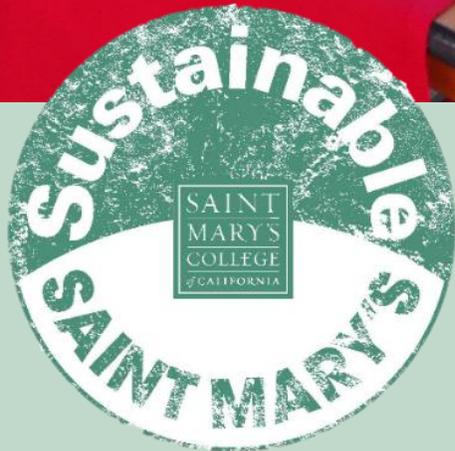




FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2018

Saint Mary's College - Sustainability
1928 Saint Mary's Road
PMB 5107
Moraga, CA 94575



Our Vision

In fidelity to our educational mission and Catholic principles, Saint Mary's College is committed to leadership in fostering environmental literacy, modeling a culture of sustainability, and creating an equitable future for all of humankind in harmony with nature.

The animating vision of a more sustainable college cannot be achieved without considerable creativity, innovation, flexibility and energy. To achieve our sustainability objectives, we must:

- Engage our community at all levels.

Successful implementation of sustainability objectives will require the initiative to become a stated priority for the Board of Trustees and senior administrative leadership.

Simultaneously, we must work to ensure the ethic of conservation permeates the larger community;

- Conduct a transparent evaluation and planning process that defines and weighs tradeoffs and sacrifices in a deliberate and conscientious fashion;

- Take full advantage of the College's substantial intellectual resources – our own students, staff and faculty will generate some of the best solutions;

- Link our work to the Saint Mary's mission, recognizing that conducting our work and ourselves sustainably is consistent with the College's aims and ideals;

- Assign clear measures to institutional and individual accountability, ensuring that the progress toward our stated goals is regularly and accurately assessed and articulated to the community we aim to serve.

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Our Leadership

A Transition Year

The 2017-2018 Academic Year was one of transition for sustainability leadership at Saint Mary's. The inaugural Sustainability Director, Riley Smith, stepped down from his position in December 2018. Riley began his role at Saint Mary's as the Sustainability Coordinator in 2015. During his three years at the College, Riley was an inspirational leader and expanded the sustainability program's reach, impact and visibility. Riley helped develop and implement many of the initiatives we now value as cornerstones of Saint Mary's sustainability, including a comprehensive compost system, the Staff Ambassadors Program, Green Space, and the Free Store.

Throughout the beginning of the 2018 year, the Sustainability Committee conducted a search for a new Director.

In May, the Sustainability Committee selected their new Director – Ann or “Annie” Drevno. Annie comes to Saint Mary's College from Santa Clara University, where she was a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in the Science, Technology & Society Program. Annie brings with her experience in college level teaching and research and a joy for working with and mentoring young adults.



New Sustainability Director, Ann Drevno, pictured with former Director, Riley Smith at a transition meeting in San Francisco.



Students Step Up



Without the guidance of a director throughout most of the 2018 Academic Year, a strong cohort of engaged and passionate students were enabled to keep dozens of sustainability programs up and running. Senior **Anna Gibbons**, for example, single-handedly managed the Staff Ambassadors, a program that provides monthly sustainability trainings to approximately a dozen interested staff members. **Aidan Muñoz-Christian** and **Briana Stuart** managed sustainable food programming, such as Green Mondays, the Food Recovery Network and Wasteless Wednesdays, in partnership with Sodexo. Three students, **Christa MacKinnon**, **Yesenia Lopez-Ambriz**, and **Taylor Bloch** maintained the momentum of the Green Space program, certifying five new spaces throughout the year. **Ashley Payne** ran and operated the Free Store and organized many of the logistics for the 2018 Move-Out, one of the largest sustainability events of the year.

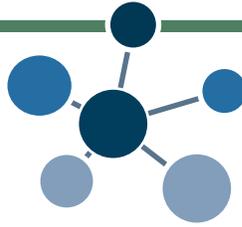


And **Kayla Martignetti** was, as one fellow student described “the glue that held us all together,” as she took on the foundational role of the Sustainability Student Coordinator. We are grateful for and inspired by these student leaders and their efforts in keeping our programs afloat.

“Not having a director in the office last year gave us students the opportunity to step up and explore ways we could each use our unique skill sets to keep Saint Mary’s green. It was a pleasure to engage with fellow students and the Sustainability Committee to continue to grow the community and prioritize the future of a healthy planet.”

Kayla Martignetti, Class of 2018

Collaboration



Building our Networks

Collaborating with and learning from other sustainability partners is critical for engagement, innovation and success, which is why Saint Mary's has taken strides to become an active member of national, regional and local sustainability networks. In June, the Sustainability Director and Sustainability Student Coordinator attended the **California Higher Education Sustainability Conference** at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The conference provided a venue for networking and learning about the latest advances in sustainability on college campuses across California. In December of 2018, Saint Mary's hosted its first half-day meet-up for the **Bay Area Higher Education Sustainability Professionals**, a group of over 20 sustainability officers who work at various college and universities through the San Francisco Bay. Additionally, Saint Mary's has reactivated our **Climate Reality Project Campus Corps Membership**, allowing our students to tap into resources from Al Gore's international Climate Reality Project and stay connected with other campus leaders, community organizations, businesses and government agencies working to address global climate change.

Bay Area Higher Education Sustainability Professionals



The Climate Reality Project[®]
— **CHAPTERS** —

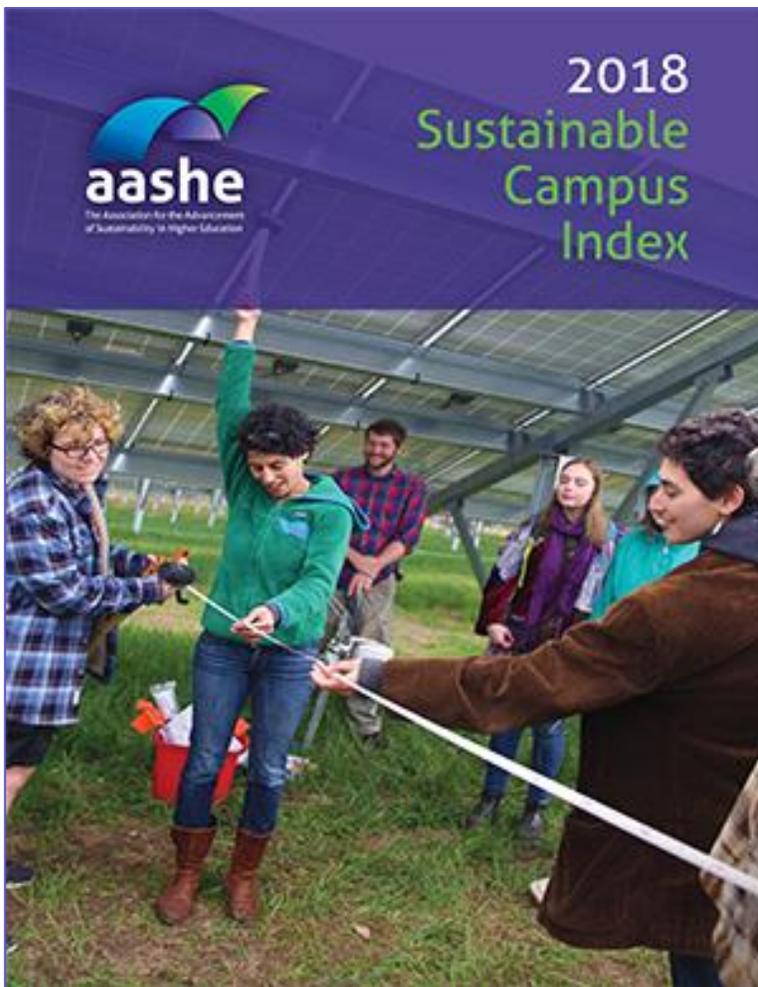


Our Successes

National Recognition



Once again, Saint Mary's College ranked in the top 200 "Cool Schools" in Sierra Club's *Sierra* magazine and was featured in *The Princeton Review's* "Guide to Green Schools". These rankings are based on STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System, which measures and encourages sustainability in all aspects of higher education. This year's most exciting and notable national recognition was our **First Place** ranking in one of 17 sustainability impact areas reported by the American Association of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) 2018 Sustainable Campus Index. The category for which Saint Mary's College received top place and a perfect score was "Wellbeing & Work."



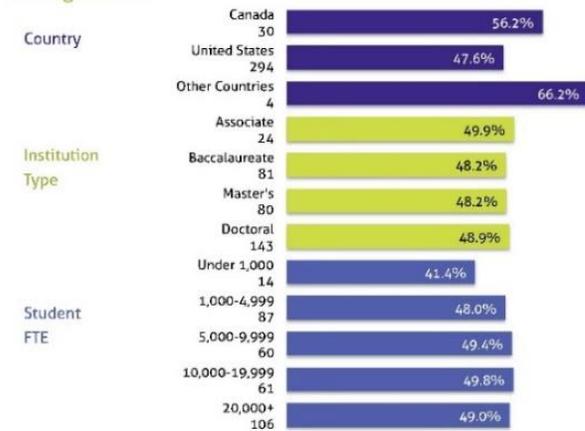
Wellbeing & Work



Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Saint Mary's College of California	100%	Master's	Moraga, California
2.	Earlham College	89.1%	Baccalaureate	Richmond, Indiana
3.	The Ohio State University	88.6%	Doctoral	Columbus, Ohio
4.	The American College of Greece	87.1%	Master's	Athens, Greece
5. (t)	Niagara College Canada	86.6%	Associate	Welland, Ontario
5. (t)	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse	86.6%	Master's	La Crosse, Wisconsin
7.	Slippery Rock University	86.4%	Master's	Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania
8.	University of Washington, Seattle	86.3%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
9.	Northern Alberta Institute of Technology	85.7%	Baccalaureate	Edmonton, Alberta
10.	Grand Valley State University	84.7%	Master's	Allendale, Michigan

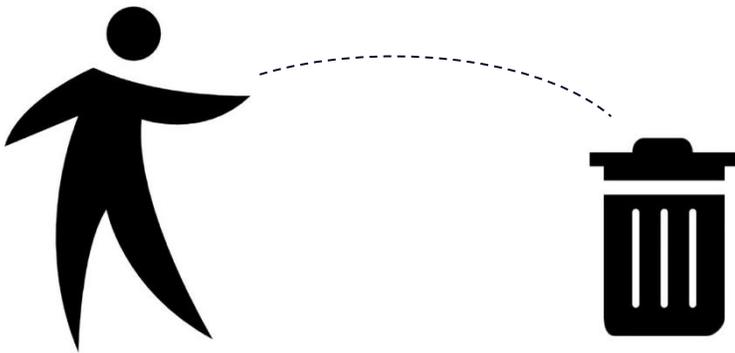
Average Scores



There is no “away”

Towards Zero Waste

Saint Mary’s continued its efforts to divert waste from landfills through a variety of educational programs aimed at changing the campus community’s behavior and implementing new initiatives, such as the “Choose to Reuse” campaign (see text box). The College’s diversion rate is an impressive 65%, but can still be improved through our continued participation in Recyclemania, partnering with Gael Athletics for Green Game Day events, hosting workshops in residence halls, and trash sorting education throughout campus.



EAT. WASH. REPEAT.

Choose to Reuse



Sodexo is collaborating with Saint Mary’s Sustainability to launch a new program that will enable students, staff and faculty to take their food to-go from Oliver Hall in a reusable container. Sodexo estimates 2,500 paper plates are being used and disposed of daily in the dining hall. This program aims to drastically decrease that amount and phase out paper plates altogether. A pilot program is currently underway. The “Choose to Reuse” container will be launched to the entire school in February 2019.



626

tons diverted from the landfill in FY 2018-2019



63%

diversion rate, compared to 56% the previous year

Highlight: The 3rd Annual Yard Sale

This year Saint Mary's Sustainability celebrated its third successful Yard Sale, which takes place annually during the first week of the academic year. The clothes and household items offered at the Yard Sale are procured from the previous year's move-out in an attempt to reduce waste and provide essential supplies to students for free. The Yard Sale also provides employment and professional development experience for students who help organize the event.



For my summer sustainability internship, I saw and sorted through so much stuff that students, staff and faculty had donated. I am so glad that it was donated and not thrown away but it was a reality check on how much we over-consume as a society. I enjoyed putting together the Yard Sale and brainstorming ideas for the future because I liked contributing to a culture of re-use and providing more sustainable options.”

Tara George, Class of 2019

Highlight: Our Living Laboratory

Experiential learning in the Legacy Garden

Colleges and Universities are uniquely situated to uncover important opportunities and challenges related to sustainability. Our own facilities, dining services, landscaping and residences can serve as a microcosm of society, offering a means to explore not only how we can improve our campus, but also the world. The Legacy Garden is one of those treasured resources on campus that offers a living laboratory for students to learn how to grow food more sustainably, while also discovering complex dimensions of global food systems. The Legacy Garden is managed by Master Gardener Kelli Barram, who is employed by Sodexo. Kelli (below) oversees dozens of Community Engagement students every semester, supervises garden interns, hosts tours and class lectures, and manages the day-to-day upkeep of this thriving horticulture hub.



“Working in the Legacy Garden is always fulfilling, whether it’s planting, harvesting, or even just speaking to others about their involvement. The garden has provided me with an outdoor classroom to learn more about how to organically grow quality, diverse foods. The community and the ecosystem there have both supplemented my education at Saint Mary’s in ways that classroom engagement cannot. For this, I am truly grateful.”

Hope Huber, Class of 2019

Highlights from AY 2018



Dozens of volunteers helped with Sustainable Move-In & Move-Out

FREE STORE

322 visits to the Free Store

495 lbs of waste diverted

785 items found new homes



In August, President Donahoe signed the **Catholic Climate Covenant**, also called “the Saint Francis Pledge,” to take action on climate change.



100%

Main Campus electricity is offset with Wind



In May, the Academic Subcommittee held the inaugural **Sustainability Symposium**.

GREEN SPACE

5

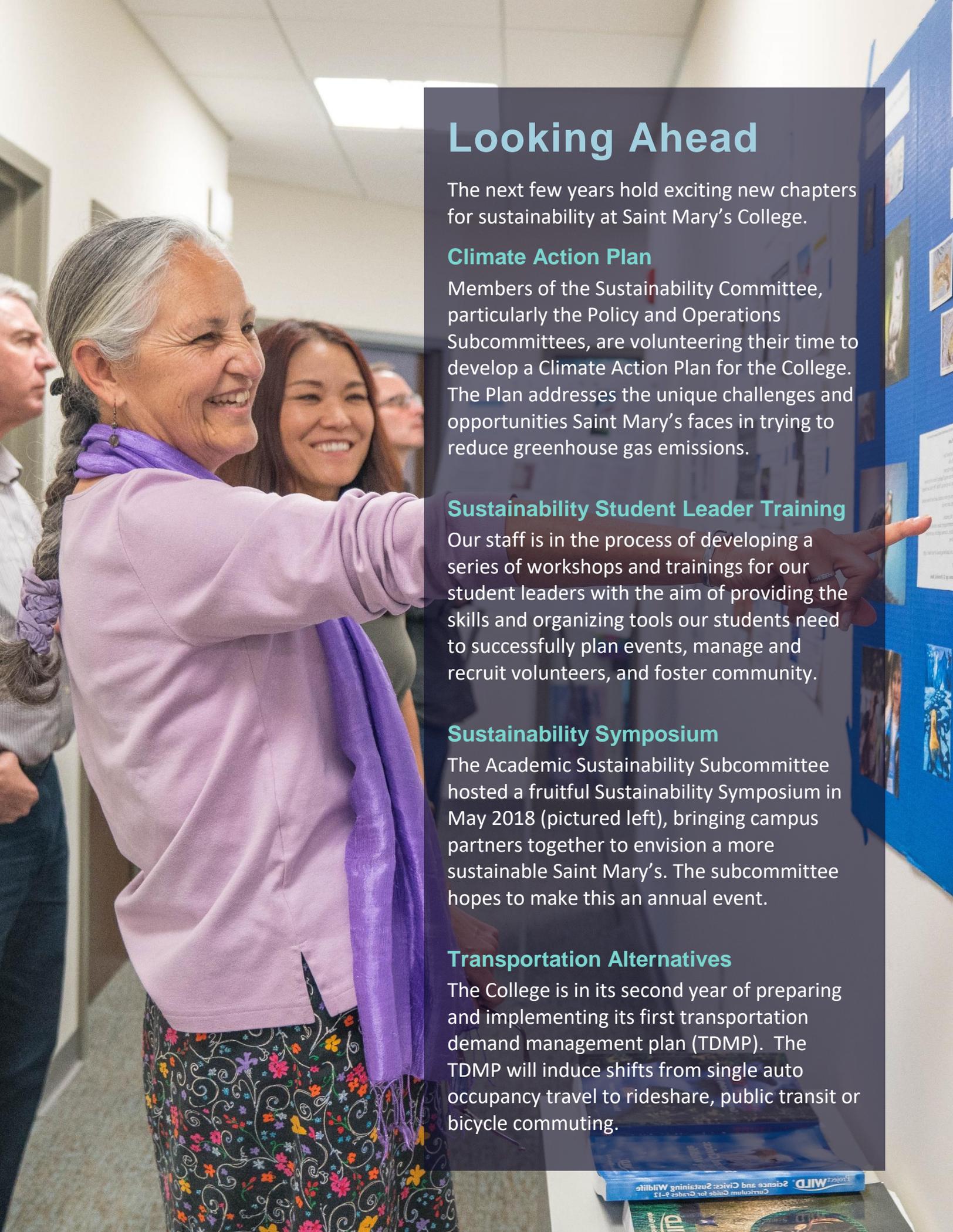
Green Space offices certified as Dark or Mid Green



All campus irrigation is now automated and an on-campus weather station has been installed to save water, energy, time and money.



The Green Gaels entered into their 4th year as a Chartered Student Organization.

A woman with grey hair, wearing a purple long-sleeved top and a purple scarf, is smiling and pointing towards a blue display board. Other people are visible in the background, also looking at the board. The setting appears to be an indoor hallway or meeting area.

Looking Ahead

The next few years hold exciting new chapters for sustainability at Saint Mary's College.

Climate Action Plan

Members of the Sustainability Committee, particularly the Policy and Operations Subcommittees, are volunteering their time to develop a Climate Action Plan for the College. The Plan addresses the unique challenges and opportunities Saint Mary's faces in trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainability Student Leader Training

Our staff is in the process of developing a series of workshops and trainings for our student leaders with the aim of providing the skills and organizing tools our students need to successfully plan events, manage and recruit volunteers, and foster community.

Sustainability Symposium

The Academic Sustainability Subcommittee hosted a fruitful Sustainability Symposium in May 2018 (pictured left), bringing campus partners together to envision a more sustainable Saint Mary's. The subcommittee hopes to make this an annual event.

Transportation Alternatives

The College is in its second year of preparing and implementing its first transportation demand management plan (TDMP). The TDMP will induce shifts from single auto occupancy travel to rideshare, public transit or bicycle commuting.

Sustainability Committee

Jane Camarillo, Chair

Ann Drevno, Sustainability Director

Alice Baldrige

Gail Dillon

Gemma Niermann

Isabella Navarro

James Sciuto

Jennifer Pigza

Kelli Barram

Lance Hourany

Linda Herkenhoff

Manisha Anantharaman

Michael Marchetti

Michael Viola

Roy Wensley

Safa Toma

Students:

Emily O'Neil

Onuva Chowdhury

Rob Gonzalez

Yesenia Lopez-Ambriz

