**Greater Portland Regional Center of Expertise**

**on Education for Sustainable Development**

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*Welcome to our May RCE Newsletter!  We are so grateful for all of the efforts that are being made to create tools and resources for sustainability educators and supporters in the region to communicate and collaborate with each other.*  *Check out the details below for news, events, and workshops.*

RCE News  
  
The RCE application team is working diligently on the first draft of our United Nations University Regional Center of Expertise application, to create an RCE for the Greater Portland region. Our vision is to support collaborative ESD efforts and we welcome input from stakeholders throughout the region.

*There are many ways to get involved:*

* Check out our new [webpage](http://www.pcc.edu/about/sustainability/regional-center-expertise/) and suggest content.
* Add your name to our [sustainability database](https://docs.google.com/a/pcc.edu/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AiF_i1w2lraBdHFYeV9jS0Q0TlJyUjBwdHdxUzRWM1E#gid=0)to be added to the GIS map of stakeholders in the region.
* Join our [listserv](https://www.lists.pdx.edu/lists/listinfo/un-rce-esd) to share and learn about sustainability education initiatives, events, and opportunities to collaborate.
* Be part of the process to help develop the RCE application. The first draft is due June 3 and revisions will be made throughout the summer.

Did you know that the [University of Portland was chosen as the area’s greenest college](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/04/university_of_portland_is_area.html)? Lots of colleges in the region are doing great work, so perhaps a little healthy competition can spur us on.

Plus, SE Portland’s [Lewis School received an Oregon Sustainable School Award](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/05/lewis_school_named_co-winner_i.html) from the Oregon Department of Education as a winner of its Healthy, Safe Students and Staff distinction. The awards will be presented June 25 at the Sustainable Schools - Sustainable Solutions Conference held at West Linn’s Trillium Creek Primary School.

And don’t forget our upcoming Stakeholders Meeting on:

**Friday, May 24**

**10:00am-12:00pm**

**Wayne Morse Suite**

**University of Oregon in Portland**

**White Stag Block**

**70 NW Couch Street**

***To be followed by an optional lunch hour for socializing and networking.***

Topics will include:

* A presentation of the new GIS map of sustainability organizations in the Greater Portland and Willamette Valley region.
* A discussion on how can we model the change we wish to see, as we move the collaborative network into the future. Consider the benefits that members would want from engaging in the RCE
* Social time for networking
* A call-out for letters of support for the RCE application

Events

**Sustainability in Higher Education Community of Practice Conference Call**  
**“Lessons Learned in Student Engagement: Models, Timelines, and Opportunities”**

Tuesday, May 21  
12:00 to 1:00pm

Dail-In Number:  [641.715.3300](tel:641.715.3300)  
Access Code: 114549#  
  
Featuring Louisa de Heer and Amber Lemiere. Amber is in her first year as a Sustainability Manager and understands the value of mentorship and creating a network for herself as an emerging sustainability professional.  Louisa, a Sustainability Coordinator since 2010, has agreed to share her experience with everyone. Join us for a structured Q&A then we will open the conversation for anyone who has questions and would like to share their own lessons learned.

*Louisa de Heer is the first Student Sustainability Coordinator for the University of Oregon. After receiving her BA from UC Santa Barbara in Global Studies: socio-economics and politics, she went on to work in professional non-profit management in Washington DC, then spent a year studying permaculture design, gardening, and green building in an eco-community in Southern Oregon. After working with another farm project in Puerto Rico, Louisa attended graduate school at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Her MSc thesis project, entitled “Sustainability in Communities: Conditions and Strategies for a New Planning Paradigm” focused on integrated community sustainability planning in Oregon.  Since joining the University, Louisa has focused on supporting student collaboration, education, and activism around resilience and change agentry.*

*Amber M Lemiere serves as the Sustainability Manager for Lower Columbia College, a new part time position that was created in January of 2013 to support the college’s growing interest in sustainability. She also works as an adjunct English instructor, and co-advises the student sustainability club. She has a Master of Arts in Rhetoric and the Teaching of Writing from Northern Arizona University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences from Washington State University.*

**Portland State University’s Social Sustainability Colloquium**

Fridays

2-4pm

ASRC (Rec Center Building), Room location varies  
1800 SW 6th Avenue

**These weekly Colloquiums host a variety of speakers and topics related to social sustainability. Be sure to check out their** [**weekly topics**](http://www.pdx.edu/event/social-sustainability-colloquium-3?delta=4) **for details.**

**Sharing Solutions: The Fourth Annual Student Sustainability Film Festival**

Friday, May 24

7:00pm-9:00pm

The Hollywood Theatre

4122 NE Sandy Blvd

Portland, OR 97212

Free and open to the public

This free film festival screening is sponsored by the [Media Institute for Social Change](http://www.mediamakingchange.org). Films were submitted nationally, from students enrolled in high school, college and graduate school. The short films (less than 8 minutes) outline innovative projects that schools, individuals or communities are implementing to advance sustainability. For questions, contact Heather@mediamakingchange.org.

**Film Screening: Girl Rising**

Tuesday, May 28

7:30 pm

Clinton St. Theater

2522 SE Clinton St

Portland, OR 97202

Check out this powerful, ground-breaking film about nine girls in nine countries. The film showcases the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world. Change a girl – change the world. [**http://girlrising.com/see-the-film/**](http://girlrising.com/see-the-film/)

**World Environment Day(s)**

The United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office of North America has selected the City of Portland to host this year’s World Environment Day (WED) on June 5, 2013. This “day” has become a multi-week event, bridging Earth Week and World Environment Day, with activities and celebrations across the region sponsored by different organizations and sectors of our community. The worldwide theme this year is [Reduce Your Foodprint](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/wed/article/434951). For further details on the various events being hosted by UNEP and the Rose Festival, please go to [www.portlandoregon.gov/WED](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/WED).

**COME AND HELP SHAPE OUR LOCAL FOOD MOVEMENT!**

Saturday, June 22

9:30am-12:30pm

Location TBA

You are invited to a meeting of active food system stakeholders that share our vision of food equity, to identify specific barriers we can address immediately, and to take action. Please RSVP no later than May 22nd to: [portlandfoodforum@gmail.com](mailto:portlandfoodforum@gmail.com). Following your response, we will contact you with additional meeting logistics.

Background: The Portland/Multnomah Food Policy Council was dissolved in September 2012 after 10 years of operation. During the summer and fall of 2012, Food Policy Council members participated in a process to reconsider and reinvent a new food council. Our input was complemented by former FPC members and other interested individuals. As a result of this process, we collectively developed the following vision and mission:

Vision: All people have, as a basic right, reasonable access to a complete diet of nourishing, flavorful, culturally appropriate food that is sustainably produced, distributed, prepared, served, and recycled.

Mission: The food council will work to engage all members of the community to identify and remove barriers to achieving our vision in the Portland region. This will include stakeholders of the food system outside the metropolitan area that are crucial to realizing our vision within it.

Resources

Garden Nutrition Curriculum

<http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/Resources/gardendetective.html>

Workshops and Conferences  
  
**University of Oregon’s Sustainability Leadership Program**

The UO Sustainability Leadership Program offers professional development education on sustainability practices. The program is designed to provide participants with the capacity to position themselves or their organizations effectively as leaders in the field, and to anticipate and adapt to future challenges.

<http://sustain.uoregon.edu/workshops/schedule.php>

**Science & Technology for Sustainability Program of the National Academies Workshop**

May 28-29, 2013

[EcoTrust Natural Capital Center](http://www.ecotrust.org/events/conference_center.html)

[721 9th Avenue, Portland, OR](https://maps.google.com/maps?q=Ecotrust,+721+NW+9th+Ave+%23200,+Portland,+OR&hl=en&ll=45.527141,-122.679605&spn=0.012191,0.01929&sll=38.893596,-77.014576&sspn=0.433416,0.617294&oq=ecotrust&t=h&hq=Ecotrust,+721+NW+9th+Ave+%23200,+Portland,+OR&radius=15000&z=16)

For more than 40 years, the City of Portland and the Portland Metropolitan Region have been national leaders in urban policies and investments intended to revitalize the central city and adjacent neighborhoods, preserve the environment, improve equity, and make the city more economically competitive and livable. The “Portland brand” has been both emulated as path breaking and discounted as overly idiosyncratic. Among the elements contributing to Portland’s success have been strong public-private partnerships, a culture of planning, and a willingness to implement diverse ideas generated by academics, consultants, companies, and government agencies. Regionally, Portland has benefited from its location in the middle of the progressive Cascadia Corridor, stretching from Vancouver BC to San Francisco.

Against this vibrant backdrop, the National Academies will host a workshop, using examples from Portland and the Northwest US/SW Canada region to explore critical questions about the future of urban sustainability. The workshop will feature sessions about the region and how governments, academia, the private sector, and foundations have played a role in Portland’s development. An [agenda](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/portlandurban/PGA_082327) detailing the sessions and speakers has been posted on our website. We ask that potential participants please [register](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/portlandurban/index.htm) in advance of the workshop.

**Nature. Health. Ecology: A Forum on Well-Being and the Environment**

Saturday, June 1st

11am-4pm

NCNM Ross Island Campus

049 SW Porter

(West side of the Ross Island Bridge)

The event will feature tabling opportunities and speakers that focus on sustainable well-being in a healthy environment.  W**e would like YOU to participate!**

* Speak about your organization’s mission (15-to-60 minute presentation times available)
* Share your organization's information via tabling
* Cross promote your interests with like-minded groups
* Contribute to the Portland community's interest in linking environment and health

**This event is entirely free – there is no charge to speak, to table or to attend**.  We are simply looking to provide a forum where people can explore the important relationships that exist between their health and the world around them.    All topics or organizations related to environment and health/well-being will be considered.   Opportunities are limited.

If you would like offer a talk or table at this event, please submit your topic and speaker information to Dr. Orna Izakson, Traditional Roots Institute Lead Physician, at [503-552-1551](tel:503-552-1551) or [oizakson@ncnm.edu](mailto:orna@ncnm.edu).

**Sustainable Schools— Sustainable Solutions Conference**  
  
Tuesday, June 25, 2013

West Linn, Oregon  
  
For details and to register, go to <http://www.sustainableschools.org/our-services/2013-conference>.  
If you have questions, contact Lori Stole, with the Sustainable Schools Collaborative, at [lstole@sustainableschools.org](mailto:lstole@sustainableschools.org) or [503.307.4067](tel:503.307.4067).

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*Do you have sustainability education events, news, funding opportunities or ideas for collaborating that you would like to share with others in the network?  Send them to*[*kdsmith@pcc.edu*](mailto:kdsmith@pcc.edu)*.*