



Happy Spring, Peacocks. It's the most wonderful time of the year at Saint Peter's: the trees are budding, midterms have passed and people on campus seem to have a bit more pep in their step. Spring is a wonderful moment to pause and consider your place on the planet. We take so much; what can we give back?

The choices we all make when it comes to the environment have a greater effect than is often known. At the Sustainability Council, doing good is always on the agenda. You too? Join us!

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](mailto:epoiani@saintpeters.edu).




*Beautiful pink buds on the trees outside the Mac Mahon Student Center. Photo by Georgia Kral*

# “Good Solutions Solve Multiple Problems”

## Richard J. Jackson, M.D., ‘69 to lecture at SPU

On **Wednesday, March 29**, Dr. Richard J. Jackson, class of ‘69, will deliver a lecture on campus: “Good Solutions Solve Multiple Problems,” in the McIntyre Conference Center. Dr. Jackson graduated from Saint Peter’s in 1969 and has gone on to have a highly successful career at the intersection of medicine, government, education and environmental health.

Dr. Jackson's lecture, “**Good Solutions Solve Multiple Problems**,” will draw on his extensive experience in medicine, biology, biochemistry, public and environmental health.




**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Inaugural Lecture of the**  
**Dr. John J. Williams Endowed Lecture Series**

presents

## Good Solutions Solve Multiple Problems

Wednesday, March 29  
McIntyre Conference Center A and B  
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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**Richard J. Jackson, M.D., ‘69**

Dr. Jackson is professor emeritus at the Fielding School of Public Health at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was department chair in Environmental Health Science. A pediatrician, he has served in many leadership positions with the California Health Department, including the highest as the State Health Officer. For nine years he was director of the CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health and received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award. In October 2011, he was elected to the National Academy of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and since 2019 he has been co-lead of the NAM’s Health and Climate Interest Group.

## On Climate Change and Migration

On **Monday, March 27** the Sustainability Council and the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will be co-sponsoring a presentation, “Climate Refugees,” in conjunction with the Worldwide Teach-In on Climate Justice. This event with the Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese takes place throughout the day. See flier for more information.



# KICK OFF CLIMATE WEEK BY CONSIDERING CLIMATE CHANGE MIGRATION

## MONDAY, MARCH 27

9:00-9:50AM | GANNON 001  
GUEST LECTURE FEATURING **MELISA LAELAN**,  
**DIRECTOR OF THE ARKANSAS COALITION OF  
MARSHALLESE**

12:00-1:00PM | MCINTYRE B  
CAMPUS TALK BY **THE ARKANSAS COALITION  
OF MARSHALLESE** ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
MIGRATION AND DISASTER RISK TO THE PACIFIC  
ISLANDS  
**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

3:00-4:00PM | SOCIAL JUSTICE HOUSE  
MARSHALLESE CULTURAL DEMONSTRATION



These events are sponsored by the Sustainability Council, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, *Unsettled: An Engaged Research and Advocacy Collaboration*, the Environmental Studies Program, and the Social Justice Program.

For more information about the day's events contact [dgerlach@saintpeters.edu](mailto:dgerlach@saintpeters.edu)

For more information about Climate Week programming and the Teach-In on Climate Justice contact [epoiani@saintpeters.edu](mailto:epoiani@saintpeters.edu)

**In Costa Rica, I saw what being sustainable really looks like**



*Organic pineapple is grown at the village of Juanilama in Costa Rica. Photo by Georgia Kral*

By Georgia Kral

Instructor, Communication & Media Culture; Director of Student Media; Peacock Planet Editor

Professor Demillo and I wanted to bring a group of students to Costa Rica to report on sustainability because of the Central American country's "green" reputation. We knew about the push toward eco-tourism. We knew the country was demilitarized and focused more on land conservation than empire building. We knew we'd find beauty. What we didn't know was just how moved we (and our students!) would be to create truly sustainable communities back home in New Jersey.

On the plane ride home we discussed our goals. Convince Aramark to stop buying and serving the conventionally-raised monocrop pineapple! Convince Saint Peter's to install an electric vehicle (EV) charging station!

A great group of Saint Peter's students and alums accompanied us to Costa Rica. Over the course of a week we learned about organic pineapple farming, wildlife conservation efforts and sustainability at our homestay community of Juanilama and permaculture and biodigesting (turning human feces into methane gas to cook with!) at [Rancho Mastatal](#). We rode in a van over mountain roads that were lined with coffee plants, sugarcane and palm trees, depending on where in the country you were. We dipped into the Pacific Ocean as well as mountainous hot springs.

The student's journalism projects will be published before the end of the semester. Stay tuned to all social channels to catch their work!



# Spring eco-friendly tips from your friends at the Sustainability Council

Each season you will receive sustainability tips from members of the Council. Here are your spring tips:

"Now that the weather is warming, hang your clothes out to dry. Recent findings indicate laundry cycles are an important contributor to microplastic pollution. Clothes are less disrupted when hung out to dry, and not to mention, they last longer and it saves energy. - Dr. John Ruppert, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology

"We have *The New York Times* delivered at home. The paper is always delivered in a blue plastic bag, which is perfect for picking up dog poop when walking your dog. We never buy extra plastic bags from the pet store and always reuse the NY Times bags!" - Mary Anne Gallagher-Landi, Instructor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

"Get an electric or hybrid car! Take public transportation as often as possible! - Georgia Kral, Instructor, Department of Communication & Media Culture

## What We're Reading

Here are some media recommendations from Council Members:

- [Longer cars are coming to NJ's Path Trains](#), *NorthJersey.com*
- [Climate Change is Speeding Toward Catastrophe](#), *The New York Times*
- [90% of ice around Antarctica has disappeared in less than a decade](#) (VIDEO), *CNN*

### Words to inspire action...

**"I want you to act as if the house is on fire. Because it is."**

**-Greta Thunberg**

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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](mailto:gkral@saintpeters.edu)

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