



Greetings, Peacocks. While we here at the Sustainability Council are confounded by the lack of snow, we acknowledge that life on campus can be a bit easier without it. And as we approach Spring Break and midterms, we wish you the best of luck!

We are continuing to celebrate 150 years of SPU, and this semester our group is undertaking some new projects with the hopes of engaging the campus community. Currently, we're collecting soft, stretchy plastics for a recycling project that will result in a TREX sustainable bench made of recycled plastics. SAVE (Student Advocates for Valuing the Earth) will advance the project by promoting the plastics collection across the campus. We need to collect 500 pounds of the soft stretchy plastics! Follow us on [Instagram](#) for more information.

Our monthly newsletter will also be shifting to a seasonal schedule as we use other platforms such as social media to spread awareness about sustainability and events.

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.



Esteban Mendez '23, Christopher Jorge '26, Shimul Gupta '23 and Nghia Vo '23 use the refillable water bottle station outside of the Run Baby Run Arena in the Yanitelli Recreational Life Center on campus. Way to go!

And some news! According to Anna DePaula, Assistant Vice President for Campus Services and Facilities, new refillable water bottle stations can now be found in Whelan Hall and the O'Toole Library, and one for McDermott is underway.

Photo by Dr. Eileen Poiani

New: Seasonal sustainable tips from your friends at the Sustainability Council

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

"If you have a fireplace don't dump your ashes into the garbage. Instead add to your compost pile or sprinkle in your gardening beds. Come spring your plants will appreciate the nutrients!"
-Georgia Kral / Instructor, Communication & Media Culture / Director of Student Media

"Seek out recycled clothing!" -Dr. Eileen Poiani, chair of the Sustainability Council (Poiani dons shoes made from plastic bottles from American Eagle, which can be found at DSW and Impo and Kral's plastic-bottle fleece and raincoat can be found [here](#) and [here](#).)

“Instead of turning your thermostat up at home when you're feeling cool, try putting on another layer such as a sweater or sweatshirt.” - Dr. Katherine Wydner / Associate Professor, Biology

“How about not idling your car when you are in an enclosed space like the RLC parking deck? Some drivers idle in order to keep the heat on in their car in the winter or their AC in the warmer weather. Better to go inside and reduce air pollution.” -Dr. Poiani

“Environmental Exuberance” exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery features Dr. Laura Twersky



All members of the Saint Peter’s community are encouraged to visit the Saint Peter’s University Fine Arts Gallery to view “**Environmental Exuberance**,” an exhibit featuring the photographs of Sustainability Council member and professor of biology Dr. Laura Twersky as well as paintings and digital media works by artists Katrina Bello and Peter Delman.

The works on display are intended to encourage engagement with the environmental issues all around us. The press release asks visitors to “leave the mundane world and fill your eyes and imagination with the paintings and photographs of these artists that transform the senses.”

The opening reception is Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 5 - 7 p.m. and the exhibit will be on display through March 24. The Fine Arts Gallery is located on the 5th floor of the Mac Mahon Student Center. For more information, contact Prof. Beatrice M. Mady, Director at fineartsgallery@saintpeters.edu. FREE.

Hydroponics lab takes off!

Under the guidance of Sustainability Council member Dr. Brandy Garrett-Kluthe, more than 50 pounds of leafy lettuces have been grown at the [CURA Hydroponics](#) farm in the Student Center.

With this project (background info can be found in this Dec. 12, 2022 [article in The Saint Peter's Tribune](#)), students are gaining hands-on experience and the greater campus community is benefitting.

Garrett-Kluthe mentioned that just a couple of days ago 13 pounds of greens were delivered to the Campus Kitchen, which was served to about 100 people.

Next up: herbs, spinach and tomatoes.



Save the date!

On **Monday, March 27** at 12 p.m. 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. Location TBD.

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.

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.



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.

What We're Reading

Here are some media recommendations from Council Members:

- [How to Save Money with Energy-Efficient Appliances](#), *The New York Times*
- [Can a Museum Embody Environmental Justice? Visit Storm King](#), *The Guardian*
- [Can Individuals Solve Climate Change? New Federal Cash Makes it More Possible Than Ever](#), *Washington Post*

Words to inspire action...

“We live our comfortable lives in the shadow of a disaster of our own making. That disaster is being brought about by the very things that allow us to live our comfortable lives.”

-David Attenborough in his book “A Life on our Planet”

- *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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