

SUSTAINABILITY ALUMNI NETWORK

CREATED BY ALUMNI OF BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY, GOSHEN COLLEGE,
BETHEL COLLEGE & EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

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EMU EARTHKEEPERS' SOLAR INITIATIVE



The EMU Student Solar Project is a spontaneous and ambitious initiative committed to installing, at minimum, a 40 kW solar array by mid-2018.

A solar array of 40kW would increase EMU's solar capacity by almost 50%, further cementing EMU's reputation for sustainability leadership and saving EMU several thousand dollars every year in energy costs.

"In 2015, EMU announced that it was moving forward with a project called Solar Phase II, which was a large-scale solar project to go on our University Commons

building," said Harrison Horst, EMU '18. Horst and Creation Care Council chair Greg Sachs decided to start their own solar project, after learning that the project was postponed indefinitely. Their team now includes engineering, economics, and computer science students, several faculty advisors, and a student-led fundraising team.

"This project is also happening at a crucial moment for sustainability at EMU, as we learn to engage with a new university president, whose stance on campus sustainability is still largely unknown," Horst said.

Welcome to the first SAN newsletter!

Made by members of SAN's Campus Engagement committee, this newsletter exists to keep alumni and current students up to date with the work of sustainability clubs on Mennonite college campuses. This publication will most likely be bi-monthly. If you have feedback or content suggestions, please email megshort17@gmail.com.

"The conversations sparked by the student solar project are promising, though. I think this project is a very concrete, impressive, and even fiscal way of showing how much and how deeply our student body cares about this issue - that's very exciting for me."

If you or someone you know is able to donate to the initiative, please visit: www.gofundme.com/emu-student-solar-project. Checks (with "EarthKeepers Student Solar" in the memo line) can be mailed to:

EarthKeepers
1200 Park Rd.
Harrisonburg VA 22802



ALUMNI FEATURE

CECILIA LAPP STOLTZFUS

PITTSBURGH, PA

Meet Cecilia, a 2017 graduate of Goshen College who is originally from Washington D.C. At Goshen, she studied environmental science/sustainability and music and lived for a semester at Goshen's Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center.

Cecilia loves rivers, swimming, and investigating water quality: at Goshen she spent 4 years doing weekly Elkhart River testing with a team of student and community volunteers. She also served as a co-leader of EcoPAX Environmental Justice club and GC Divest campaign. Fueled by their commitments to climate activism, Cecilia and current Goshen College senior Hannah Yoder wrote an extensive literature review in 2016, examining socially responsible investing in Mennonite educational institutions.

Cecilia currently lives in Pittsburgh and is a fellow with Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Service Experience (PULSE). Through her PULSE partnership, she serves at The Door Campaign, a nonprofit that offers hands-on aquaponics/STEM programming in local middle and high school classrooms. "I am grateful and inspired every day to be working with a team that joins ideas of racial/socioeconomic justice, science education, and local food-- and through growing goldfish-fertilized basil and lettuce nonetheless!" The Door Campaign is always pushing the boundaries, Cecilia said. They are currently developing plans to "retrofit an abandoned city pool into a commercial-scale aquaponics center and educational/recreation space."

Day-to-day, Cecilia tries to pull her head out of the nitty-gritty details to ponder how to catalyze transformations that upend unjust power structures. She leaves us with this question: how can we work locally, while being globally--and cosmically--inspired?

CONTACTS

For more information about current campus happenings, contact club leaders:

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