-sided and refillable water bottles were distributed at student orientation.
- Hosted a community [Drug Toss](#) to prevent abuse and protect the environment from improper disposal.

TRANSPORTATION

Commute Green Campaign

- Frequent, free [shuttle service](#) between Belknap & HSC established through revision of TARC [Route 4](#) and [Route 18](#). [Map](#).
- [Game-day shuttle service](#) was developed to the new downtown Arena from Belknap campus.
- University Parking distributed the Commute Green flyer and a UofL-specific TARC map with all new parking permits.
- Council held a [Transportation Alternatives Fair](#) with free bike tune-ups & maps, and info about bus and carpooling.

Reducing Transportation Demand

- Construction began on [Cardinal Towne](#) to provide additional student housing and retail options close to UofL. [Story](#). [Video](#).
- Urban & Public Affairs grad students helped analyze 2010 [Transportation Alternatives Survey](#) data to develop appropriate policies.

Promoting Bicycling for Transportation

- UofL installed five new bike racks at HSC, two at Shelby campus, and five at the SAC. Most were installed in covered locations.
- Council secured [\\$10,000 bicycle education grant](#) from the Kentucky Bicycle & Bikeway Commission for train-the-trainers program.
- New [UofL Cycling Club](#) promoted the use of bicycles amongst students for transportation, including a campus Bike Day.
- Initiated a series of community design charrettes with the Old Louisville neighborhood for a bike boulevard from Belknap to HSC.
- [Bike To Work Month](#) saw 3 UofL teams in the Commuter Challenge, Bike Fairs at HSC & Belknap, and a [Pedal with the President](#).

FOOD

Campus Garden

- [Garden Commons RSO](#) formed and hosted a [SOUL volunteer event](#), films, potlucks, work parties, and organic workshops.
- \$26,000 in grants funded a [major garden expansion](#) with new raised beds, rain barrels, greenhouse, bike racks, benches & [mural](#).

Farmers' Market

- [Gray Street F.M.](#) had a second full season in 2010 with 3 new vendors, a new card reader for debit/food stamps, an August Celebration & an October [Customer Appreciation Day](#). The market expanded its operations in 2011, opening earlier (May 19th).

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

- Third year of program to bring weekly baskets of local food to campus with sign-ups at March 2nd [CSA Open House](#) & [Facebook](#).

Dining Services

- UofL opened a [new trayless dining facility](#), The Ville Grill, with a dedicated vegetarian and vegan station. [Photos](#).
- Sodexo collected pre-consumer food waste from its kitchens for the Council's new [food waste composting](#) program.
- New online menus include [nutritional information](#) for every item.



ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, & OUTREACH

PLANNING

American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)

- Council collaboratively developed a [Climate Action Plan](#) for UofL [to cut greenhouse gas emissions](#) to net-zero by 2050.
- Council presented the new Plan to the Student, Staff, and Faculty Senates, to the Council of Academic Officers, and to the public.

Campus Master Plan

- Developed a [Bicycle Master Plan](#) to provide guidance for encouraging safe bicycling to and through all three UofL campuses.

STARS Framework for Monitoring & Strategic Planning

- UofL gathered data for a year as a [Charter Participant](#) in [AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System \(STARS\)](#).
- On January 24th, UofL became the 10th school in the U.S. to submit its [STARS data](#) and achieved a [STARS Silver Rating](#). [Video](#).

Other Sustainability Metrics

- UofL [moved from No. 92 to No. 61](#) on Sierra Club's 2010 list of [Top 100 Coolest Schools](#), ranking highest in KY. [UofL Response](#).

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Worker Rights & Fair Trade

- Council sent reps to WKU for the 7th Annual [United Students for Fair Trade National Convergence](#) on [Fair Trade Universities](#).
- UofL again paid dues to the anti-sweatshop [Worker Rights Consortium](#) and supported the [Designated Suppliers Program](#).

Diversity & Accessibility

- Over 500 UofL students who qualified for the College Access Program received help from UofL when the state couldn't provide.
- A [White Allies for Racial Justice](#) group formed at UofL for faculty, staff, and students interested in advocacy for racial justice.
- 100 people gathered at UofL in [solidarity for victims of anti-gay bullying](#) in response to the suicide of a Rutgers freshman.
- UofL received a \$2.6 million five-year grant to help high-need Shawnee & Moore [high school students prepare for college success](#).

Socially Responsible Investing

- Provost formed a university-wide [Committee on Socially Responsible Investing](#) to recommend policies on endowment investments.

PARTNERS

National and International Collaboration

- Council sent two staff & two student reps to present on student engagement & residential life at the [AASHE 2010 Conference](#).
- UofL renewed its membership in [AASHE](#), and newly joined the [National Council for Science and the Environment \(NCSE\)](#).

Local and Statewide Collaboration

- UofL hosted the October 22nd [Kentucky Campus Sustainability Leadership Workshop](#) on with reps from 8 schools.
- UofL representatives attended the April 8th Kentucky Campus Sustainability Leaders Workshop at Murray State University.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Sustainability in New Employee Orientations and Trainings

- Weekly [New Employee Orientation](#) throughout the year includes a module on UofL sustainability & Partnership for a Green City.
- Sustainability was incorporated into New Faculty Orientations for the first time in 2010.
- The Delphi Center's Unit Business Managers training course [University Business Training](#) now contains a sustainability module.

Sustainability-focused Staff

- As the full-time assistant to the provost for sustainability initiatives, [Dr. Justin Mog](#) continued to work closely with the Council.
- The Council hosted a work-study student, a [Social Change intern](#), and an Urban & Public Affairs graduate student intern.
- In March, the Council provided a UofL Sustainability training and campus tour for the Information Center's Campus Ambassadors.

Health and Wellness

- Business First recognized UofL as the [healthiest employer in Louisville](#) with over 5,000 employees.
- Get Healthy Now launched the [Green Health Initiative](#), a pilot motivational program for employees to track personal health.
- UofL officially went [100% smoke-free](#) on all campuses after a year-long phase-out supporting efforts to quit.
- Campus Health Services offered a [Basic Pantry Program](#) and offered four cooking workshops with fresh, local ingredients.
- Council participated in the Health & Wellness Committee of the Great Places to Work initiative.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Sustainability Outreach

- Several new [sustainability-related continuing education courses](#) were added to the Delphi Center's Options schedule.
- UofL engineers appeared on WAVE-TV's Energy Efficiency Makeover Show, showcasing UofL's reduced energy use.
- UofL's sustainability coordinator, Justin Mog, was featured in a [front-page C-J article](#) & his home was in the [Louisville Solar Tour](#).
- UofL's Center for [Environmental Genomics & Integrative Biology](#) hosted forum on social & environmental determinants of health.
- UofL presented sessions with Dr. Keith Mountain and Brent Fryrear at the [Green Convene 2010](#) in November.
- UofL hosted the 5h annual [Kentucky Engagement Conference](#), with faculty and students presenting.
- The Anne Braden Institute published a new [Environmental Justice Research and Action Guide](#) available in print and online.
- The [Kent School received a five-year, \\$4.8 million grant](#) to help teens avoid unhealthy relationships & risky behavior.
- In January, the [Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center opened its newly renovated offices](#) on Shelby Campus. [Video](#). [Photos](#).
- Council presented on UofL Sustainability for [Louisville Trout Unlimited](#), Louisville Sustainability Forum, and [Green Convene](#).
- On March 12th, UofL hosted the [Kentucky Conservation Committee](#) annual conference.
- From March 13-15, the Conn Center hosted a Kentucky Statewide Workshop on Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency.
- In April, a new "Green Fund for UofL" was promoted to alumni through direct mailings from the development office.
- UofL supported several learning centers at the 2010 [Healthy Foods, Local Farms](#) conference organized by the Sierra Club.

Student Engagement in Sustainability

- GRASS organized student participation in the national day of service and a Beargrass Creek clean-up.
- On September 28th, UofL's [Environmental Law & Land Use Society](#) student group meet with the national president of Sierra Club.
- As a part of Welcome Weekend in August 2010, 37 [SOUL](#) volunteers performed over 92 hours of community service in area parks.
- 200 UofL students participated in the [MLK Service Day 2011](#) at 12 sites, including the Americana Center and Olmstead Parks.
- 2011 [Alternative Spring Break Program](#) featured several sustainability-related sites, including NC's Black Mtn. Community Garden.
- Council helped organize the April 12th [Community Engagement Showcase](#) & volunteer opportunity at Garden Commons.



EDUCATION & RESEARCH

CURRICULUM

[Green Threads Faculty Workshops – Sustainability Across the Curriculum](#)

- Nine [Green Threads II](#) faculty gathered for a follow-up curriculum development workshop and later for discussion & assessment.
- New group of five faculty in [Green Threads III](#) met previous participants & began series of workshops on teaching sustainability.

Sustainability Courses & Academic Programs

- Hundreds of [sustainability-focused and sustainability-related courses](#) are being offered across a wide variety of disciplines.
- Council helped revise the Course Inventory File with codes for courses that are sustainability-focused, -related, or research-based.
- This has informed discussions about the development of interdisciplinary academic programs in sustainability at UofL.

RESEARCH

Sustainability-Related Research

- As part of our first reporting to [STARS](#), the Council prepared an inventory of [sustainability-related research](#) conducted at UofL.
- UofL received a [\\$2 million gift from E.On](#) to continue research in energy conservation through the [Conn Center](#). [Video](#).
- Six student teams from the Speed School of Engineering designed projects in the [Renewable Energy Challenges course](#). [Video](#).
- UofL engineering graduate students and alumni aided in the [Gulf oil disaster](#) by helping BP sort through ideas to contain oil.
- Public health student Caroline Chan received EPA fellowship to develop a scientific tool for [mercury contamination](#) in waterways.
- UofL's sustainability coordinator, Justin Mog, worked with Environmental Communication, Anthropological Research Methods, Smart Solutions for a Sustainable Society, and Land Use Planning classes to involve student research in campus sustainability.
- UofL's Urban Wildlife Research Lab began trapping [campus wildlife](#) to assess the population health and diversity.
- The Lab also began participating in a national study investigating student's [social, situational and environmental attitudes](#).

AWARENESS-RAISING

[Public Sustainability Events](#)

- UofL's Center for Sustainable Neighborhoods hosted the Fourth [Ideal City Conference](#) July 22-25, 2010.
- The fall 2010 [A&S Meet the Professors series](#) featured talks on peace, justice, and ecology.
- The Women 4 Women student chapter organized a Human Trafficking Awareness Week, including a conference and film festival.
- [Urban Design Studio](#) participated in [Park\(ing\) Day](#), an annual, [worldwide event](#) to transform parking spots into temporary parks.
- UofL hosted public talks by experts on environmental education in China & Taiwan, sustainable development in Brazil, mountaintop removal, federal gender equity legislation, and the [Climate Reality \(Bike!\) Tour](#) en route to the U.N. Climate Summit.
- UofL Libraries hosted the "Visions in Sustainable Architecture" photographic exhibit in October.
- UofL hosted the first [Discover Louisville Festival Concert](#) designed to introduce UofL students to local businesses.
- Ali Institute organized [Peace & Justice Weeks](#) from Oct. 18 – Nov. 5 including talks, workshops, & nationally known guests.
- UofL Sustainability Week included a campus clean-up, tree tour, [Campus Sustainability Day](#), [Breaking Bread](#), & the 2nd annual [Bluegrass Bioneers Conference](#) featuring national speakers, local experts, workshops & a [Campus Sustainability Walking Tour](#).
- The Urban Design Studio organized the 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th public programs in its popular [Sustainable City Series](#).
- In November, UofL organized two lectures in conjunction with the [Festival of Faiths](#), featuring Patricia Siemen & [Wes Jackson](#).
- The Council launched a new Green Careers Speaker Series with the [Green Initiatives committee of the Engage Lead Serve Board](#).
- Over a dozen dedicated students were involved in the planning of UofL's 3rd annual [Climate Change Teach-In](#) March 31st. [Photos](#).
- Council organized Earth Week (April 18-22) with a [Thoroughbred Rail Link](#) presentation, the [Do Something Reel Film Festival](#), a cooking workshop, Fair Trade Fair, EarthFest!, and Tree Campus USA celebration and Campus Tree Tour.

On-campus Outreach

- Comprehensive [UofL Sustainability website](#) launched with info about the [Council](#), our initiatives, [events](#), [tips](#) & [getting involved](#).
- Through UofL Today and [GreenList Louisville](#), Council publishes monthly [Green Scene](#) column written by students, faculty & staff.
- Physical Plant launched a new [Energy Savings website](#) to explain savings, environmental benefits, and work schedule for retrofits.
- [REACH](#) replaced disposable cups in its Welcome Center with reusable UofL Sustainability mugs distributed with green tips.
- Two new unit-level sustainability groups were formed: [Law School Sustainability Committee](#) & [Shelby Campus Green Team](#).

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Sustainability in New Student Orientation

- Council collaborated with Admissions, Health Promotion, & First-Year Initiatives to expand new student exposure to sustainability.
- Sustainability events were integrated into Welcome Week 2010, including a transportation alternatives and a [SOUL event](#).
- The Council published monthly green tips throughout the 2010-11 Mortar Board planners.
- Sustainability was woven into 2011 Summer Orientation: training and buttons for SOSers; ad in Orientation Guide; posts to [Admissions blog](#); slideshow loops in lobby monitors; reusable water bottles for all & shoulder bag for families.

Student Groups

- The [Garden Commons](#) student group achieved Recognized Student Organization status in August 2010.
- The [Housing Green Committee](#) continued raising awareness with a major focus on UofL's participation in [RecycleMania](#).
- [Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions \(GRASS\)](#) organized service projects, films & lectures, and presented at AASHE 2010.
- A UofL [Student chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council](#) formed and attended [USGBC's Greenbuild conference](#) in Chicago.

The above list is by no means exhaustive. Further details are summarized below and photos, videos, contextualization, and documentation can be found at the [UofL Sustainability website](#) or by clicking the [links](#).

The Sustainability Council and its associated committees continue to support and develop a growing number of efforts involving an increasing number of faculty, staff, and students from an expanding number of units across the university. This trend is likely to continue as we aim to integrate sustainability into everything that we do at UofL and as we define sustainability broadly with a commitment to greater environmental, social, and economic responsibility.

After three years, the Sustainability Council and its committees have matured into a highly effective body for planning, coordination, and documentation of sustainability initiatives across the university. While we continue to provide valuable guidance, recommendations, and support, sustainability initiatives at UofL are taking shape through a highly collaborative process involving a wide variety of administrators, staff, faculty, students, and members of the broader community. We extend our sincere thanks to all of them.

UofL Sustainability Council FY 2010-2011 Report

Highlights of University of Louisville Sustainability Initiatives, July 2010 – June 2011

(prepared July 2011 by Justin Mog, Assistant to the Provost for Sustainability Initiatives, and Joy Hart, Sustainability Council Chair)

Both the scope and depth of sustainability initiatives at UofL expanded significantly over the course of the year. Major milestones this year included achieving a [STARS Silver Rating](#) from AASHE and [Tree Campus USA](#) status for the first time from the National Arbor Day Foundation, the certification of [LEED Gold buildings](#) on all three of our campuses, the release of a comprehensive [Climate Action Plan](#) for UofL, and the expansion of a massive energy-efficiency [performance contract](#) designed to reduce our utility bills by about \$11,800/day.

The Sustainability Council and its associated committees continue to support and develop a growing number of efforts involving an increasing number of faculty, staff, and students from an expanding number of units across the university. This trend is likely to continue as we aim to integrate sustainability into everything that we do at UofL and as we define sustainability broadly with a commitment to greater environmental, social, and economic responsibility.

After three years, the Sustainability Council and its committees have matured into a highly effective body for planning, coordination, and documentation of sustainability initiatives across the university. While we continue to provide valuable guidance, recommendations, and support, sustainability initiatives at UofL are taking shape through a highly collaborative process involving a wide variety of administrators, staff, faculty, students, and members of the broader community. As such, neither the Sustainability Council nor its associated committees can claim sole credit for most of the accomplishments summarized below. On the contrary, credit belongs to the many people across campus working on these varied initiatives. We extend our sincere thanks, however, to the many dedicated individuals serving on the Council and its committees as they played significant roles in making these accomplishments possible.

The following list of accomplishments is by no means exhaustive; rather, it is a summary of highlights from FY 2010-2011 (*and a preview of FY 2011-2012*), designed to provide an overview of sustainability initiatives, many of which are on-going. Further details, photos, videos, contextualization, and documentation can be found at the [UofL Sustainability website](#) or by clicking the [links](#) underlined in blue throughout.

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Curriculum Development
Research
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OPERATIONS

BUILDINGS & ENERGY

[Energy Efficiency](#)

- This year saw the final implementation stages of a \$21.7 million, 13 ½-year [performance contract](#) with Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. to make Belknap Campus much more energy and water efficient through extensive retrofits. The project has been designed to reduce electricity use by more than 20% and fossil fuel use for heating buildings by nearly 40%. The total energy savings will reduce UofL's annual greenhouse gas emissions by 55.5 million pounds.
- In July 2010, UofL recycled its 30-ton coal-fired boiler from the Steam & Chilled Water Plant, replacing it with a cleaner, more-efficient natural gas boiler. [Photos](#). The replacement was part of a plan with the Jefferson County Air Pollution Control District that will [phase out coal](#) use by the Belknap Campus steam plant.
- In August UofL received a [\\$373,000 rebate from LG&E](#) for reducing electricity use 23%, even before all retrofits were complete.
- In 2010 a [second phase performance contract](#) was finalized for the Health Sciences Center, Shelby campus, and a few more Belknap projects, involving about \$18 million in retrofits. After both phases are complete, UofL expects to reduce its utility bill by about \$11,800/day.

[Renewable Energy](#)

- The [Center for Predictive Medicine](#) on Shelby Campus opened with one of the largest solar photovoltaic arrays in the state, and UofL entered into a contract to purchase Green-e Renewable Energy for the remainder of the facility's demand.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *The Council is actively pursuing two major renewable energy projects: a biodigester to generate methane from a by-product of biomass operations at Parallel Products and a solar power RFP for about half a megawatt of electricity.*
- *The [Conn Center](#) will be erecting an experimental room on Belknap campus to further research and develop the [passive solar heat tube](#) technology piloted over the last two years at Burhans Hall on Shelby campus.*

[LEED Buildings](#)

- In July 2010, UofL's recently renovated [Duthie Center](#) for Engineering received a Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for its energy-conscious design from the U.S. Green Building Council. [Photos](#).

- The UofL Foundation began construction of the [first LEED certified multi-tenant office building in Kentucky](#) at the ShelbyHurst Research and Office Park. The ShelbyHurst development at UofL's Shelby Campus features efficient outdoor lighting, an improved drainage system leading to a wildlife-friendly basin, pedestrian sidewalks, and bike lanes. [Video](#).
- In January, the \$44M [Center for Predictive Medicine biosafety research lab](#) on Shelby Campus earned LEED Gold certification.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *UofL is pursuing LEED certification in the renovation of its Dental School.*

Model Green Room Renovations

- In 2010, the [Urban Design Studio](#) installed a vegetated green wall featuring native plants and a window box vegetable garden as a high-visibility demonstration in the front window along 3rd Street.
- In fall 2010, interior architecture students collaborated on the design and green renovation of a high-profile conference room in the office of the A&S Dean with the support of the Kentuckiana Chapter of Hazardous Materials Managers.
- In fall 2010, the [model green dorm room](#) in Louisville Hall was occupied by Marissa Helms, who served as the Resident Student Association's Student Director for Sustainability. Marissa hosted several tours and continued to use the room as a means to raise awareness about sustainable living on campus.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *In fall 2011, Urban & Public Affairs plans to implement a model green office renovation for the department chair which will incorporate a treadmill desk to promote health and wellness while working.*

Behavior Change

- Through UofL Today, the Council publishes weekly [Green Tips](#), highlighting ways people in the UofL community can get involved in promoting sustainability (especially through choices they make in their daily lives).
- [Green Tips](#) are also included in other monthly publications, including Campus Health News, the [UofL Connection](#) alumni newsletter, the Mortar Board campus planner, and [The FRY](#) (Your First Rate Year) newsletter.
- IT organized UofL's participation in [World Paper Free Day](#) on October 28th, encouraging everyone to make the commitment to not print or copy for that day and to consider alternative ways to file, share, or retain information electronically.
- From February to April, UofL participated in the annual [RecycleMania](#) national competition. The Council and Residential Life joined forces to promote the competition with a kick-off party, recycled costume contest, [Louisville Cardinal story](#), and student-generated [Cardinal Cam Video](#). In the end, UofL recycled 288,443 pounds of waste over the 10-week competition, just over 13 pounds per person, with a recycling rate of 36% and besting UK in 4 out of 7 categories.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *The Council is developing plans to participate in the spring 2012 [Campus Conservation Nationals](#) and is discussing a local challenge against UK. Participation in this competition will be enhanced by Housing & Residential Life's installation of "[building dashboards](#)" to allow residents to monitor (through lobby displays and/or websites) real-time and comparative building energy usage. RA's in the new Cardinal Towne affiliated student housing are also planning to participate and the building has the capacity to monitor energy use in each individual unit.*

GROUNDS

Trees

- In February, the Council formed a Campus Tree Advisory Committee to promote, enhance, and protect the urban forest at UofL and to engage students, faculty, staff, and community members in pursuing this mission. The committee met several times throughout the year to coordinate activities, develop a [Tree Care Plan](#), and prepare an application for Tree Campus USA status.
- In consultation with local arborists, UofL developed a [Campus Tree Tour](#) featuring 100 plaques around Belknap that identify notable trees and highlight species native to Kentucky. A self-guided tour [map](#) is available in print and online, and several guided tours were given throughout the year to launch the tour.
- For the first time, UofL achieved [Tree Campus USA](#) status from the National Arbor Day Foundation and was recognized for its efforts at a statewide tree-planting ceremony in Frankfort with First Lady Jane Beshear on April 1st.
- Physical Plant made a commitment to try and protect UofL's trees from the emerald ash borer for their foreseeable lives. In spring 2011, all of our ash trees received either trunk injections of Tree-age (Emamectin Benzoate) or a soil drench of Imidacloprid.
- In June, [UofL Trees were featured on WFPL's "Homegrown"](#), highlighting the Campus Tree Tour and Tree Campus USA status.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *UofL has secured funding from MSD to support the planting of 160 large trees on campus in fall 2011.*
- *The Campus Tree Advisory Committee will continue to meet to pursue annual Tree Campus USA certification and to enhance the interactive [Campus Tree Tour](#) website as a reference for the community.*

Stormwater Management

- In the spring, UofL installed [pervious pavers in the SAC West plaza renovation](#) to facilitate infiltration.
- Three large [rain barrels were installed at the Garden Commons](#) to capture and reuse rainwater from the Cultural Center's roof.

- In partnership with MSD, UofL began designing a variety of [green infrastructure projects](#) that will divert water from downspouts to an underground aquifer through infiltration basins, bioswales, rain gardens, rain barrels, and vegetated roofs.
- Members of the new [Law School Sustainability Committee](#) held a design charrette for rain gardens in the Law School courtyards.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *UofL will begin installing a variety of [green infrastructure projects](#) to enhance stormwater infiltration, including a vegetated roof on the College of Business expansion, rain gardens as part of the Speed Museum redesign, pervious pavers on the Grawemeyer Loop, and infiltration systems for the new student recreation facility and the new parking lot behind the Urban Studies Institute.*

SOLID WASTE

[Recycling](#)

- This year UofL completed its building-by-building roll-out of the new [single-stream recycling system](#) on all three campuses, helping to increase the 2010 landfill diversion rate to 47.8%.
- In 2010, UofL [recycled enough to cover Grawemeyer Oval four feet deep](#).
- The [Ekstrom Library recycling](#) program captured 50,480.5 pounds of material (over 25 tons) for recycling during 2010.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *Discussions have begun with Athletics to increase single-stream recycling within UofL's stadiums and athletic facilities, and to consider ways to implement game-day recycling in tailgating areas.*

[Composting](#)

- On July 1, 2010, [UofL began on-site composting](#) of all of the pre-consumer, plant-based food waste from Belknap's dining facility kitchens at the Hughes Lot. Spearheaded by Brian Barnes, over 400 volunteer hours have been devoted to composting over 50,000 lbs. of food waste.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *The composting program will expand to include [post-consumer food waste](#) and educational displays at a satellite composting site at the Cultural Center's Garden Commons. Compost buckets will first be deployed to kitchens in nearby residence halls and office buildings with dedicated volunteers.*
- *UofL is in discussions with Rubicon Waste to become a pilot demonstration site for a new high-capacity rapid composting machine that would allow for easy composting of meat, dairy, and post-consumer prepared foods.*

[Reuse and Waste Reduction](#)

- SGA launched [UofL Swap.com](#), an online classifieds system for the UofL community. The site was created after SGA adopted its 2020 Plan, which included several student sustainability initiatives.
- In August 2010, UofL [collected old eyeglasses](#), reading glasses, sunglasses, and contact lenses for needy people in Third World countries who can't afford eye care.
- UofL partnered with Barnes & Noble to offer a greatly expanded [textbook rental plan](#), offering more than 300 titles for rent, which translated to thousands of books being reused and countless dollars saved.
- In April, Uniprint stations around campus switched to automatically print double-sided.
- UofL hosted an April 9th community [Drug Toss](#) to prevent abuse and protect the environment from improper disposal.
- At the conclusion of the spring semester, Housing and Residence Life and Student Activities coordinated efforts to gather unwanted, reusable items for exchange or donation to community charities through a campus-wide [Swap Shop](#) at the Red Barn.
- During summer 2011, all participants in new student orientation received a refillable water bottle instead of bottled water.

TRANSPORTATION

[Commute Green Campaign](#)

- The Council worked closely with TARC to develop a plan for frequent [shuttle service](#) between Belknap and HSC through the revision of two existing routes. TARC [Route 4](#) and [Route 18](#) now connect the campuses with just 15 minutes between buses and these routes also provide direct, frequent service to both UofL campuses from Iroquois Park/South Louisville and from Shively, Okolona/Preston Hwy. [Map](#).
- A [game-day shuttle service](#) was developed to the new downtown Arena from Belknap campus. SGA organized the inclusion of information about the new shuttle with the distribution of student basketball tickets.
- The University Parking office distributed the Commute Green flyer and a UofL-specific TARC map with all new parking permits.
- The Council organized a [Transportation Alternatives – 'Think Outside the Car' Fair](#) on October 18th with free bike tune-ups, bike maps, bus maps and schedules, and information about carpooling. Representatives were on hand from: Bicycling for Louisville, Bike Couriers Bike Shop, ULP - Recycle Bicycle Program, TARC, CART, Ticket to Ride, and DPS and UofL Parking bike patrols.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *For Welcome Week 2011, the Council will be sponsoring a Car-Free Lunch Trip to the Gray St. Farmers' Market on August 18th, free bike tune-ups at the UofL Activity Fair on August 24th, and a Transportation Alternatives info table with maps and resources about taking the bus, biking, and carpooling in the Commuter Student Lounge during the first week of classes.*
- *The Council will be sponsoring a variety of fun, awareness-raising events for [World Car-Free Day](#) on September 22nd.*

Reducing Transportation Demand

- Construction began on the [Cardinal Towne](#) mixed-use complex adjacent to Belknap campus that will provide additional student housing and retail options through a public-private partnership with UofL beginning fall 2011. [Story](#). [Video](#).

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- UofL has entered into a contract with Connect by Hertz to provide a car-share service for the UofL community which will reduce the need to bring personal vehicles to campus.
- The Council will be forming a Transportation subcommittee to oversee and coordinate efforts to reduce the number of vehicles coming to campus.

Transportation Alternatives Survey

- A summer 2010 intern (Janis Eberenz) and a volunteer Urban & Public Affairs graduate student (Zachary Kenitzer) worked with the Council and UPDC to continue analyzing our 2010 transportation survey data, helping to develop policies to reduce car-miles traveled by the university community.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- The Council will be presenting the results and implications of its transportation survey at the October 2011 annual conference of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Promoting Bicycling for Transportation

- With the assistance of a UPDC intern over summer 2010, the Council developed a [Bicycle Master Plan](#) which provides guidance for facilities, signage, surface treatments, and pathways that are designed to encourage bicycling while enhancing the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians on all three of our campuses.
- UofL installed five new bike racks at HSC, two at Shelby campus, and five at the SAC. Most were installed in covered locations.
- In December, the Council secured a [\\$10,000 grant for bicycle education](#) from the Kentucky Bicycle and Bikeway Commission. The funds will be used primarily in FY 2011-12 to promote the use of the bicycle for transportation through bike maps and a 'Train-the-Trainers' program to prepare formal and informal educators from UofL and the community to offer confident cycling and bike safety classes to students through the Department of Health and Sport Sciences' Physical Activity program, Get Healthy Now, Campus Health Promotion, and other venues.
- The new [UofL Cycling Club](#) promoted the use of bicycles amongst students for transportation and recreation, including a Bike Day on campus, providing free tune-ups and information.
- UofL initiated a series of community design charrettes with the Old Louisville neighborhood to design a northbound bike boulevard facility from Cardinal Blvd that will help create a safe route from cyclists between Belknap and downtown/HSC.
- Throughout May, the Council promoted UofL participation in [Bike To Work Month](#). Three UofL teams finished in the top half of the Bike to Work Month challenge, Bike Fairs were hosted at HSC and Belknap, and President Ramsey led [a Pedal with the President on Bike To Work Day](#).

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- UofL Parking will be implementing the new [Abandoned Bike Policy](#) to free up limited bike parking on campus. After impoundment, unclaimed bikes may be repurposed for a campus bike-share program.
- The Council is in negotiations with an advertising firm which supplies free bike parking shelters to install covered bike parking on Belknap campus. Funds are also being sought to install more bike racks on Belknap campus.
- The Council will again promote active participation in [Bike To Work Month](#) in May 2012.

FOOD

Campus Garden

- The Belknap campus organic garden evolved from a project managed by Cultural Center interns to a full [Garden Commons RSO](#).
- UofL's [Garden Commons](#) at the Cultural Center hosted a Welcome Week [SOUL volunteer event](#) to prepare a new area for the installation of rain barrels, composting bins, and a greenhouse.
- A colorful, descriptive [mural](#) was installed at the Garden Commons in November as plans for expansion were developed.
- Gardeners sponsored screenings of food-related documentaries, potluck dinners, work parties, and workshops on composting and seed sprouting.
- On June 25th, dozens of volunteers helped with a [major expansion of the garden](#) with partners from Akzo Nobel. Akzo Nobel provided a \$13,500 grant for the project, along with \$12,500 from an anonymous donor. The expansion included installing new raised beds, rain barrels, a new greenhouse, signage, bike racks, and an outdoor gathering space.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- The expansion at Garden Commons will continue throughout the summer and fall to include new in-ground planting areas, a mini orchard, and composting facilities.
- Campus Health Promotion will be installing a small herb garden outside its entrance using repurposed cigarette butt containers.
- Gardening enthusiasts at HSC have been organizing to start small demonstration gardens at HSC.

Farmers' Market

- UofL's [Gray Street Farmers' Market](#) operated for a second full season in 2010 with 16 returning vendors and three new ones, as well as a new card reader for debit and EBT (food stamp) purchases. [Video](#).
- The market expanded its operations in 2011, opening earlier (May 19th) and holding an August Celebration of Summer's Bounty featuring live music, free food samples, a cooking demonstration, and a car-free trip from Belknap campus for new students; and an October [Customer Appreciation Day](#) featuring free samples and Adewale Troutman as DJ.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

- The Council sponsored its third year of the CSA program to bring weekly baskets of fresh, local food to campus.
- On March 2nd, students, faculty, and staff had the opportunity to learn about and select from five different farms offering a wide variety of subscription options at the annual [CSA Open House](#). Local food advocates were also on hand from the Gray St. Farmers' Market, the Kentucky Proud program (UofL Bookstore and Kentucky Department of Agriculture), and Sodexo.
- The UofL community was encouraged to learn more about local food and to sign-up for CSAs through UofL Today, e-mails, and a dedicated [UofL CSA Facebook group](#).

Dining Services

- UofL opened a [new trayless dining facility](#), The Ville Grill, with a dedicated vegetarian and vegan station. [Photos](#).
- Sodexo collected pre-consumer food waste from its kitchens for the Council's new food waste composting initiative.
- New online menus were created which include [nutritional information](#) about every item. You can choose which meals to view and do a comparison to help you plan a healthy, delicious meal.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- Sodexo will be launching a [Go Green Meal Plan](#) to directly support UofL's sustainability initiatives! This 10-meal-block for use at The Ville Grill over the course of the semester can be added to any meal plan, and a portion (no less than 1 percent) will be dedicated to a campus sustainability fund.
- For UofL Sustainability Week (October 17-23), Sodexo will be sponsoring a Fall Harvest week at The Ville Grill, featuring fresh, seasonal foods from our local area and a special family-style local dinner on October 20th.
- Sodexo is investigating the possibility of utilizing reusable to-go containers at its campus venues.
- Sodexo is in discussions with the [Louisville Biodiesel Cooperative](#) about providing 400 gallons of used cooking oil to the co-op each week for conversion into clean fuel for area farmers.

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, & OUTREACH

PLANNING

American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)

- The Council spearheaded a collaborative process to generate a comprehensive [Climate Action Plan](#) for UofL, which was approved by the President and Provost and submitted to ACUPCC on September 15, 2010. The [plan to cut UofL's greenhouse gas emissions](#) to net-zero by 2050 identifies ways to make the transition.
- The Sustainability Council presented the new Climate Action Plan throughout the fall to the Student, Staff, and Faculty Senates, to the Council of Academic Officers, and to the public (e.g., at the Bluegrass Bioneers Conference).

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *In accordance with the ACUPCC, the Council is currently preparing an updated accounting of UofL's greenhouse gas emissions and will be submitting a Greenhouse Gas Emission Report to ACUPCC by September 15, 2011.*

Campus Master Plan

- This year, as part of Belknap Master Planning efforts, UofL developed its first [Bicycle Master Plan](#). The plan seeks to promote transportation alternatives through improved planning and design for cyclists and pedestrians both on and around campus.

STARS Framework for Monitoring & Strategic Planning

- The Council worked throughout the year gathering data about campus sustainability for submission as a [Charter Participant](#) in the [Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System \(STARS\)](#) hosted by [AASHE](#).
- On January 24th, UofL became the tenth school in the country to submit its [STARS data](#) and exceeded its goals by achieving a [STARS Silver Rating](#) from AASHE. The accomplishment was covered by all major local media outlets. [Photos](#). [Video](#).

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *Based partly on the results of the STARS report, the Council is developing a university-wide Sustainability Plan to lay out our strategic priorities for the coming years.*

Other Sustainability Metrics

- UofL moved from No. 92 in 2009 to No. 61 (out of 162) on Sierra Club's 2010 list of [Top 100 Coolest Schools](#). UofL ranked higher than any other Kentucky school. [Story](#). [UofL Survey Response](#).

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Worker Rights & Fair Trade

- In March, the Council sent representatives to Western Kentucky University for the 7th Annual [United Students for Fair Trade National Convergence](#) on 'Igniting a Movement: [Fair Trade Universities](#)'. A group was formed on campus to begin organizing around this issue.
- This year, UofL again paid dues to the [Worker Rights Consortium](#) and remained in a supportive position for the [Designated Suppliers Program](#), two programs that promote anti-sweatshop labor in university apparel.

Diversity & Accessibility

- More than 500 UofL students who qualified for College Access Program funding from the state received help from the university when the state was unable to provide it.
- A [White Allies for Racial Justice](#) group formed at UofL in fall 2010 for faculty, staff, and students who are interested in advocacy for racial justice on campus. Purposes include self-development as allies, active advocacy for racial justice issues, and community building among white allies on campus. The group sponsored a film screening of "Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible."
- About 100 people gathered on campus October 4th to show [solidarity for victims of anti-gay bullying](#) in response to the suicide of a Rutgers freshman in September. President Ramsey issued a letter of support to the UofL community.
- UofL received a \$2.6 million five-year grant from the Council for Opportunity in Education and GE Foundation to help high-need Shawnee and Moore [high school students prepare for college success](#).

Socially Responsible Investing

- In November, 2010, the Provost convened a university-wide [Committee on Socially Responsible Investing](#) to investigate mission-related investment options for the University and to recommend policies on shareholder advocacy and socially- and environmentally-responsible investment to the UofL Foundation. The committee has consulted with Cambridge Associates to assess our options and the best practices adopted by peer institutions.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

National and International Collaboration

- The Council sent two staff and two student representatives to present information on some of UofL's sustainability initiatives around student engagement and residential life at the [AASHE 2010 Conference](#) in Denver, October 10-12, 2010.
- In July 2010, UofL renewed its membership in the [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education \(AASHE\)](#), allowing for greater collaboration with other campuses and granting everyone at UofL access to valuable resources, discounts to AASHE-sponsored events, and opportunities for professional development and networking.
- This year, UofL joined the [National Council for Science and the Environment \(NCSE\) University Affiliate](#) program. UofL representatives participated in the annual NSCE conference on "Our Changing Oceans" and winter and summer meetings of the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors.

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- *The Council will be sending two staff and two student representatives to present information on UofL sustainability initiatives (transportation alternatives, new employee orientation, the Partnership for a Green City, and Garden Commons) at the [AASHE 2011 Conference](#) in Pittsburgh, October 9-12.*

Local and Statewide Collaboration

- UofL hosted the [Kentucky Campus Sustainability Leadership Workshop](#) on October 22nd with representatives from Bluegrass Community & Technical College, Transylvania University, Murray State University, UofL, University of Kentucky, Northern Kentucky University, Morehead State University, and Jefferson Community & Technical College.
- UofL representatives attended the April 8th Kentucky Campus Sustainability Leaders Workshop at Murray State University.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *UofL is planning to participate in a new statewide competition – the [Big Green Climb](#) – to encourage campus stairwell usage being organized by NKU.*

HUMAN RESOURCES

Sustainability in New Employee Orientations and Trainings

- Every Monday's [New Employee Orientation](#) throughout the year includes a module on sustainability at UofL and the Partnership for a Green City. All new employees are asked to sign the Cards Go Green pledge, committing to at least three actions to reduce their environmental impact as employees.
- Sustainability was incorporated into New Faculty Orientations for the first time in 2010 through handouts explaining the structure of sustainability initiatives at UofL, opportunities for faculty (and their students) to get involved in helping transform campus into a living laboratory of sustainability, the "Cards Go Green!" Pledge, a GreenList, and the Partnership for a Green City pamphlet.
- The Delphi Center's Unit Business Managers training course [University Business Training](#) now contains a sustainability module including practical tips for reducing environmental impact.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *UofL's exemplary approach to weaving sustainability into new employee orientation was selected for presentation at the [AASHE 2011 Conference](#) in Pittsburgh, October 9-12.*

Sustainability-focused Staff

- As the full-time assistant to the provost for sustainability initiatives, [Dr. Justin Mog](#), continued to work closely with the Council to coordinate activities campus-wide and to supervise student assistants.
- The Council hosted a work-study student to assist with organizing public events throughout the academic year.
- The Council hosted a [Social Change intern](#) to explore opportunities for improving the ethical treatment of UofL's research animals.
- The Council and UPDC hosted an Urban & Public Affairs graduate intern to assist in the preparation of UofL's [Bicycle Master Plan](#).
- In March, the Council provided a UofL Sustainability training and campus tour for the Information Center's Campus Ambassadors.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *The Sustainability Council will be hiring its first Graduate Assistant, who will focus on food-related issues, in collaboration with SIGS and Anthropology.*
- *The Sustainability Council plans to provide support to Brian Barnes for his efforts in operating UofL's food waste composting program, developing a university-wide Eco-Reps program, and other sustainability initiatives.*

Health and Wellness

- In November, Business First recognized UofL as the [healthiest employer in Louisville](#) amongst organizations with 5,000 or more employees. Get Healthy Now director Patricia Benson accepted the award at a Nov. 18 luncheon.
- In fall 2010, Get Healthy Now launched the [Green Health Initiative](#), a pilot motivational program to empower employees to track personal health and wellness in four specific categories: nutrition, work-life balance, exercise and a rotating monthly focus.
- On November 18th, UofL officially went [100% smoke-free](#) on all campuses after a year-long phase-out supporting efforts to quit.
- Throughout the year, Campus Health Services ran the [Basic Pantry Program](#) and offered four cooking workshops featuring Chef Jim Whaley at which students had the opportunity to cut, chop, learn, and eat healthier meals featuring fresh, local ingredients.
- The Council participated in the Health & Wellness Committee of the Great Places to Work initiative and collaborated on proposals to increase employee access to fresh, healthy foods and to increase walking, bicycling, and stair usage.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- *The Council has been working with Get Healthy Now and the Mayor's Healthy Hometown Movement to install a signed "Mayor's Mile" route on Belknap campus to promote walking and fitness. The route is pending final approval.*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Sustainability Outreach

- In fall 2010, the Delphi Center added several new [sustainability-related continuing education courses](#) to its Options schedule, including a home efficiency and solar energy workshop, backyard soil management, and edible abundance at home.
- In September, UofL engineers appeared on WAVE-TV's Energy Efficiency Makeover Show, showcasing UofL's reduced energy use.
- On October 2nd, assistant to the provost for sustainability initiatives, Justin Mog's home was one of seven featured on an annual [Louisville Solar Tour](#) organized by the Kentucky Solar Energy Society. A few days later Mog was featured in a front-page article in the Courier-Journal "[Lean and green couple's lifestyle shows how individuals can improve environment.](#)"
- In October, UofL's Center for [Environmental Genomics and Integrative Biology](#) (CEGIB) hosted a community forum on the social and environmental determinants of health at the NIA Center.
- UofL presented sessions with Dr. Keith Mountain and Brent Fryrear at the [Green Convene 2010](#) in November.
- UofL hosted the fifth annual [Kentucky Engagement Conference](#), with faculty and students presenting on research conducted, lessons learned, and achievements or challenges regarding community engagement.
- The Anne Braden Institute published a new [Environmental Justice Research and Action Guide](#) available in print and online.
- The [Kent School of Social Work received a five-year, \\$4.8 million grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to work with 10 community organizations to help teenagers avoid unhealthy relationships and risky behavior.
- In January, the Kentucky [Pollution Prevention Center opened its newly renovated offices](#) on Shelby Campus. President Ramsey and KPPC officials talked to media about how the center used federal stimulus money to help schools and businesses save money and become more energy-efficient. [Video. Photos.](#)
- UofL Sustainability Initiatives were featured in detailed public presentations at monthly meetings of [Louisville Trout Unlimited](#) (October), the Louisville Sustainability Forum (February), and [Green Convene](#) (June).
- On March 12th, UofL hosted the [Kentucky Conservation Committee](#) Annual Conference highlighting Kentucky's Land Stewardship Campaign, the Sustainable Energy Alliance, the Floyds Fork Urban Park, and a Legislative Panel on Environmental Priorities.
- From March 13-15, the Conn Center hosted a Kentucky Statewide Workshop on Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency.
- In April, a new "Green Fund for UofL" was promoted to alumni through direct mailings from the development office.

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- *The Council has been invited to present its sustainability initiatives to the August 2011 meeting of the local [Sierra Club](#) chapter.*
- *In November, the Council will be organizing a UofL Sustainability booth for the ["Sacred Air: Breath of Life" Festival of Faiths](#) at the Henry Clay Building.*

Student Engagement in Sustainability

- On September 11th, GRASS organized student participation in the national day of service with the Olmstead Parks Conservancy.
- On September 28th, UofL's [Environmental Law & Land Use Society](#) student group meet with the national president of Sierra Club.
- GRASS members participated in a Beargrass Creek clean up sponsored by the Beargrass Creek Alliance on October 2nd.
- As a part of Welcome Weekend in August 2010, 37 UofL volunteers with [Student Outreach Uniting Louisville \(SOUL\)](#) performed a total of 92.5 hours of community service (valued at \$1850) in Louisville parks.
- 200 UofL students participated in the [MLK Service Day 2011](#) at 12 sites, including the Americana Center and Olmstead Parks.
- The 2011 [Alternative Spring Break Program](#) featured several sustainability-related sites, including a program with the Black Mountain Community Garden in North Carolina.
- On April 12th, the Sustainability Council helped organize the [Community Engagement Showcase](#) and a follow-up volunteer opportunity to help plant vegetables at Garden Commons.

Environmental Education for Local Schools

- UofL participated in the 2010 [Healthy Foods, Local Farms](#) conference organized by the Sierra Club at Spalding University on September 25th. UofL's Center for Environmental Education and several Council members served on the conference planning committee and the Council supported several learning centers, including one on composting.

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

[Green Threads Faculty Workshops – Sustainability Across the Curriculum](#)

- The nine faculty members in [Green Threads](#) II gathered again in September for a follow-up curriculum development workshop and in April for conversation and assessment.
- A new group of five faculty members from various disciplines came together in April for [Green Threads](#) III to meet participants from previous groups and to begin their own series of workshops on creative means of incorporating sustainability into their courses. Participants received an honorarium of \$500, local food meals, a field trip, training, and resource materials.

Sustainability Courses

- Hundreds of [sustainability-focused and sustainability-related courses](#) are being offered across a wide variety of disciplines and others are under development.
- With the help of the Council, UofL Lifelong Learning is offering several new courses in [Environmental Sustainability](#) including: Composting Workshop, Backyard Soil Management, Beginning Vermiculture, Home Efficiency and Solar Energy Workshop, and Edible Abundance at Home.

Developing Academic Programs in Sustainability

- The Council worked with Institutional Research and the Registrar's Office to revise the Course Inventory File to include course attribute codes indicating whether new or revised courses are sustainability-focused, sustainability-related, or involve student research in sustainability. This process allows for better accounting of what courses UofL already offers in sustainability, planning for areas in which sustainability curriculum development is desirable, easier advising and course selection for students interested in sustainability, and the development of interdisciplinary academic programs in sustainability.

RESEARCH

Sustainability-Related Research

- As part of our first reporting to [STARS](#), the Council prepared an inventory of [sustainability-related research](#) conducted at UofL through a review of published literature.
- UofL received a [\\$2 million gift from E.On](#) to continue research in energy efficiency and conservation through the [Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research](#). The purpose of the center is to provide leadership, research, support, and policy development in renewable energy; advance the goal of renewable energy; and promote technologies, practices and programs that increase efficiency in energy utilization in homes, businesses and public buildings. [Video](#).
- In July 2010, six student teams from the Speed School of Engineering demonstrated projects they designed in the [Renewable Energy Challenges course](#). [Video](#).
- Over the summer of 2010, several UofL engineering graduate students and alumni gained valuable work experience while aiding in the [Gulf oil disaster](#) by helping BP with a high-profile project to sort through ideas to contain and clean oil.
- Public health doctoral student Caroline Chan received a prestigious EPA fellowship to use Kentucky waterways to develop a scientific tool that could help policy makers better protect the environment and the food web from [mercury contamination](#).
- Throughout the year, Justin Mog, assistant to the provost for sustainability initiatives, worked with students in Environmental Communication, Anthropological Research Methods, Smart Solutions For A Sustainable Society, and Land Use Planning classes to involve student research in campus sustainability efforts. He also spoke as part of Chemical Engineering's seminar series.
- This year, UofL's Urban Wildlife Research Lab began trapping [campus wildlife](#) to assess the population density, health, and biodiversity of wildlife on the UofL campus. The Lab also began participating in a national study about what makes students become environmental stewards, investigating [social, situational and environmental attitudes](#).

AWARENESS-RAISING

Public Sustainability Events

- UofL's Center for Sustainable Neighborhoods hosted the Fourth [Ideal City Conference](#) July 22-25 at UofL. Presentations covered housing, foreclosures, bike planning, historic preservation, green building, sustainable neighborhoods, renewable energy, water conservation, community agriculture, community design, downtown development, new urbanism, homelessness, traffic calming, and the right to the city movement.
- UofL hosted the 5th annual [Kentucky Engagement Conference](#) on November 19th. UofL faculty and students presented about research conducted, lessons learned, and achievements or challenges regarding community engagement.
- The fall 2010 [A&S Meet the Professors series](#) featured talks on peace, justice, and ecology, including Russell Vandenbroucke, theater arts; Margaret Carreiro, biology; and Avery Kolers, philosophy.
- The Women 4 Women student chapter organized a Human Trafficking Awareness Week September 6-10, including a conference and film festival.
- On September 17th, UofL's [Urban Design Studio](#) participated in [Park\(ing\) Day](#), an annual, [worldwide event](#) that inspires city dwellers everywhere to transform metered parking spots into temporary parks for the public good.
- On September 27th, the Council sponsored a public lecture on "Connecting energy and carbon literacy with sustainable concepts and environmental education in Chinese Speaking Countries." by Dr. Shun-Mei Wang, President of the Chinese Society for Environmental Education at National Taiwan Normal University; and Dr. Min-Hwang Liang, School of Nature Resources.
- On September 30th, UofL hosted a lecture by Binka Le Breton, author of six books and co-director of the Iracambi Atlantic Rainforest Research Center, on Brazil's struggle for human rights and sustainable development in the context of globalization.
- In October, UofL Libraries hosted the "Visions in Sustainable Architecture" photographic exhibit.
- On October 12th, UofL hosted the first [Discover Louisville Festival Concert](#) designed to introduce UofL students to local businesses.
- In October, the Council hosted a visit and discussion with riders on the [Climate Reality \(Bike!\) Tour](#), a movement-building bike expedition from the U.S. mid-Atlantic, past the Mexican border, and on to the 16th U.N. Climate Summit in Cancún.
- The Muhammad Ali Institute organized [Peace & Justice Weeks](#) from October 18 – November 5 including talks, workshops, and two nationally known guests - Ibrahim Abdul-Matin, an author and environmental policy consultant, and Bernice Reagon, a longtime musical and cultural leader in the civil rights movement.
- The Council organized a full Sustainability Week at UofL Oct. 18-24, 2010 with a Campus Clean-up and campus tree tour on Monday, a [Slow Food on Campus](#) lunch on Tuesday, [Campus Sustainability Day](#) on Wednesday, the [Breaking Bread](#) campus diversity and social justice tour on Thursday, and the [Bluegrass Bioneers 2010](#) conference Friday to Sunday.
- UofL hosted the second annual [Bluegrass Bioneers Conference](#) October 22-24 as a free event combining national [Bioneers](#) plenary speakers via satellite from California with live local and regional speakers, experts, and performances to encourage innovative, creative solutions for a better tomorrow. The Council organized a UofL [Campus Sustainability Walking Tour](#), a panel on Climate Action Planning at UofL, an environmental justice tour of Louisville, and a dumpster dive for recyclables with GRASS.
- The Urban Design Studio organized the 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th public programs in its popular [Sustainable City Series](#), covering topics including Rediscovering Urban Waterways, Health and the Built Environment, Get Involved!, Active Design Workshop, and Ideas About Cities and How They are Shaped.
- In November, UofL organized two lectures in conjunction with the [Festival of Faiths](#). The Law School's Diversity Committee presented "Awakening to Earth's Rights" with Patricia Siemen, attorney and member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters. She is the executive director of the Center for Earth Jurisprudence. The Center for Environmental Policy and Management and the Center for Land Use and Environmental Responsibility presented [Wes Jackson](#), president and founder of The Land Institute, speaking on "Industrialized Farming Policies and Practices," followed by a [Slow Food on Campus](#) free local lunch co-sponsored by Sodexo.
- The Council launched a new Green Careers Speaker Series with the [Green Initiatives committee of the Engage Lead Serve Board](#) that featured a wide variety of professionals working on sustainability and explaining their career paths.
- The Center for Environmental Policy and Management co-sponsored a December 9th presentation by [Mary Love](#), an activist from LaGrange, KY speaking about the devastating effects of mountaintop removal mining on Appalachian lands and communities.
- In conjunction with her keynote talk at the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission's 15th Annual Race and Relations Conference, UofL hosted a talk by [fair-pay activist Lilly Ledbetter](#), whose name is attached to federal gender equity legislation.
- Over a dozen dedicated students were involved in the planning of UofL's third annual [Climate Change Teach-In](#) on March 31st. The action-oriented theme was Climate Justice Super Heroes, and the event featured stations at five outdoor sites around campus designed to motivate, inspire, and provide skills and information related to water, food, transportation, energy, and air. [Photos](#).
- In celebration of Earth Day, the Council put together a set of Earth Week activities to engage and inspire (April 18-22). Events included a [Thoroughbred Rail Link](#) presentation by Ralph Tharp, the [Do Something Reel Film Festival](#), a cooking workshop, Fair Trade Fair, EarthFest!, and Tree Campus USA celebration and Campus Tree Tour.

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- *The Council will be helping organize the Week Without Violence (September 19-27), a vanpool from UofL to the 12th annual [Healthy Foods, Local Farms Conference](#) (October 15), UofL Sustainability Week (October 17-23), the third annual [Bluegrass Bioneers Conference](#) (October 21-23), [Peace & Justice Weeks: A New Conversation around Equality](#) (October 31 – November 11), and the 2012 [Climate Change Teach-In](#) (April 17).*

On-campus Outreach

- On October 18th, the Council launched a comprehensive [UofL Sustainability website](http://louisville.edu/sustainability) at louisville.edu/sustainability. The site features original content about the [Council](#), the [Operations](#) Committee, the [Education & Research](#) Committee, and the [Administration, Finance & Outreach](#) Committee, along with links to videos, photos, and text describing our initiatives for both internal and external audiences. The site also houses a calendar of sustainability-related [events](#) on campus and community service opportunities, [links](#) to related websites in the broader community, ways to [get involved](#) in campus sustainability, and [tips](#) on practical steps individuals can take to improve campus sustainability and reduce personal environmental impact.
- Through UofL Today, the Council publishes a monthly [Green Scene](#) column, highlighting stories written by various members of the UofL community about how they're engaging with sustainability. Some of these columns are reprinted in [GreenList Louisville](#) and some original UofL columns are written for GreenList.
- Physical Plant launched a new [Energy Savings website](#) to explain the cost savings, environmental benefits, and work schedule associated with UofL's energy performance contract with Siemens.
- In 2011, the [REACH](#) (Resources for Academic Achievement) program eliminated disposable cups in the REACH Welcome Center, replacing about 120 paper cups per day with reusable UofL Sustainability travel mugs made in the USA of 100% recycled plastic. The mugs cost students \$1, with all proceeds going to fund sustainability projects at UofL, and are distributed with green tips.
- Two new unit-level sustainability groups were formed this year: The [Law School created a Sustainability Committee](#) of interested students, faculty, and staff; and KPPC organized a new [Shelby Campus Green Team](#) to build awareness around sustainability initiatives, track savings from green initiatives, identify obstacles and opportunities, and serve as a resource to others.

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- New pages will be added to the [UofL Sustainability website](#) to highlight sustainability initiatives around Information Technology, Stormwater Management, Peace & Justice, and Student Housing.*
- The Council is considering the development of an interactive online sustainability tutorial and quiz to be added to the website.*
- The Council is considering the development of a listserv for email distribution of messages and newsletters to those interested in sustainability at UofL.*

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Sustainability in New Student Orientation

- The Council collaborated with Admissions, Campus Health Promotion, and the Office of First-Year Initiatives to expand new student exposure to sustainability issues and practical means to contribute to campus sustainability.
- Several sustainability-oriented events were integrated into Welcome Week 2010 (August 16-22): a transportation alternatives table at International Student Orientation; a Car-Free Lunch Trip to the Gray St. Farmers' Market; several sustainability-related sites were added to the annual Discovery Walk and the [SOUL volunteer event](#).
- The Council published monthly green tips throughout the 2010-11 Mortar Board planners.
- The Council collaborated with a wide variety of campus offices to integrate the 2010 Breaking Bread tour of campus diversity and social justice organizations into UofL Sustainability Week (Oct. 18-24).
- Sustainability initiatives were significantly expanded in 2011 Summer Orientation sessions: training was provided for Orientation student staff (SOSers) on 10 key sustainability points to integrate into evening skits; the UofL Sustainability banner and large photo from Bike To Work Day 2011 were hung in the main gathering space at Strickler; a Sustainability Council ad was published in the Orientation Guide magazine; a campus sustainability clue was added to the "Cardinal Challenge" text message scavenger hunt; campus sustainability posts were added to the [Admissions blog](#); sustainability slides were added to video screen slideshow loops in SAC, Strickler, etc.; UofL Sustainability buttons were made for Orientation staff; reusable UofL Sustainability/Campus Health water bottles (made in USA of 100% recycled materials) were distributed to all new students instead of bottled water; a reusable shoulder bag made with recycled materials was given to all families; and bike maps were included in orientation packets for international students.

FY 2011-2012 Preview

- Welcome Week 2011 will feature an exhibit at Ekstrom on Louisville & the Peace Corps; the highlighting of local businesses/food during the Morning Walk in Old Louisville; a Car-Free Lunch Trip to Gray St. Farmers' Market; sustainability themes woven into the annual Discovery Walk; sustainability-related SOUL volunteer projects (in collaboration with Breaking New Grounds and the Olmstead Parks Conservancy); a UofL Sustainability table at the new UofL Activity Fair; a transportation alternatives info table in the Commuter Student Lounge; monthly green tip ads placed throughout the FRY (First Rate Year) newsletter and Campus Health News, and sustainability events featured in the Welcome Week and Beyond Campus Event Guide.*
- The Council is exploring ways to reach additional groups of new students in 2012 by weaving sustainability into graduate student and GTA orientations, HSC orientations, and GEN 101 A&S orientation courses.*

Student Groups

- The [Garden Commons](#) student group achieved Recognized Student Organization status in August 2010.
- The [Housing Green Committee](#) continued its excellent work of raising awareness amongst students throughout the year. In the spring, a major focus was around UofL's participation in the national [RecycleMania](#) competition.
- [Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions \(GRASS\)](#): A student environmental group whose representatives actively served on the Sustainability Council and co-presented on UofL initiatives at the AASHE 2010 Conference. GRASS organized several community service projects each semester, an environmental film and lecture series, and other awareness-raising campaigns.
- The Sustainable Operations Committee helped initiate a UofL [student LEED group](#) as a chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, and organized student and staff participation in [USGBC's Greenbuild conference](#), Chicago November 17-19.