



UNCG ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT FY21

The following items briefly outline the accomplishments related to sustainability, as facilitated actively, undertaken collaboratively, and reported by the Chancellor's Sustainability Council.

July 1, 2021

INSTITUTIONAL

- UNC Greensboro was again **recognized as one of the nation's most environmentally responsible colleges** by the Princeton Review. The education services company features UNCG in its "Guide to Green Colleges: 2021 Edition." [Read more here.](#)
- UNCG **earned Tree Campus Higher Education® recognition for the 12th year in a row.** To obtain this distinction, UNCG met the five core standards for sustainable campus forestry required by Tree Campus USA, an Arbor Day Foundation program, including establishment of a tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Earth Day observance, and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects. [Read more here.](#)
- UNCG was **recognized for supporting diversity and inclusion** through its relationship with local contractors and businesses, as well as achieving high marks when it comes to campus sustainability and energy use through its design and operations. [Read more here.](#)

OPERATIONAL

- The **UNCG Green Fund has awarded approximately \$387,000 to 60 projects** during its first six years of existence to support sustainability initiatives on campus. Through FY21 9 resource conservation projects have been implemented leading to savings of 277,881 kWh of electricity, 1 million gallons of water, and \$27,386 annually, with an average project return on investment of 7 years.
- In FY21, the **Green Fund Committee awarded over \$74,000** to support the following nine projects:
 - **Sustainability Literacy Survey** - Dr. Etsuko Kinefuchi - \$1000.00 to support incentives for students to participate in the UNCG Sustainability Literacy Survey.



- **LED Exterior Lighting Conversion Phase 3** - Matt Krieger and Jon Soter - \$24,745.00 to convert approximately sixty-seven exterior lighting fixtures to LEDs.
- **UNCG Auditorium LED Lighting Upgrade** - Brigette Pfister and Scott Garrison - \$27,000.00 to upgrade old stage lighting to automated LED lights.
- **Jefferson Suites Hot Water Heater** - Lindsay Burkart - \$1,386.97 to purchase a hot water heater for the Coordinator of Residence Life's apartment in Jefferson Suites.
- **Residence Life Emergency Lighting Upgrade** - Lindsay Burkart - \$3,327.50 to purchase 550 LED bulbs to upgrade the emergency lighting in Reynolds, Grogan, and Cone residence halls.
- **iNaturalist Campus Nature Challenge** - Dr. Shaleen Miller - \$725.00 to purchase prizes as incentives for students to participate in a competition using the iNaturalist app to highlight biodiversity on campus.
- **Modeling Energy Consumption Dashboard Phase 3** - Nana Addai, Danny Turkson, and Dr. Stephen Holland - \$9,720.00 to pay for student labor to continue the development and maintenance of the UNCG Energy Dashboard
- **CHCS Environmental Health Education Initiative** - Dr. Stephen Sills - \$5,781.00 to pay for student labor and to purchase supplies in support of the community outreach and environmental education efforts in Greensboro's Cottage Grove neighborhood.
- **UNCG Plant & Pollinator Center** - Kathy Ly and Dr. Kasie Raymann - \$1,000.00 to pay for gardening supplies to support student research at the UNCG Plant & Pollinator Center.
- The **Office of Sustainability** redesigned the Green Room and Green Office Certification programs using Qualtrics survey management software, which is mobile friendly, and were placed onto the UNCG Mobile App to provide quick and easy access.
 - 47 employees from a dozen different departments received Green Office Certification.
 - 80 students from 21 dorms received Green Room Certification.
- The **Office of Sustainability** developed and conducted a commuter survey of UNCG employees and students. Over 300 students and employees completed the survey. It was developed using Qualtrics and is also available on the UNCG Mobile App.



ACADEMICS

- The **UNCG Sustainability Council** created a Sustainability Literacy Assessment survey. A total of 434 graduate and undergraduate students participated in the SLA, including 177 in fall and 257 in spring.
- The **Sustainability Faculty Fellows** program has named its Fellows for the 2021-22 academic year. The program aims to enhance UNCG's sustainability by encouraging the integration of sustainability in innovative research, teaching, and service around sustainability across the campus. [Read more here.](#)
 - **Dr. Sarah Praskievicz**, Associate Professor (Geography, Environment and Sustainability), studies the environmental aspects of river systems, including impacts of climate change on water resources. will serve a two-year term as Academic Sustainability Coordinator (ASC). As the ASC, she will continue to collaborate with the Office of Sustainability on the Sustainability Lecture & Dialogue Series and work to create a toolkit to help faculty integrate sustainability projects into their teaching.
 - **Dr. Gwen Hunnicutt**, Associate Professor (Sociology), will serve a one-year term to conduct research and community outreach to cultivate a culture of sustainability at UNCG through the process and practice of nonviolence.
 - **Tara Webb**, Lecturer (Costume Technology), will serve a one-year term to coordinate with multiple campus and community stakeholders to offer educational opportunities, including the development of a local dye color pigment map to identify non-native plants, locally foraged resources, and food waste to create low-impact creations without compromising design integrity.
- The **Office of Sustainability** along with **Dr. Etsuko Kinefuchi** created the [UNCG Sustainability Lecture & Dialogue Series](#), which featured UNCG faculty and student researchers addressing issues integral to transforming our knowledge of and connections to the environment in order for us to build vibrant and thriving communities. Topics covered included:
 - The Impact of Human Activity on Urban Bats
 - Animal Ethics
 - Black American Environmental History
 - Climate Justice
 - Urban Stream Syndrome
 - Urban Planning & Social Equity
 - Urban Agriculture & Food Systems
 - Social & Environmental Justice



- Urban Buildings & Energy Use
- Led by **Dr. Nancy Hodges**, the **Bryan School of Business and Economics** organized a [*Sustainability in Business Expo*](#) on Earth Day to highlight the research that was supported by a \$100,000 gift from VF Foundation to create a new virtual collaboratory for sustainable business practices.
- **Dr. Aaron Allen**, Associate Professor of Musicology and Director of the Environment and Sustainability Program, **received the 2018 Ellen Koskoff Edited Volume Prize from the Society for Ethnomusicology** for the book “Current Directions in Ecomusicology: Music, Culture, and Nature.” He shared the award with co-editor and co-author Dr. Kevin Dawe from the University of Kent. [Read more here.](#)