

# UR GREEN NEWS



UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
February 10, 2013  
Volume 2, Issue 8

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Grassroots Weekly General Interest Meeting

February 11  
8:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.  
Ruth Merrill Center, Wilson Commons

### Engineers for a Sustainable World Meeting

February 12  
7:15 p.m. — 8:15 p.m.  
Goergen 108

### World Premiere of “Comfort Zone” — Co-presented by GreenTopia and The Little Theatre

February 13  
7:00 p.m.  
The Little Theatre (L1)  
240 E Ave #100, Rochester, NY

### Earth and Environmental Sciences Seminar by Jane Ebinger, Manager of Climate Change Policy at The World Bank

February 15  
3:00 p.m.  
Gleason 118

### Biodiesel Meeting

February 19  
7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.  
Hylan 201

### Green Energy Fair

February 20  
12:00 — 4:00 p.m.  
Hirst Lounge, Wilson Commons

### Movie Screening: “Food, Inc.”

February 21  
8 p.m.  
Dewey Hall 1101

### Sustainability Seminar: “Indeterminate Hikes +”

February 22  
2:00 — 3:00 p.m.  
Dewey Hall 2-110D

## SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

### Summer 2013 Sustainability Internship Deadline Approaches

For the fourth successive year, the College is sponsoring sustainability-related internships for UR undergraduate students. Selected students receive the opportunity to work with a faculty member and are provided a \$1,000 stipend as well as free campus housing for June and July. Interested applicants should email [Professor Karen Berger](#) with a resume, letter of interest, and the particular internship desired. Applications for this summer will close on February 15. Assignments will be announced by March 5.

The following faculty and staff are seeking interns:

**Anthropology Curriculum Development** – Professor Kristin Doughty seeks an intern to assist with preliminary research on a community’s understanding, awareness, and attitude toward hydrofracking. Work may involve comparative reading on land use, energy, and community legal forums in Central Africa. The intern should have “excellent reading and writing skills.”

**Atmospheric Geochemistry Curriculum Development** – Under Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) Professor Vasilii Petrenko, the intern will help improve “Atmospheric Geochemistry,” a new course in the EES Department. The intern will research and identify various classroom activities, then compile the necessary materials to formalize the activities. Eligible interns must be enrolled in “Atmospheric Geochemistry” this semester, be able to work independently, and demonstrate an interest in teaching.

**Environmental Humanities Curriculum Development** – Sustainability Studies Professor Leila Nadir seeks one intern with “excellent research and writing skills” to assist with curriculum development for Environmental Humanities courses. The intern will examine a range of environmental films; research “politically effective” and widely disseminated environmental shorts on the Internet; explore environmental justice literary works; and compile scientific research that relates to environmental problems in specific texts.

**Enzymatic Breakdown of Cellulosic Biomass for the Conversion to Biofuels** – Chemical Engineering Professor David Wu will sponsor one intern to participate in biofuel research. He uses a molecular biology approach to study the microbial enzyme system that breaks down recalcitrant cellulosic materials into fermentable sugars, in turn converted to ethanol or other biofuels through a fermentation process. The molecular biology approach will be used for engineering the microorganism for a more efficient cellulose to ethanol conversion process. The intern must have a background and interest in biological science.

**University Council on Sustainability** – Cameron Schauf, Director of Dining and Auxiliary Services and Co-Chair of the University Council on Sustainability, seeks a summer intern to conduct research to support Council initiatives on one or more of the following topics: green building standards, waste assessment and minimization, environmental education materials for University faculty, etc.



## HIGHLIGHTS

### Professors Create Smartphone App to Spur Awareness of Natural Surroundings

Professor of Sustainability Studies Leila Nadir and Professor of Art Cary Peppermint have recently launched an iPhone and Android application, titled "Indeterminate Hikes +", to trigger more interest in the environment and encourage participants to experience nature in unexpected urban areas.

After downloading IH+, participants "pioneer" a "hike" by entering a start and end location.



*Courtesy of ecoarttech.org*

Google Maps then generates a random path, and the application spontaneously prompts the user to take a photograph, write a "field note," send a text message, or perform a particular task – all in response to the user's current surroundings. "The prompts increase awareness of the environment where you live and

also cause social interactions — you're using the technology to reconnect with space instead of people," Peppermint said.

Once the hike is complete, participants can download their experience to [ecoarttech.org](http://ecoarttech.org). EcoArtTech, a collaboration that explores technology and environmentally focused work, was launched by Peppermint and Nadir in 2005 as a way to unite their academic interests and practices through a shared interest in nature and the environment.

Their work can be currently found in the collections of the Whitney Museum, Walker Art Center, and New Museum.

### University Named Tree Campus USA

The Arbor Day Foundation has named the University a "Tree Campus USA" for the third year in a row. Tree Campus USA is a national program to honor educational institutions that "engage their student body as well as their broader community to establish and sustain healthy

community forests for the benefit of current and future residents."

To receive the 2012 Tree Campus USA title, the University's Horticulture and Grounds Department had to meet several standards, such as maintaining a campus tree-care plan and tree advisory committee, dedicating annual expenditures toward trees, observing Arbor Day, and initiating student service-learning

projects. The Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota Motor Corporation, a founder and supporter of the organization, have helped campuses throughout the U.S. plant hundreds of thousands of trees.



### Team Green Hiring for New Term

Team Green is a group of five students employed by Dining Services and Auxiliary Operations to improve sustainability practices, undertake initiatives, and serve as a liaison between the



student body and Director Cameron Schauf with Dining Services. Two positions for Sustainability Coordinator and two positions for Sustainability Marketing Intern will be available beginning April 2013, with the potential for further extension.

Applicants should have a "strong interest and passion in environmental sustainability" and

must be available from March 3 through March 10 for an interview. Learn more about the Sustainability Coordinator position [here](#), and learn more about the Sustainability Marketing position [here](#).

Applications consist of a personal statement and resume and are due on February 18. For any questions, please contact [Rachel Goldstein](#).

### CONTACTS & RESOURCES:

#### Sustainability @ the University of Rochester

Facilities  
[The Green Dandelion](#)

Dining Services  
[Team Green](#)

SA Student Sustainability Coordinator  
[Siobhan McLaughlin](#)

The Environmental Sustainability UCIS  
[Karen Berger](#)  
[Daniel Reichman](#)

Council on Sustainability  
[Karen Berger](#)  
[Cam Schauf](#)

Sustainability within the community:  
[Center for Environmental Information](#)  
[EnvironmentRochester.com](#)

E&E Publishing, LLC  
Environment & Energy Publishing (E&E) is the leading source for comprehensive, daily coverage of environmental and energy policy and markets.

### SUSTAINABILITY:

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

*United Nations*



## UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

#### For information about the newsletter:

Michaela Kerem '15  
Editor  
[mkerem@u.rochester.edu](mailto:mkerem@u.rochester.edu)

