

# SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABILITY

## *2021 Symposium on Sustainability United for a Resilient and Sustainable Future*

### **LIVE GREEN! AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY**

#### **About The Awards**

- The Live Green! Initiative encourages all faculty, staff and students to be fully committed to and engaged in making our campus, its operations, and initiatives as green and sustainable as possible
- In celebrating the continued growth of the Live Green! Initiative, it is important to also celebrate individual and team excellence that brings the overall success we have accomplished as a university.
- These awards recognize Iowa State University faculty, staff and students who are currently making an impact on the campus' sustainability efforts by generating awareness and interest through initiatives that focus on teaching, research, outreach and/or operations
- The Live Green! Awards for Excellence in Sustainability recognizes efforts across all aspects of the university, whether faculty, staff, student; individual or team efforts. The awards committee had a difficult task in choosing this year's recipients, since the nominated projects and initiatives were both diverse and impressive. Winning projects were awarded based upon excellence in sustainability efforts and not limited by category
- Nominations were evaluated within six areas: cultural impact, impact on natural resources, economic impact, transferability, legacy to the Live Green! Initiative and sustainability, and overall award merit.

#### **2021 Live Green! Award for Excellence in Sustainability Winners**

##### **Carissa Moyna**



As a freshman engineering student, one of the first connections Carissa Moyna made was with the Engineers for a Sustainable World student organization. Within her first year of joining, she identified a niche within the club's sustainability goals and engagement opportunities that she felt was missing – composting. And the Compost Team was formed. For Carissa, her vision for the team was not just getting items composted, it was also the beneficial uses for composted items. Although initially starting with three members, within the club's first year, through Carissa's leadership and initiative membership grew fourfold and the team completed its first project, and now, as you just heard, has undertaken a large-scale residential housing food waste composting initiative. Carissa has been front and center in every facet of project coordination, cultivating collaborations, creatively strategizing and problem solving, building and sustaining partnerships.

As she prepares to graduate in May, Carissa has taken initiative to create project manuals for the Compost Team members that follow her and gather campus leaders to ensure the collective impact continues. She most definitely embodies the Live Green! Initiative at Iowa State University.

Congratulations to Carissa Moyna!

## Engineers for a Sustainable World



The Compost Team of the Engineers for a Sustainable World student organization was first formed in 2017, with a mission to expand composting across campus. Nearly four years later, the team has most certainly left their sustainable mark at Iowa State University. Among projects they have envisioned and spearheaded include a landscaping project, in collaboration with Facilities Planning and Management, at the Town Engineering building, in which compost was tested to determine its effectiveness as an herbicide and also the planning, designing and implementation of a series of “Engage Your Green Side” workshops, focused on empowering college students to actively pursue a sustainable lifestyle.

This past year, the team collaborated with the Department of Residence, Facilities Planning and Management and the Frederiksen Court Council to spearhead the pilot of a food waste composting program for students living in the Frederiksen Court apartment complex. With a goal of engaging 100 students in the voluntary program and decreasing food waste being landfilled by 5% in its first year, after one semester the team had recruited 110 students and decreased food waste being landfilled by 20%. The team’s plans in moving forward? Recruiting every Frederiksen Court resident and achieving a 50% food waste diversion. It seems they are well on their way!

Congratulations to the Engineers for a Sustainable World Compost Project Team Members:

Ali Alabndi, JP Bukantis, Julian Canabal, Sarah Cowley, Andrew Frank, Clarice Huber, Colee Land, Jonathan Main, Cici McCutchin, Michael Moreno, Carissa Moyna, Lizbeth Plaza-Torres, Erin Starkey, and Sara Thimmesch