



SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

April 2013

Arbor Day Foundation Names University of Kansas a 2012 Tree Campus USA

The University of Kansas has been recognized as a Tree Campus USA for the first time by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals. Toyota helped launch the program and continues its generous financial support this year.

"We are honored to receive this designation," said Jeff Severin, Center for Sustainability director and chair of the



Campus Tree Advisory Board. "It reflects the hard work of tree board and KU's commitment to preserving and enhancing our campus landscape through projects like Replant Mount Oread."

The University of Kansas achieved the title by meeting Tree Campus USA's five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures toward trees, an Arbor Day observance and student service-learning projects.

"Students are eager to volunteer in their communities and become better stewards of the environment," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Participating in Tree Campus USA sets a fine example for other colleges and

universities, while helping to create a healthier planet for all of us."

"Toyota is so proud to support a program that we believe has a tremendous impact on both reducing the environmental footprint of a college campus and inspiring college students to become the conservation leaders of the future," said Patricia Salas Pineda, group vice president of National Philanthropy and the Toyota USA Foundation.

The Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota have helped campuses throughout the country plant hundreds of thousands of trees, and Tree Campus USA colleges and universities invested \$23 million in campus forest management last year. More information about the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA.

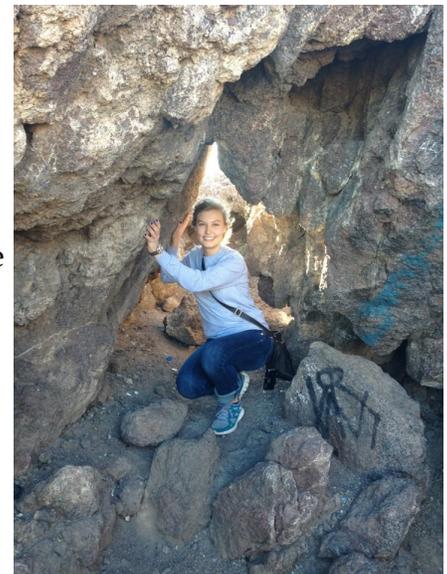
2013 Sustainability Leadership Award Winners

The KU Center for Sustainability announces the 2013 Sustainability Leadership Award recipients. The awards recognize outstanding leadership and creativity in addressing issues of environmental, economic, and social responsibility on the KU campus and the broader community.

Undergraduate Student Award

Gabrielle Murnan, Environmental Studies:

Gabrielle was recognized with the undergraduate student award as an advocate for being aware of how our actions impact the environment. Gabrielle is an Environmental Studies major and participated in KU's alternative break trip to Arizona. In addition, she has carried her passion for the environment into the Dennis E. Rieger Scholarship Hall where she lives. It is here that she proposed the idea of a sustainable garden and has been working with Housing staff to carry out this project. Further, she is an advocate for environmental and social issues at Rieger.



Graduate Student Award

Rachel Myslivy, Religious Studies:



Rachel has been a catalyst for sustainability in her daily life and for the KU and Lawrence communities. She was a founder and chairperson of the Lawrence Community Environmental School charter, a co-founder of the Lawrence Environmental Education Project, an organizer for the Ecoliteracy Book Club in Lawrence, coordinator for the St. John school Green Team, project coordinator for the Journey of the Universe Educational Outreach project, and lecture coordinator for the Marylyn Evelyn Tucker lecture for the *Ecology, Ethics and Community* series. In addition to these efforts, Rachel is an active volunteer for multiple area organizations, further helping to promote sustainable communities. Rachel is currently working toward a Masters in Religious Studies and is the Program Director at the Climate and Energy Project. She is also completing a dissertation about ecologically aware and active nuns in Kansas.



Faculty Award

Dr. Derek Reed, Assistant Professor, Applied & Behavioral Science

Dr. Derek Reed was recognized with the faculty award for his commitment to integrating sustainability into his teaching and his daily life. Dr. Reed has incorporated material on behavioral approaches to facilitating sustainability into an introductory Applied Behavioral Science course, and is the principal investigator for a number of sustainability focused studies. Outside of the University, Dr. Reed has played an active role in Cans for Community, a nonprofit group who uses can recycling to provide financial support to other nonprofits in Douglas County and the surrounding communities. Dr. Reed is a consistent advocate for sustainability.

Staff Award

Mindie Paget, Communications Director, KU School of Law

Mindie has served as Sustainability Ambassador for the KU School of Law since the program was established. She played a key role in developing the Green Office Program, which recognizes campus departments and offices that are making an effort to reduce environmental impacts and create a more sustainable workplace. Mindie is a champion for sustainability as she encourages the faculty, staff, and students in her department with a balance that makes them want to join in. Mindie played an integral part in the Lights Out campaign, and took it upon herself to personally inspire and remind her peers to help out.



Congratulations to our new 2013 Green Offices!



The Green Office program recognizes campus departments that are creating a more sustainable work environment at KU by cutting energy consumption, reducing waste and making environmentally preferable purchases. Green offices for 2013 are:

- Alternative Breaks
- Department of Urban Planning
- Facilities Services, Zone 1 Maintenance

Project Award

KU Alternative Breaks

For nearly 20 years, KU Alternative Breaks has been facilitating local and national volunteer experiences, partnering with organizations such as The National Park Service, Cumberland Trail Conference, and Catalina Island Environmental

Leadership Program, and local organizations such as Maggie's Farm, KU Field Station, and recycling activists at Bridging the Gap KC. Alternative Break trips give students the opportunity to gain extensive knowledge of environmental issues while working with professionals in the classroom and in the field. Nearly 100 students have participated in the 13 sustainability focused trips, helping to cultivate students' perception of environmental and social issues while making an impact on the communities they serve.



Social Justice Award

United Students Against Sweatshops

United Students Against Sweatshops is a student organization focusing on human rights and economic justice, both on college campuses and globally. They are being recognized for raising awareness of the ethical issues behind much of the apparel bearing the Jayhawk logo, and for working to bring a significant amount of apparel from Alta Gracia, a factory that respects workers' rights, into the KU community. Through this venture, United Students Against Sweatshops and Alta Gracia bring a positive change to the KU Community.



Student Organization Award

KU Environmental Law Society

The KU Environmental Law Society is a student group founded to gather KU Law Students interested in environmentalism to learn about the practice of environmental law, to network with practicing environmental law attorneys and other professionals in related fields, and to contribute to the community through service projects that benefit the environment. Since reinitiating in the 2011-2012 school year, KU Environmental Law Society has hosted two career options panels and several



lectures from leading environmental professionals. Outside of the campus community, the Environmental Law Society officers have visited Lawrence High School to speak with the environmental studies class about opportunities for environmental work in law. Further, the group has played an integral role in Replant Mount Oread and KU's recognition as a Tree Campus USA.

Greek House Award

Sigma Phi Epsilon

In the past year Sigma Phi Epsilon has made great strides in reducing their environmental impact and promoting sustainability. Included in these efforts, they have instituted a house-wide recycling program and have stopped purchasing Styrofoam products, now using BPA-free, reusable plastic containers. They have also implemented a "Lights Off!" campaign, encouraging members to turn off all lights and appliances when they leave a room, and plan to conduct an energy audit to analyze the effectiveness of this program. In addition, Sigma Phi Epsilon has taken environmental consideration in every facility upgrade made, replacing showerheads with "EcoPower" faucets, replacing windows with Low-e windows, and switching incandescent light bulbs for more efficient LED bulbs. Further, during a recent renovation, members elected to install a water bottle refilling station in their upstairs hallway, currently saving the equivalent of 8,376 plastic bottles.



Live Sustainably

Upcoming Campus and Community Events

4/22

Sustainability Leadership Award and Green Office Recognition Event

3:30 PM

Big 12 Room, Kansas Union

4/23

Film: "Tapped"

7:00 PM

Liberty Hall

4/23

The Environment and Energy: The Role of Free Enterprise and Government

7:30 PM

Dole Institute of Politics

4/25

KU Energy Conference

8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Oread Hotel

4/25

Earth Day Lecture: Dr. David Orr

7:30 AM

Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union

4/26

Spring Cleaning and Office Supply Swap

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Centennial Room, Kansas Union

4/27

Shred-It Saturday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Shenk Sports Complex, Park & Ride Lot 301, NW Corner of Iowa St. and Clinton Pkwy

5/1

Replant Mount Oread

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Fraser Hall East Lawn

5/4

Electronic Recycling Event

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Free State High School Parking Lot

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 West Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS 66045, (785) 864-6414, 711 TTY.

Join Us

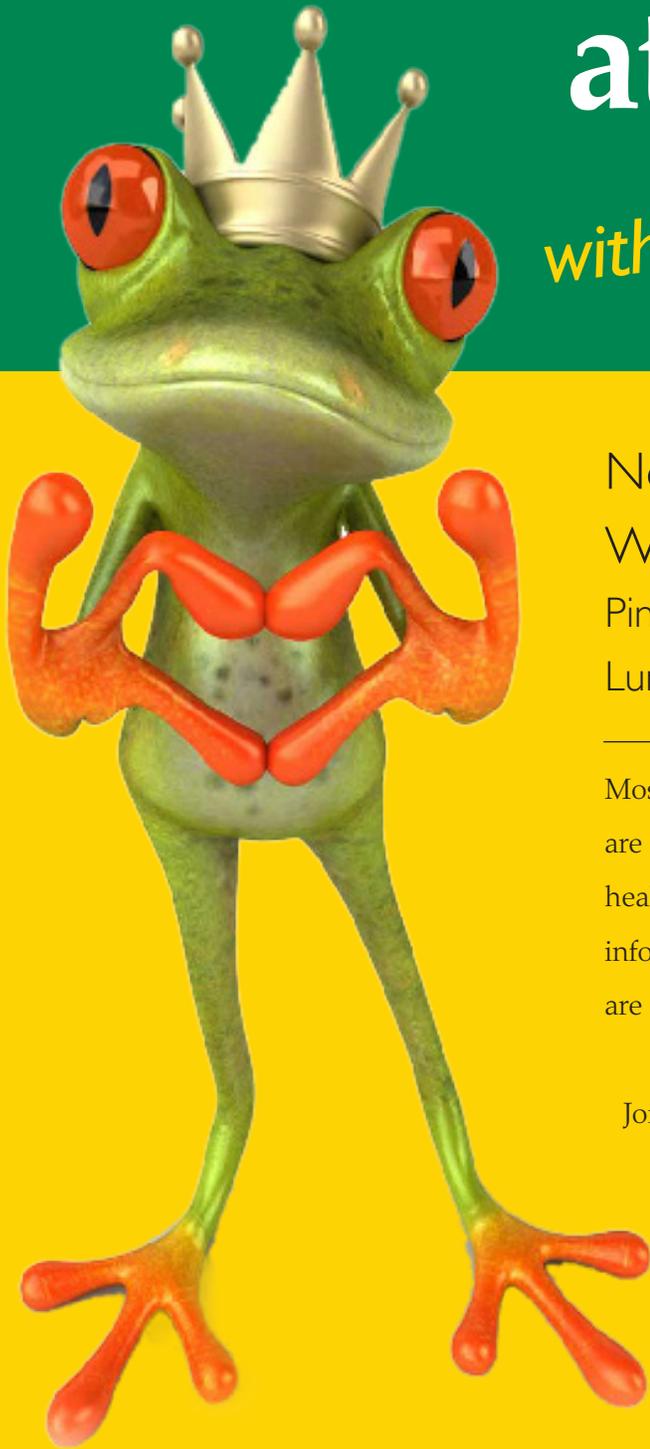
For more information about sustainability at KU, visit www.sustainability.ku.edu like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KUSustainability, or follow us on Twitter [@SustainKU](https://twitter.com/SustainKU).

Contribute

Is your department or organization contributing to a more sustainable KU? We'd love to hear about it and include your efforts in our next issue of the Spotlight! Send submissions to sustainability@ku.edu.

Cleaning Green at Home

with the King of Green



Noon – 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24

Pine Room, Kansas Union

Lunch & Learn (free) • *Refreshments Provided*

Most household cleaning products use harsh chemicals that are bad for the environment and can be bad for your family's health. Gary Walker, "**The King of Green**," will share information on green cleaning techniques and products that are healthier for you, your family and the environment.

Join Gary Walker on April 24 to learn how you can clean your home with natural, less toxic products and techniques.

Refreshments will be provided, and you can enter to win one of several door prizes, including a \$25 gift certificate to Free State Brewery.

KU & Lawrence



earth day

2013 ANNUAL SPEAKER

DAVID ORR



Finding the Political Will

Reverse Climate Change

Acknowledging the trend of record-breaking temperatures and extensive drought, Dr. Orr will address the urgency of our situation with thoughtful insights into the nature of humanity at the end of the cheap carbon age. Finding the Political Will to Reverse Climate Change will give constructive ideas on motivating entire communities to build resiliency and political will.

Dr. Orr is the Paul Sears Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics at Oberlin College. He is the author of seven books, including *Down to the Wire: Confronting Climate Collapse*, and nearly 200 articles and professional publications. Recent projects include a two year \$1.2 million collaborative project to define a 100 days climate action plan for the Obama administration (climateactionproject.com). He is presently the Executive Director of the Oberlin Project, which is focused on making the City of Oberlin a model of full-spectrum sustainability.

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

THURSDAY, APRIL 25 | 7:30 PM

KANSAS UNION – WOODRUFF AUDITORIUM

sponsored by: KU Environs, KU Environmental Studies Program, KU Student Senate, KU School of Architecture and Urban Planning, KU Climate Change IGERT Program, & the KU Center for Sustainability

