



Greetings, Peacocks. It's November. The clocks have been set back and winter approaches. As the seasons change, it's an appropriate time to consider the role we are playing in the future of our planet.

Dr. William Gutsch, Distinguished Professor of the College of Arts and Sciences and a Saint Peter's alumnus, gave a compelling and timely presentation on campus last month about the pressing need for all of us to be more sustainable if we want to save the planet. Due to competing events, few students were in attendance, which Gutsch noted. But the topic was pressing.

"The entire future life of the planet and all life on it, including us, is at stake," Gutsch said. "It doesn't get any bigger than that." Read more in [an article in "The Saint Peter's Tribune."](#)

The Sustainability Council membership consists of faculty, administrators and students. **We would like to welcome some new students into our active group.** If interested, please contact the founder and chair, Dr. Eileen Poiani at epoiani@saintpeters.edu.

SPU included in The Princeton Review's "Green Colleges" rankings

The [2023 Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges](#) includes Saint Peter's University again! This exciting news is an affirmation of the work we have conducted already to go green on campus, and inspires the Sustainability Council to do even more.



Native Plant Garden on Saint Peter's University campus. Photo by Dr. Katherine S. Wydner, Associate Professor of Biology

Nature photography exhibit at the Fine Arts Gallery

All members of the Saint Peter's community are encouraged to visit the Saint Peter's University Fine Arts Gallery to view **"Nature Photography from All Seven Continents,"** an exhibit by Dr. William Gutsch, Distinguished Professor of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Gutsch is a distinguished Saint Peter's University alumnus and longtime educator, writer and producer. He has served as Chairman of the American Museum - Hayden Planetarium in New York City and has been a science editor for ABC, among many other roles.



Photo Dr. William Gutsch, Distinguished Professor of the College of Arts and Sciences

The goal of the exhibit is “to spread an awareness of, and appreciation for, our planet’s fragile and endangered beauty,” according to a press release.



The photographs will be on display through Dec. 2, with a closing reception that evening from 5 - 7 p.m. The Fine Arts Gallery is located on the 5th floor of the Mac Mahon Student Center.

**More refillable water bottle stations
headed to campus**



You may have seen the refillable water stations located around campus. These wonderful additions, which help reduce the number of plastic bottles that enter the wastestream, can be found in Dinneen Hall, the Mac Mahon Student Center and on the first floor of the RLC, pictured above.

And good news! According to Anna DePaula, Assistant Vice President for Campus Services, more stations are headed to campus. Watch this space for more information when it becomes available.

Save the dates! Two exciting upcoming events

New Jersey State Senator [Bob Smith](#) (D) will be visiting campus on **Wednesday, Nov. 30** from 12 - 2 p.m. Smith is the Chair of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee and in his 20 years in the Senate he has worked on multiple sustainability and environmental focused legislative initiatives. Stay tuned for more information on Smith's visit to campus.

The National Great American Smokeout and the Diet and Vision Symposium, presented by Dr. Laura Twersky, Professor of Biology; the Office of Campus Ministry; the TriBeta Biological Honor Society and the Smoking Cessation Council, will take place in rooms 104 and 106 in Gannon Hall on **Thursday, Nov. 17** at 12 p.m. The symposium is a fundraiser for the [Himalayan Cataract Project](#). There will be food for sale with proceeds going to charity. Each \$25 raised pays for one cataract surgery to restore vision.

What We're Reading

Here are some media recommendations from Council Members:

- [Inside the Global effort to Keep Perfectly Good Food Out of the Dump](#), *The New York Times*
- [N.J. Lawsuit Takes Aim at 5 oil, gas companies for denying climate change exists](#), NJ.com
- [The Overlooked Elections This Year With Big Climate Stakes](#), VOX



Words to inspire action...

“We’ve been given a warning by science and a wake-up call by nature; it is up to us now to heed them.”

-Bill McKibben

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- *Our Vision: The Sustainability Council supports a broad, holistic vision of sustainability, framing our work in pluralism and integrating the right of well-being today to that of future generations.*
 - *Our Mission: The Sustainability Council, composed of a broad representation from the university community, initiates and implements institutional, academic and community programs that identify, inspire and foster sustainable practices and behaviors.*

Your feedback, photos, event notices and story ideas are always welcome. Please email them to Peacock Planet editor Georgia Kral at gkral@saintpeters.edu

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