

# CSUN Institute for SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

## The Mission

*The mission of the Institute is to promote, facilitate, and develop educational, research, university and community programs related to sustainability, serving both the campus as well as the broader San Fernando Valley community.*

Engineering and Computer Science, Health and Human Development, Business and Economics, and Arts, Media, and Communication. The Institute's Advisory Board is comprised of the deans of the colleges, university administrators, faculty, and community, business, and industry partners.

## Partnership Program

The Institute's Corporate Sponsorship Program supports sustainable education and research at CSUN through knowledge exchange between faculty experts, researchers, students, and public



In today's world, "sustainability" is the measure against which we define the size of the footprint we are leaving behind, and it is rapidly becoming the driving force behind economic, environmental, and social change.

CSUN's Institute for Sustainability was established to create a culture of sustainability on campus and to enable the university, long the cultural, economic, and intellectual center of the San Fernando Valley, to serve as a role model of sustainability for the Valley community.

## Innovating Solutions

The Institute's primary activities are carried out by a Core Greening Team made up of faculty members from a variety of disciplines within the colleges of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Science and Mathematics,

and private partners, and offers an opportunity for businesses and community organizations to partner with CSUN in research and development of viable and practical solutions towards a sustainable future in our community.

CSUN is a leader in sustainable energy generation and has almost one megawatt of solar electric installations and a self-installed one megawatt fuel cell plant. Waste heat is captured from the plant to generate hot water for the campus producing a combined energy efficiency of over 80%. The campus generates over 20% of its electricity.



# CSUN Institute for SUSTAINABILITY

## PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

### Working Groups

In its first three years, the Institute has cultivated a number of successful initiatives under its faculty-led Working Groups including:

#### Transportation

- Campus Commuting Survey: analysis with recommendations to reduce costs and carbon footprint
- Bicycle Planning: student engagement in developing a bicycle-friendly campus.

#### Food Garden

- Campus Food Garden: an ongoing project to educate and engage students in sustainable agriculture
- Green Waste: student-led feasibility study in green waste utilization
- Orange Grove Picks: In partnership with Food Forward, pick and donate oranges from CSUN's grove to local food banks

#### Sustainable Living

- Student Housing Assessment: energy and water use analysis of campus housing
- Sustainable Communities: Pacoima Wash Revitalization (with Pacoima Beautiful) and Walkable Streets studies in Pacoima, Arleta, and Sylmar

#### Curriculum

- Developed Minor in Sustainability (Fall 2011)
- Development in progress for a Masters Program in Sustainability Practices

#### Campus Activities

The Institute also sponsors activities and events on campus to build sustainability awareness in students.



### Working Together Towards a Sustainable Future

As one of the region's largest four-year higher education institutions and an academic and economic leader of the San Fernando Valley, Cal State Northridge is uniquely positioned to serve as an educational resource in the field of sustainability, enhance communication and dialogue around sustainability issues, and help promote the adoption of sustainable practices both on campus and in the broader community. We gratefully acknowledge all who support our efforts, and look forward to forging strong links with community stakeholders to continually innovate practical solutions for a viable future.



### Support the Institute

Donations accepted through the  
CSUN Foundation

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and is deeply appreciated.

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