



SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES PROGRAM

Spring 2019 • Vol.3

Message from Our Director

Let's celebrate State Senator Mimi Stewart for two reasons. First, she was instrumental in funding the Sustainability Studies Program in the beginning. You can thank her if you ever rode in our van on a SUST 134 or 334 field trip to the Earthships or waste water treatment plant. Second, this year she co-sponsored SB 489, Energy Transition Act, signed by the governor, thereby putting New Mexico on track to have 100% renewable energy by 2045. Remarkable!



We can do more. We can advance sustainability by being just a bit better than average. For example, take air travel, with 949,000,000 passenger trips in the US each year. Per person, that gives 2.9 trips per year. Could you take one less air trip this year? Or meat consumption, responsible for 14.5% of global human greenhouse gas emissions. Americans ate 222 pounds of red meat and poultry per person last year, or 0.61 pounds a day. Could you downshift a bit? Many of us enjoy vegan meals without knowing, we just call it food – hummus, whole grains, falafel, baba ghanouj, and salad from 100% locally grown greens. Together, a plant-rich diet and reduced food waste could eliminate 136 billion tons of carbon dioxide – if it were water, it would fill 54,800,000 Olympic-sized pools (see the award-winning project, Drawdown.org).

I'm finishing Andrew Hodge's biography about Alan Turing, architect of the computer in the 1930s. Turing was a mathematician, yet he crossed over to physical reality by building his own machines from scratch. He put his ideas into action. New Mexico's great idea of SB 489 remains 'just a theory' until we act, and we will. I trust your journey along the sustainability path finds you taking action. You really matter.

Featured Faculty - Monica M. Kowal

Lobo Gardens has been a staple at the UNM campus for quite a while now and it's better than ever! Find out more about Monica Kowal who has been instrumental in helping the garden get funding, a full-time staff member and find out what she hopes for the future of Lobo Gardens.

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Featured Alumni - Christina Lucas

Christina Lucas graduated from UNM in 2017 with a BA in Geography and Environmental Studies and a minor in Sustainability Studies. During her studies she completed the Las Huertas Farmer Training program in 2016 and organizing a women's group at Rio Grande Community Farm. Read more about Christina [here](#).



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Upcoming Event - Sustainability Expo 2019

It's that time of the year again! The UNM Sustainability Expo will be held in its usual location of the Cornell Mall just east of the UNM SUB on April 18 from 10:30am until 2:30pm. There will be local farmers, food trucks, crafts, live music, eco life hacks, clothing swap and much more. Mark your calendars because this year won't be one to miss.



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News - "Let's Talk Traditional Agriculture For A New Generation"

It's spring, so planting, sprouting and growing are on the agenda. KUNM looked at how farmers are bringing traditional agricultural practices into their fields. They explore what we can learn from past generations about sustainability and talk about local programs to support this kind of work.



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Job or Internship - Clean Energy Program Staff Attorney

WRA is seeking a Staff Attorney passionate about western communities and protection of the natural environment to represent WRA's Clean Energy Program in New Mexico. For this job posting and many others, check out our Job and Internship [page](#).



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