Message from Our Director

It was the morning of our end-of-semester celebration and a day of student presentations about lowering their ecological footprints, an exercise we’ve been doing for over a decade. As Diane and I walked to school, as is our habit of 31 years, I said, “I better put my happy face on.” That can be hard to do these days, what with catastrophic fires, powerful hurricanes, rising temperatures, poverty, hunger, and all the struggle we know about. Turns out, the students gave me tons of reasons to be happy.

Faculty/Staff Highlight

Not many people can say that they were able to represent an entire country at an international summit but, Sustainability Studies Lecturer Eileen Shaughnessy was more than happy to take on that role at a nuclear waste summit held in Narbonne, France. Eileen took some time out of her busy schedule to sit down and answer some questions about her time at the summit. Check out the full interview on our news page.

Student Project Highlight

Jacqueline Smith has used her time in the Sustainability Studies 499 Capstone class to identify an unofficially recognized structure on the UNM North Golf Course. She put together a proposal to
Stay Connected with UNM

If you are an alumni looking to stay active within the UNM community, the UNM Alumni website is a great resource. It offers guidance on finding a career after your time at UNM, it will help put you in touch with other graduates and it will help keep you up to date with a wide variety of events and groups that are open to UNM alumni.

Social Media

Check out and follow the Sustainability Studies Instagram account. Here, we post photos of class field trips, events, scholarship winners and more! During the Spring semester you will also get updates on the exciting vendors who will be coming to our annual Sustainability Expo.

News

Casey Holland has an extensive background in farming as she had been working for Red Tractor Farm. During her interview with the December 2018 issue of the Alibi, she had bigger and brighter ideas in the works. Her ideas would be utilized at Chispas Farms. Chispas is a four-acre plot of land that Casey lives on and has been working tirelessly to create a functional farm.

Alumni Feature

In May 2015, Elizabeth (Betsy) Fulreader earned a self-designed bachelor’s degree in Sustainability and Environmental Restoration through UNM’s Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program. A week later, after attending an environmental career fair, volunteering with environmental groups, she landed
an interview with Talking Talons Youth Leadership (TTYL), and became a Conservation Crew Leader at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. She then became an Environmental Educator, through TTYL, bringing non-releasable wildlife into classrooms to encourage youth to be advocates and stewards for themselves, wildlife, and the environment. In January 2018, Betsy became Program Director for TTYL. She has continued educating K-college students through classroom visits and field trips, emphasizing nature discovery, data collection, and restoration of watersheds, forests, and wildlife. She continues to encourage youth advocacy through program and TTYL’s Youth Advisory Council, where youth are paid a generous stipend to offer their voice on a range of topics.