LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

What an Impressive Green Trail We Have Blazed

It’s hard to believe the 2013-2014 year has come to a close! It seems like just yesterday the Live Green! team was sending its first issue of Live Green! Monthly for the year, and welcoming you to campus. Well, that was six newsletters, and a whole lot of greenness ago.

Our final newsletter of the year, is dedicated to both a look back at our impressive year, and a look forward at what will await all of you who will be returning to campus in the fall. Our list of achievements is diverse, creative, and unique. From glass collection in the residence halls, a LEED certified football practice facility, and an international gold certification for sustainability for our collective efforts as students, faculty, and staff. Multiple “give back” and “pay it forward” events, activities, and initiatives all focused toward “…meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” have taken place and so many more. It has been another outstanding year to look back on.

As you can also see in this issue… 2014-2015 is primed to be a fantastically green year all its own! Beautifying our campus from top to bottom, increasing the efficiency and diversity of our energy portfolio, streamlining our waste stream, and a fabulous slate of green campus events already on the calendar. And that is only a start of what else is being planned and in the works.

This all happens, because of each of you!! The Live Green! initiative is a team effort… in other words, “it takes a village”. We have not come as far as we have, on our journey toward a sustainable future, because of one college or department or individual. We have come this far because we are all taking this journey together. As I do every year at this time, I encourage each of you to take a minute and reflect back at the past year and the role you have taken in supporting, nurturing and furthering this journey! Thank you for another amazing year!

Have a fantastic summer, and I look forward to our continued work together! To all of our graduates, congratulations, thank you for the Live Green! legacy you have been a part of building, and all the very best as you pursue your individual journeys!

Yours in green-ness,

Merry Rankin
1. The 2013-14 school year had many successful green events, ranging from Sustainapalooza, National Campus Sustainability Day, Earth Week and the Symposium on Sustainability.

2. This year was also full of volunteerism. Through CyServe Day, Stash the Trash and VEISHEA Service Day, students gave back to their community by doing everything from cleaning up parks and buildings, reading with children.

3. Iowa State was awarded a STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) gold certification for commitment to and accomplishments in sustainability.

4. A third vehicle was added to Iowa State University’s Carshare program offering students a fuel efficient SUV to assist them with additional short term transportation needs.

5. Two new LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings joined the ISU campus in 2013-2014. The Bergstrom Football Complex received a Silver certification, and the Small Animal Hospital of the College of Veterinary Medicine received a Gold certification.
THE YEAR IN REVIEW
2013-14 Green Achievements

1. From climate change to heated pavements, apps that monitor butterfly populations, and supercomputers, research at Iowa State University during the 2013-2014 academic year embraced a breadth and depth of sustainable topics and challenges.

2. ISU’s Government of the Student Body took a bite out of campus trash by initiating an expanded library recycling with library administration. Library patrons can now recycle glass, metal, plastic, and mixed paper as well as white paper, cardboard, and plastic.

3. Iowa State expressed its flair for sustainable art and creativity, showcasing student and faculty innovativeness and originality during the 2013-14 school year. From recycled content creation on the catwalk to a neighborhood street mural to grunge clothing to bioeconomical-inspired sculpture, Iowa State showcased a rich culture of sustainability in the arts.

4. From water monitoring for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to cleanup events for campus waterways, ISU students took an active role in improving water quality. These efforts add to a foundation of storm water management practices utilized in campus operations.
A bike share program for Iowa State University has been something of interest to students, faculty and staff for a while. This year the Government of the Student Body “pedaled” this initiative to become a cutting-edge collaboration of academics, operations and sustainability.

It began with a brainstorming conversation, and resulted in the Government of the Student Body and the Senior Vice President of Student Affairs offering funding for the prototyping of a new bike share program designed by Iowa State’s own Exploration of Commercial Factors in Industrial Design Studio. The class is designing a system specifically focused on the needs of students this semester, which has never been done before. The class has been interviewing students to discover their transportation needs, studying other bike share systems and designing a system they hope will be implemented at Iowa State in the future. Their designs include everything from the bikes, docking stations, branding, check-out method to the system itself, including apps with bike routes, key fobs, kiosks, maintenance plans and the quantity and locations of bikes.

The goal of a bike sharing system is to offer a way for people to get from one point to another, free from worries of ownership. Bike-share systems have seen explosive growth in the past couple of years with approximately 537 programs around the world. By using a bike share system instead of owning a bike, individuals do not have to deal with initial cost, maintenance, security and storage of a bike. There are many reasons people may choose a bike-share system over ownership, such as cost, convenience, security concerns and sustainability.

Besides providing students with another way to get from one place to another on campus, the bike share system would also create opportunities for positive outcomes on ISU’s environmental footprint. According to a study done by the University of North Carolina, 80% of the carbon monoxide in the atmosphere comes from motorized vehicles that operate on gas or diesel. Motorized vehicles also contribute 55% of the nitrogen oxide pollution in the air, while riding a bike produces zero harmful emissions to the atmosphere. They also found the most impact can be made in short trips. Forty percent of travel is done within just two miles of home, a 10-minute bike ride. Biking for trips four miles or less, instead of using motorized transportation can create huge environmental savings as 60% of pollutants are created by motorized transportation within the first few minutes of use.

The journey does not stop here, next fall, information specifically related to program utilization, infrastructure and long-term funding will be gathered and considered. Although there is no final date for the bike share program to be fully implemented, a goal of offering this green transportation option to students in 2016 has been noted. To learn more about the Industrial Design students progress, and see the final designs and prototypes, attend their final review held on Friday, May 9th, from 10am–1pm in the Campanile Room, Memorial Union.

Bike to Work Week: Don’t wait for a bike share program to green your travels, start now!

The Ames Bicycle Cooperative is partnering with local businesses to facilitate events during Bike-to-Work Week, May 10th-16th, to encourage people to change up their routine and add biking to their daily lifestyle. The events include breakfast at local businesses, family fun rides and late night rides. All events are free and everyone is welcome. For more information on the events check out healthiestames.org.
IOWA STATE ARTISTS FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

This year, Iowa State has had a flurry of sustainable art and design. From the student-organized “Trashion” show event where students upcycled “trash” to create beautiful fashion pieces, to a paper airplane installation by Qiyi Li (featured in the March newsletter) bringing awareness to paper consumption and recycling. During Earth Month, two student were honored for their vision and commitment to sustainability in the arts. Sara Kinderknecht and Natalie Buskohl took their design projects to the next level by adding a green element to them.

NATALIE BUSKOHOL

Annually, the Bioeconomy Institute and Integrated Studio Arts program hold the Biorenewable Art Competition, a chance for students enrolled in integrated studio arts courses to create artwork to reflect the Bioeconomy Institute’s mission of economic, environmental and social sustainability to advance development of biorenewable resources for the production of materials, fuels, energy and chemicals. This year, 22 integrated studio arts and integrated visual arts students submitted 26 entries to the competition. The best-in-show winner was senior in Integrated Studio Arts, Natalie Buskohl. Natalie created a mixed media sculpture entitled “Memoento Mori.” The sculpture consisted of tree roots, baltic birch plywood, acrylic, glass, biochar, algae, pine chips, corn stalk, stover and polyurethane. In the statement accompanying her work she stated “I wanted the piece to be a reminder that we are part of nature not apart from it.” Natalie believes that just like medicine prolongs our lives, science can be used to prolong the life of the Earth and undo past damage we have caused it providing a sustainable world for future generations. She stated, “It is essential to tread lightly, to understand the long term, positive and negative effects of our actions before acting.” Natalie’s sculpture and all the other entries are on display in the Biorenewable Research Laboratory’s lobby until March 2015.

SARA KINDERKNECHT

Every year, the Fashion Show provides an opportunity to support students for their excellence with 13 different categories as well as Best in Show. Sara, a senior in Apparel, Merchandising, and Design, was recognized at this year’s Fashion Show in the Eco-Friendly category for her “Queen Bean” handbag design. Sara constructed the bag using recycled coffee bean bags and denim. Sara received the first place prize for this category sponsored by Random Goods. Random Goods maintains a close relationship with the fashion department and is very excited to have the opportunity to give back to them by sponsoring the category. The thrift store has chosen to sponsor the Eco-Friendly category to highlight that once old items can be upcycled and turned into new fashionable favorites. Sara not only won the Eco-Friendly category, but was also recognized as the first-place winner in the professional daywear category for her “Under the Seams” entry, and for her “Wrapped” collection, placing third overall.
On April 8th, the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture held the 2014 Iowa Local Food Conference. The conference focused on small business expansion, with sessions covering food hubs and how to sustain them, processing centers and integrating value-added products, and current marketing strategies for increasing the bottom line.

The Student Alumni Leadership Council hosted the 5th Annual Nearly Naked Mile where participants are invited to strip off and donate excess layers of clothing before the start of the race. The clothing is donated to local charities.

Students in the Apparel, Events and Hospitality Management Creative Thinking and Problem Solving class hosted a “Trashion” show where candy wrappers, newspapers and even plastic forks were converted into wearable work of art. The event brought awareness to many environmental issues including reducing paper usage and food packaging waste. Proceeds from the event benefit Audubon Society to support The Green Umbrella and Live Green!

Engineers for a Sustainable World planted a rain garden between Carver Hall and Music Hall. Rain gardens are used in areas where standing water often accumulates to assist in recharging the water table. The plants they use in the rain gardens are all native to Iowa, and have long-root systems to facilitate moving the water.

The Agronomy Undergraduate and Graduate Student Clubs, professors and staff celebrated Arbor Day as well as Earth Month by planting eight American Linden trees in the Agronomy Courtyard. These trees replace those that were taken out by a tornado in 2006.

The Green Umbrella and Live Green! took part in Earth month by hosting an Earth Day celebration! Ames and ISU businesses and organizations gathered on campus, and students were able to learn about sustainable practices, participate in activities, and earn green-minded prizes.

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Iowa State’s glass recycling initiative is now moving to on-campus residence halls. Starting Fall 2014, glass recycling containers can be found in residence halls as well as campus laboratories. Abigail Romano, junior in global resource systems, is spearheading education and awareness of as well as engagement in this effort and serves as a student liaison for the Department of Residence Green Team.

The glass will be put in donated Tidy Cats litter pails located in every residence hall with the halls’ other recycling bins. Donations of empty (red-topped) Tidy Cats litter pails are welcomed to continue to expand glass recycling efforts. Contact Merry Rankin, Director of Sustainability, for more information.

The One Paper Towel Movement
As a result of an English 250 group project, The One Paper Towel Movement will join the Live Green! Initiative during the 2014-15 academic year. The project is focused on reducing the number of paper towels used per capita, and in turn, entering the waste stream. The project team consisting of: Dana Armstrong, freshman in animal ecology; Tim Luhr, sophomore in agricultural engineering; Nicole Milius, freshman in biological systems engineering; Ashley Scales, freshman in animal science; and Regan Sippy, freshman in animal science, is committed to increasing awareness related to the environmental impacts of excess paper towel waste.

Sustainability at the Student Forefront
From campus-wide recycling efforts to a Cyclone-specific-goods exchange website to bike sharing, 2014-15 Government of the Student Body President Hillary Kletscher, (senior in biological systems engineering), Vice President Mike Hoefer, (senior in industrial engineering), Director of Sustainability Alyson Straube, (senior in chemical engineering), and Assistant Director of Sustainability Parker Neid, (sophomore in management information systems), are prepared for a green and sustainable year. For more information on GSB-related activities, initiatives and opportunities to get involved, stay connected with GSB on Facebook and Twitter.
Sustainable Renovations and Construction
More green construction will be springing up in 2014-15. Facilities, Planning & Management has a number of upcoming projects including the renovation of Marston Hall, Jack Trice Stadium Phase 3 (south end zone) and a new Friley Hall Dining Center. All projects have green building and design requirements in place related to the end products, and projects will also track construction waste to make sure the projects keep sustainability in mind.

“We’re hoping to really make some changes that will make the student experience better when it comes to our facilities,” said Kerry Dixon, Sustainability Coordinator for FP&M Design and Construction Services.

A Greener, Leaner Power Plant
Iowa State’s power plant will have a new look in 2014-15. This summer, the plant will replace its older stoker coal boilers with new natural gas boilers, and begin construction of a new addition to house the boilers. Continued renovations will take place throughout the coming school year.

“Emissions for 2013 were down 42%, and will be down even more in 2014. Carbon dioxide emissions from the plant will be down 15% and coal consumption will be down 33%,” said Jeff Witt, FP&M, Utilities Director. The power plant provides heating and cooling for campus buildings, which minimizes energy costs for Iowa State. As a co-generation system (steam and electricity), the ISU power plant is much more efficient than a regular power plant, topping out at 55% efficiency, as compared to 33-35% efficiency of other plants.

Comprehensive Campus Beautification
This summer, lots of effort is being put into beautifying campus to help give students a sense of “belonging” and connection when they return in the fall. Currently, there are five projects that will be jumpstarted in mid-May to early June. Beautification through sidewalk repairs, landscaping efforts, interior paintings, floor renovations and much more will occur in Ross Hall, Carver Hall, Curtiss Hall, Gilman Hall and Physics Hall to improve students’ experiences on campus and provide them a “sense of place.”

These beautification projects support the Live Green! initiative by influencing students to recycle and join green clubs to sustain our beautiful campus at Iowa State University for years to come.

For more information, contact David Miller, Associate Vice President for FP&M.
Grow Your Garden

Does your garden need some sprucing up? Story County Master Gardener Association and Graduate Student Horticulture Society will both be holding plant sales Saturday, May 10th. Stop by Reiman Gardens’ Maintenance Building from 8am-3pm, and the ISU Horticulture Hall Greenhouse from 10am-6pm to stock up on your favorite fruit, vegetable, herb and perennial plants. To see what plants they will be selling and for more information, check out their websites.

Expand your Investment Decisions

With just one hour of your time you can improve your investment decisions in an online environment and receive compensation for it. If you are 24 years of age or older and have had investment activity in the past five years, you can take part in an online simulation study to do just that. The study takes place in 1117 Gerdin Business Building on May 12th and 19th, and compensation is $25. To register, please go to: isuaccounting.appointy.com, or contact Diane Janvrin at djanvrin@iastate.edu.

Celebrate Bike Month

Ames Christian School is hosting a Bike-A-Thon to raise money and help children get active and learn about bike safety. The event will take place Friday, May 16th, from 9am-12pm at Ada Hayden Park in North Ames. They are looking for volunteers to help with the event by riding alongside the children, cheering them on, counting laps along the way, helping with minor bike adjustments, first aid as needed, and distributing snacks and drinks. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Peggy Smith at psmith@ameschristianschool.org.

Participate in the Ultimate Championship

Join the USA Ultimate Frisbee Central High School Championships being hosted at the Southeast Athletic Complex on Saturday, May 17th, and Sunday, May 18th. Volunteers are needed at the meet to assist with keeping scores, refilling water stations and assisting in running interactive games. A t-shirt and lunch at the event will be provided to volunteers. Sign up on the Ames Convention Visitors Bureau website: www.visitames.com/Volunteer.aspx?eID=25.

The Dog Days of Summer

Dog lovers get ready for the second annual Dog Days Expo in support of the Ames Animal Shelter. At the expo, you will have the opportunity to talk with local dog experts, ask questions and learn new things for a happier, healthier dog. The event will be held at the City of Ames Dog Park from 1-4pm on Saturday, May 31st. Pre-register your pooch for the cutest dog contest! All dogs are welcome!

Do You Have What It Takes….Apply Today!

This summer marks the 4th Annual Summer Institute on Sustainability and Energy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Senior level undergraduate students, graduate students and professionals are eligible to apply for the August 6-20 two-week intensive workshop and lecture series focusing on sustainability and energy. Admission to the program is highly competitive, and applications will be accepted until July 1st. For more information go to the SISE website, or contact program coordinator Thomas Alaan at sise.2014@gmail.com.

Celebrate 150 Years of Ames

Help celebrate the sesquicentennial of Ames by attending Ames 150 on the Fourth. The three-day event, July 3-5, includes concerts, a parade on main street and a community fair. Don’t miss this opportunity to celebrate the history and diversity of the Ames community. For a full description of the events, go to the City of Ames website: tinyurl.com/pp4sq2k.

Summer Solar Rally

The American Solar Challenge is a competition where teams across the US design, build and drive solar powered cars in a cross-country time/distance rally event. The course is 1200-1800 miles long between multiple cities across the country. This will be the first year Ames will serve as a checkpoint for the rally. Come out to Hilton Coliseum to see the cars on Saturday, July 26th, from 1-4pm as they make their way from Omaha, NE to La Crosse, WI and learn more about sustainability at Iowa State and the Ames community from organization and business displays, booths, and interactive activities. Open to the public.
Remember to stay green as you head into summer break! Enjoy the following ways to stay sustainable while embracing summer fun.

#1 BUY LOCAL
A warm, summer day is a perfect time to enjoy shopping for local produce. Farmers markets support the local economy and let you treat yourself to freshly-grown and healthy fruits and vegetables. You can meet new people, too!

#2 GREEN YOUR TRAVELS
Going on a road trip or have plans for outdoor activities this summer? Invite your friends and family to join the fun and carpool with them to reduce your environmental impact. If you feel like getting fit while doing your part for the environment, hop on your bike to get from place to place this summer.

#3 OPEN UP, COOL OFF
As temperatures get warmer, take advantage of Mother’s Nature’s free cooling power before turning on your air conditioning. Not only can it help cool off a warm house, it also adds a wonderful burst of fresh air. If you want a little more cool, turn ceiling fans on high, and make the room feel five degrees cooler. Decrease your energy footprint and your electric bill!

#4 DRY ON A LINE
Take advantage of the summer breeze by hanging your clothes outside to dry. Utilize the sun’s free renewable energy instead of demanding energy for your clothes dryer. Setting up a clothesline is easy, too, as all you need is a long cord or rope, some clothes pins and the sun!

#5 GROW A MEAL
Soak up the sun by growing a garden this summer and harvesting your own produce. Not only is it economically friendly but you can control the products you use to help your garden grow and protect air and water quality. You also save gas and fossil fuel emissions when you save a trip to the grocery store!

#6 PART WAYS WITH PESTS
The warm, muggy weather often attracts bug pests, but think twice before you grab just any repellent and spray. Consider some natural alternatives, like citronella candles and torches, or deet-free options. You can also make your own bug repellents with natural ingredients and recipes.

#7 SCREEN GREEN
Practice self-sustainability and have a healthier summer, use sunscreen for your sun in the sun. Don’t choose just any sunscreen, as most sunscreens can be toxic to water ecosystems. Try Rocky Mountain Sunscreen. Their products are produced sustainably and reduce the amount of carbon emissions.

#8 GREEN-UP THE LIGHTS
To illuminate your summer nights, use solar-powered lights instead of outdoor lights that consume energy. Solar-powered lighting is also inexpensive and doesn’t attract bugs like traditional lighting does. You can find solar lights at most hardware and gardening stores to light up your outdoor spaces.

#9 CELEBRATE GREEN
Celebrate family, friends, summer and the planet with a green picnic by purchasing biodegradable, reusable or recycled content dinnerware. Save money while reducing your environmental footprint.
Amy Fay, Marketing and Communications intern, is graduating with a B.F.A. in Interior Design. Her future plans are to move to Britt, Iowa and work at Winnebago Industries as a Decor Specialist.

Olivia Diehl, Campus and Community Engagement Intern, is graduating with a B.S. in Event Management. She will continue working in Ames for the summer, and hopes to find a job with an event management company.

Lucas Mutti, Sustainability Coordinator Graduate Assistant, is graduating with a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Lucas plans to find a job within the engineering field.

Rachelle Rowe, Sustainability Initiatives Assistant, graduated in December with a degree in English Rhetoric. Rachelle will be working with a number of non-profit organizations doing social marketing and event management.
Click on an event for more information!

**MAY 2014**

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Mark Your Calendar for these green campus celebrations in 2014-2015

**College Creek Clean-Up - June 28**
**National Campus Sustainability Day - October 22**
**Symposium on Sustainability and Sustainapalooza - February 23-24**
**Earth Week April - 20-24**

This is only a few of the many campus and community green-minded and sustainability focused events and opportunities. Visit the Live Green! Calendar, and connect on Facebook and Twitter, for all things happening green!