

“Greening The Commons,” *Commons Seminar*
Vanderbilt University
Spring 2016
Anthropology 1001.1 [ANTH 1001.01]

Organizations, offices, and initiatives at Vanderbilt that focus on sustainability, environmentalism, or greening

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Name of Org./Initiative: Alternative Energy Club (currently non-active)
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/alternativeenergyclub/about>
Group Objective(s): “educating its members and the local community about alternative energy sources and their benefits”
Contact Person(s): none listed on anchorlink
Type of Org.: Student
Submitted By: Karin, Emily

Name of Org.: Alternative Spring Break, Animals and the Environment
URL: <http://www.vandyasb.org/#!animals--environment/cihyl>
Group Objective(s): To provide students with a way to contribute to a project over spring break. Link goes to programs categorized specifically with the environment.
Contact Person(s): various
Type of Org.: Student
Submitted By: Karin

Name of Organization/Initiative: Commons Energy Competition
URL: <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/2011/09/a-sustainable-vanderbilt/>
Group Objective: To save energy costs on the Commons
Contact Person(s):
Type of Organization: Student
Submitted By: Justin

Name of Org./Initiative: Eco-Dores Peer Residential Education Program
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/eco-dores>
Group's Objective(s): encourage environmental education, mentor students to live in a more environmentally sustainable way
Contact Person(s): Andrea George- andrea.george@vanderbilt.edu
Type of Org.: student organization
Submitted By: Rachel, Javan, Karin, Justin, Emily, Cameron, Anthony, Alex

Name of Org./Initiative: Environmental Law Society
Group's Objective: Teach future lawyers more about environmental policy and laws, and prepare them for careers in environmentalism.
Contact Person: Andrew Sweet (andrew.m.sweet@vanderbilt.edu)
Type of Org.: Student
Submitted By: Javan, Emily

Name: Fly Fishing Club
URL: None yet
Objective of group: This club is not yet created, but it is in the works. I am a founding member, along with multiple older SAE Brothers. The Club will stress conservation and try to instill a passion for fly fishing and the environment among Vanderbilt students.

Contact Info: Alex O'Shaughnessey: alexander.d.oshaughnessey@vanderbilt.edu and 678-662-4336
Type: Student
Submitted By: Alex

Name of Org./Initiative: Grassroots
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/grassroots/about>
Group's Objective(s): To find sustainable solutions to Nashville's food deficiency and establish solidarity between Vanderbilt and impoverished neighbors
Contact Person(s): Nichole Smith
Type of Org.: Student
Submitted By: Emily, Anthony

Name of Org./Initiative: Mayfield 1
URL: N/A
Group's Objective(s): Focus is on gardening. Has hosted a seed drive where they handed out plant-growing kits to people.
Contact Person(s): William Cummings
Type of Org.: Student
Submitted By: Cameron

Name of Org: Nutrition of Kids
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/NutritionForKids>
Group's Objective: An initiative to explain the importance of nutrition and choosing healthy options to improve self-diets.
Contact Person: Amelia Drumm
amelia.h.drumm@vanderbilt.edu
Type of Org: Student
Submitted By: Elizabeth

Name: ORBIS
URL: <http://vanderbiltorbis.com/>, <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/orbis>
Objectives: Publishes two issues a semester on environmental concerns relating to Vanderbilt and Nashville.
Contact: Alisha Newton <alisha.k.newton@vanderbilt.edu>
Type: Student
Submitted By: Ethan, Rachel, Karin, Emily

Name of Org./Initiative: Residential and Environmental Affairs Committee (VSG)
URL: <http://vandystudentgov.squarespace.com/committees-1/2015/9/28/residential-and-environmental-affairs>
Group's Objective(s): improving Vanderbilt residential community and environmental sustainability; current initiatives include expanding Green Fund, and recycling and composting on campus
Contact Person(s): Jacob Graham- jacob.j.graham@vanderbilt.edu
Type of Org.: student organization- student government
Submitted By: Rachel, Madeline, Karin

Name: Safe and Secure: Student Advocates for Food Equality and Security
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/safeandsecure>
Objectives: To alleviate issues of food insecurity and hunger in Nashville. Service will include off-campus volunteer work through projects initiated by Nashville area organizations and businesses. Second, service will also include on-campus initiatives to provide for the Nashville community.
Contact: Darshi Edirisooriya <darshi.w.edirisooriya@vanderbilt.edu>
Type: Student
Submitted By: Ethan, Elizabeth

Name: SPEAR (Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility)
URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/SPEAR>
Objectives: To increase environmental awareness and promote more sustainable habits and infrastructure

within Vanderbilt and Nashville.

Contact: Alice Contopoulos <alice.e.contopoulos@vanderbilt.edu>

Type: Student

Submitted By: Ethan, Rachel, Madeline, Javan, Karin, Justin, Emily, Cameron, Anthony, Alex

Name of Org: SustainVU

URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/sustainvu>

Group's Objective: To initiate, promote, coordinate, evaluate and encourage environmental management and sustainability initiatives

Contact Person: Andrea George, andrea.george@Vanderbilt.Edu

Type of Org: Student

Submitted By: Elizabeth, Javan, Karin, Justin, Cameron, Anthony, Alex

Name of Initiative: Undergraduate Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies

URL: <https://my.vanderbilt.edu/environmental/>

Group Objective(s): Developing courses for a minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Contact Person(s): David Hess

Type of Initiative: Academic

Submitted By: Karin, Emily

Name of Initiative: Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative

URL: <http://ejournals.library.vanderbilt.edu/index.php/vurj/article/view/2770>

<http://dorediesel.blogspot.com>

Group Objective(s): "to create a self-sufficient, sustainable, student run biodiesel production system at Vanderbilt University"

Contact Person(s): Amelia Greenhall (not at VU anymore, according to blog profile), Stacey Last-name-unlisted on blog

Type of Initiative: Student (?), Research

Submitted By: Karin

Name of Org./Initiative: Vanderbilt Educational Garden Initiative

URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/VEGI>

Group's Objective(s): to promote healthy lifestyles through sustainable community gardens

Contact Person(s): Ashlee Hurff

Type of Org.: Vanderbilt med school students

Submitted By: Emily

Name: Vanderbilt Food Justice (Vanderbilt Garden Initiative)

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/VanderbiltGardenInitiative/>,
<https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/VandyGardenInitiative>

Objectives: To improve access to healthy food in Nashville neighborhoods, to promote the virtues of community gardening, and to fight for the rights of workers in the food industry.

Contact: Tristan Abbott <philip.t.abbott@vanderbilt.edu>, vandy.garden.initiative@gmail.com

Type: Student

Submitted By: Ethan, Rachel, Elizabeth, Madeline, Karin, Emily, Anthony

Name: Vanderbilt Green Fund

URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/greenfund>

Objectives: Contributes thousands of dollars to improve sustainability on campus with student ideas, provide funding for sustainability projects proposed by students

Contact: Jacob Graham <jacob.j.graham@vanderbilt.edu>

Type: Student, institutionally supported

Submitted By: Ethan, Rachel, Karin, Emily, Anthony, Alex

Name: Vanderbilt Initiative for Vegetarian Awareness (VIVA)

URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/vanderbiltinitiativeforvegetarianawareness>

Objectives: Advocates for the adoption of vegetarian/vegan diets, with interest in how doing so improves the natural environment, and to educate Vanderbilt about the issues related to meat consumption.

Contact: Julie Hornsby <julita.hornsby@vanderbilt.edu>

Type: Student

Submitted By: Ethan, Madeline

Name of Org./Initiative: Vandy FreeSwap

URL: <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/resources/vandy-freeswap/>

Group's Objective(s): to allow students, faculty, and staff to give away unwanted things without creating unnecessary waste

Contact Person(s): (website is currently not working, I wonder if it is out of use...)

Type of Org.: Institution-wide

Submitted By: Emily

Name of Org: Wells Project

URL: <https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/TheWellsProject>

Group's Objective: The Wells Project exists to engage the local campus and community with the reality of the water crisis.

Contact Person: Harrison Nam

harrison.j.nam@Vanderbilt.Edu

Type of Org: Student

Submitted By: Elizabeth

Name of Org./Initiative: Wilskills

URL: <http://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/wilskills/>

Group's Objective(s): to get out in and appreciate nature's beauty through activities like climbing, hiking, paddling, and caving (also performs recycling)

Contact Person(s): Zephyr Zink, (610) 731-5348

Type of Org.: Student

Submitted By: Emily, Alex

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FACULTY ORGANIZATIONS

Name of Org./Initiative: Biological Sciences Greenhouse

URL: <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/vumcpub/index.html?articleID=154>

Group’s Objective(s): protect rare plants that are losing their habitats and educate people about these plants

Contact Person(s): Jonathan Ertelt

Type of Org.: faculty

Submitted By: Emily

Name of Org.: Climate Change Research Network

URL: <http://law.vanderbilt.edu/academics/academic-programs/environmental-law/climate-change-network/>

Group Objective(s): Faculty and graduate students who conduct theoretical and applied research on greenhouse gases in individual and household behavior.

Contact Person(s): Michael Vandenberg (Director)

Type of Org.: Vanderbilt Law School

Submitted By: Karin

Name of Org./Initiative: Cumberland Project

URL: <https://wpo.its.vanderbilt.edu/cumberland/>

Group’s Objective(s): “to create a campus-wide conversation that endeavored to deepen understandings of and commitments to sustainability” (2011-2013)

Contact Person(s): N/A

Type of Org.: Faculty

Submitted By: Emily

Name of Org./Initiative: Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

URL: <http://www.safety.vanderbilt.edu/committees/env.php>

Group’s Objective(s): oversight committee of Vanderbilt Environmental Health and Safety; advises university administration in creating a comprehensive environmental management program for Vanderbilt

Contact Person(s): Andrea George- andrea.george@vanderbilt.edu

Type of Org.: faculty organization

Submitted By: Rachel

Name: Eos Project

URL: <http://eosprojectvu.org/>

Objectives: Wishes to increase amount and quality of attention paid to the environment on campus. Organizes environmentalist efforts and fosters social activism in that realm. (I realize that you are on the Eos Board, PBarz)

Contact: Beth A. Conklin <beth.a.conklin@vanderbilt.edu>, Anna Guengerich <615-343-6120>

Type: Faculty

Submitted By: Ethan, Karin, Emily

Name of Org./Initiative: Energy, Environment, and Land Use Program

URL: <http://law.vanderbilt.edu/academics/academic-programs/environmental-law/>

Group's Objective: Vanderbilt Law School provides financial support to students who work in the summer for non-profit organizations dedicated to land conservation, environmental regulation and other focus areas.

Contact Person:

Type of Org: Faculty

Submitted By: Javan

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INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Name of Org./Initiative: Eat the World, Save the Earth- Campus Dining

URL: <http://campusdining.vanderbilt.edu/about/eat-the-world-save-the-earth/>

Group’s Objective(s): provide information how their kitchen principles affect the environment, community, and the well-being of their guests

Contact Person(s): Camp Howard (Director)- camp.howard@vanderbilt.edu; dining@vanderbilt.edu

Type of Org.: institutional organization

Name of Org./Initiative: EnergyVU

URL: <https://my.vanderbilt.edu/youngbjd/>

Group’s Objective(s): promote energy awareness, accountability, and conservation at Vanderbilt

Contact Person(s): energyVU@vanderbilt.edu

Type of Org.: institutional organization

Submitted By: Rachel, Javan, Justin

Name: Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) (subset of SEMO)

URL: <http://www.safety.vanderbilt.edu/committees/env.php>

Objective: To advise the Vice-Chancellor of Administration on environmental management and to oversee environmental sustainability programs

Contact: Dr. James Clarke

Type of Org.: Institutional/Faculty

Submitted By: Madeline

Name of Initiative: Green roofs

URL: <https://wpo.its.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/what-we-do/green-building/land-use/>

Group Objective(s): Structures around campus (Nursing Annex, Math Building Plaza, Medical Center Courtyard) that have vegetation on their roofs.

Contact Person(s): n/a

Type of Org.: Institutional/Faculty

Submitted By: Karin

Name of Initiative: Greening Commencement

URL: <http://news.vanderbilt.edu/2010/05/vanderbilt-university-adds-more-green-elements-to-commencement-115357/>

Group Objective(s): To make the commencement ceremony more earth-friendly (e.g. green printing, reducing waste, greater recycling efforts, etc.)

Contact Person(s): Andrea George

Type of Initiative: Institutional

Submitted By: Karin

Name of Initiative: Printing Services Green Initiatives

URL: <https://printingservices.vanderbilt.edu/environment.php>

Group Objective(s): to provide environmentally responsible solutions for Vanderbilt

Contact Person(s): printingservices@vanderbilt.edu

Type of Initiative: Institutional

Submitted By: Karin

Name of Org./Initiative: Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO)

URL: <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/>

Group's Objective(s): joint effort between Plant Operations and Vanderbilt Environmental Health and Safety, manages SustainVU, aids in environmental management and sustainability initiatives on campus to help Vanderbilt make an impact on the community and the environment; To keep Vanderbilt compliant with regulations and to strive for the goals set out in the VU Environmental Commitment Statement (<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/who-we-are/environmental-commitment-statement/>) ; contains EAC and SustainVU, the umbrella organization for student groups working towards environmental sustainability (works with SPEAR, VSG, etc.)

Contact Person(s): Andrea George- andrea.george@vanderbilt.edu

Type of Org.: institutional organization

*This is from the website of SustainVU, which I thought might be interesting and apply to our conversation from the first class over defining sustainability

<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/who-we-are/what-is-sustainability/>

Submitted By: Rachel, Madeline, Emily, Cameron

Name of Org.: Urban Green Lab

URL: <http://www.urbangreenlab.org/>

Group Objective(s): Nonprofit dedicated to teaching greater Nashville community how to live without sacrificing the environment.

Contact Person(s): Jennifer Tlumak Westerholm (executive director)

Type of Org.: Nonprofit (not directly affiliated with VU)

Submitted By: Karin

Name: Vanderbilt Environmental Health & Safety

URL: <http://www.safety.vanderbilt.edu/index.php>

Objectives: facilitate and promote safety, health and environmental management; deals with issues and emergencies on campus dealing with biological safety, chemical safety, radiation safety, fire safety, life safety, workplace safety, and environmental protection; services including Sustainability and Environmental Management Office.

Contact: Robert Wheaton (Executive Director)-Robert.wheaton@vanderbilt.edu, 615-322-2057

Type: Institutional

Submitted By: Ethan, Rachel, Karin, Cameron

Name of Org./Initiative: Vanderbilt Institute for Energy and Environment

URL: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/vice/index.php>

Group's Objective(s): provide education and research opportunities that connect the many aspects of energy and environmental decision making; build communication about energy and the environment on Vanderbilt campus and beyond Vanderbilt; to do research and education on energy and the environment; links multiple departments at Vanderbilt related to energy and the environment, such as Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Climate Change Research Network, Vanderbilt Center for Environmental Management Studies and SEMO

Contact Person(s): vice@vanderbilt.edu, Director George Hornberger

Type of Org.: institutional organization

Submitted By: Rachel, Madeline, Karin

Name of Org./Initiative: VU Plant Operations

URL: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/plantops/index.php>

Group's Objective(s): provides support for renovation, construction, and routine maintenance on campus facilities; responsible for the Vanderbilt University Recycling Program

Contact Person(s): recycle@vanderbilt.edu (Recycling program manager)

Type of Org.: institutional organization

Submitted By: Rachel

Name of Org./Initiative: Wellness Center

URL: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/recreationandwellnesscenter/wellness/>

Environmental wellness- <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/recreationandwellnesscenter/wellness/wellness-wheel/environmental/>
Group's Objective(s): advocating the achievement of a healthier lifestyle through 8 categories of wellness, including environmental wellness
Contact Person(s): Jennifer Ray- jennifer.e.ray@vanderbilt.edu
Type of Org.: institutional organization
Submitted By: Rachel