



# The Green Initiative Fund

**ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2015**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



ABOUT TGIF



LETTER FROM  
THE DIRECTOR



GRANT AWARDS  
2013- 2015



WEATHER WATCHERS



TELEGRAPH GREEN



BUDGET SUMMARY



BUDGET



#THANKGOODNESSITSFUNDED



DISTINGUISHED  
SUSTAINABILITY



BSFC & STRAWBERRY  
CREEK TIMELINE



ZERO WASTE  
RESEARCH CENTER



NATURE VILLAGE



LOOKING FORWARD



THANK YOU

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) would like to thank several individuals and campus partners at UC Berkeley who have contributed to the continual success of TGIF. Without the help and support of those listed below, TGIF would not be as noteworthy or as acknowledged by campuses across the nation. TGIF would also like to extend a huge thanks to the students of UC Berkeley for contributing \$6/semester, without which TGIF would not be able to provide funding opportunities for sustainability projects that empower students and create long-lasting change at UC Berkeley.

TGIF thanks all past and current project leaders for their support, commitment, and courage for applying for funds to implement sustainability initiatives on campus. Thanks to the following for their involvement and contributions to the TGIF program:

## **TGIF Committee 2013-2014**

Denise Cronin  
Nicole Kush  
Judy Li  
Kevin Ng  
Cheyenne Overall  
Céline Pallud  
Cara Tovy

## **TGIF Committee 2014-2015**

Phillip Braddock  
Denise Cronin  
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Céline Pallud  
Pascal Polonik  
Kielan Rathjen  
Pallavi Sherikar

## **TGIF Ex-Officios**

Judy Chess  
Lisa McNeilly  
Kevin Ng

## **Nature Village**

Nicholas Burkett  
Dawn Martin-Rugo  
Morgan Stelly  
Kun Yang

## **Zero Waste Research Center**

Ryan Avery  
Shannon Davis  
Gary Richmond  
Anna Yip

## **Our amazing and wonderful TGIF Program Associates**

Jimmy Dunn  
Kareem Hammoud  
Claire Kaufman  
Lauren Murphy  
Caitriona Smyth

## **Student Environmental Resource Center Associates**

Magnolia Barrett  
Qusai Bhajjeewala  
Kristen Chen  
Roberta Giordano  
Manon von Kaenel  
Stella Kim  
Sam Klein  
Hanna Morris  
Jeff Noven  
Angie Shen  
Angela Meese Shen  
Pheobe Song  
Louis Spanias

**TGIF is also thankful for the following campus affiliates, departments and individuals:**

Office of Sustainability and Energy | Campus Recycling & Refuse Services

Facilities Services | Construction & Design

Environment, Health & Safety | Physical & Environmental Planning

### **Partners within the Division of Student Affairs:**

LEAD Center | ASUC Student Union

Cal Dining

Residential & Student Service Programs

And special thanks to Katherine Walsh for her dedication, leadership, and advocacy for TGIF.



## ABOUT TGIF

The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) provides funding for projects that reduce UC Berkeley's negative impact on the environment and make UC Berkeley more sustainable. TGIF will allocate funds to projects that promote sustainable modes of transportation, increase energy and water efficiency, restore habitat, promote environmental and food justice, and reduce the amount of waste created by UC Berkeley. Portions of the fund also support education and behavior change initiatives, student aid (via return to aid), and internships. TGIF is supported by student fees and administered through a student-majority committee and a program coordinator.

TGIF also supports UC Berkeley's Zero Waste Research Center, a research program dedicated to finding upstream solutions and strategies toward zero waste, and Nature Village, the sustainable living program at University Village. TGIF is a program within the Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC).

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

“

**TGIF has experienced the most change, growth, & success in its history during these past two years”**



**Katherine H. Walsh**

September 2015 marks the completion of my fifth year as a sustainability professional at UC Berkeley. When I first accepted the position of TGIF Coordinator in September 2010, I admittedly knew little about campus green funds or UC Berkeley. Thankfully, I quickly learned UC Berkeley valued sustainability as an operating principle as I witnessed the leadership and innovation of UC Berkeley’s students, staff, and faculty. Inspired by such a stimulating and supportive environment, I discovered in myself the passion, skills, and vision to grow TGIF into the premiere campus green fund, a goal achieved thanks to the partnership of the aforementioned students, staff, and faculty, and guidance from alumni and fellow campus green fund professionals.

It is fitting to produce an annual report that covers FY14 and FY15 together as TGIF experienced its greatest changes, growth, and successes during these two particular years. TGIF not only surpassed the \$2 million grant funding mark, but it also funded and developed its new home, the Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC), expanded its own portfolio to include Nature Village and the Zero Waste Research Center, reclassified the TGIF Coordinator position to “TGIF & Sustainability Initiatives Coordinator”, and hired its new incredible Coordinator, Sharon Daraphonhdeth.

Achieving these critical milestones affirmed TGIF’s history of enhancing UC Berkeley’s culture of sustainability and developing new campus pathways for sustainability collaboration and innovation. Additionally, reaching these milestones in such a short timespan speaks to the changemaking power of TGIF’s mission, leadership, and grant applicants. I am beyond grateful that TGIF found its home under the Student Environmental Resource Center so that as SERC Director, I can continue to support TGIF’s groundbreaking work, and to experience TGIF’s transformative impact on campus sustainability and student development. I look forward to participating in TGIF’s continued success and growth in 2015-2016, and I hope you will join us. #thankgoodnessitsfunded

Sustainably yours,

**Katherine H. Walsh**

Director, Student Environmental Resource Center  
2010-2014 TGIF Coordinator

# TGIF GRANT AWARDS

## 2013 - 2015

### 2013 MINI-GRANTS: 15 AWARDS

\$2,000	<b>Berkeley Student Food Collective Operational Sustainability Intern</b> Candice Rankin, Jeff Noven, Justin Michael, Lizi Vidar, Rasa Ostad	The Operational Sustainability Intern position was created to pay a student intern within the Collective who synthesized store-related data gathered by already-funded interns (and volunteer members) into concrete ways in which the Food Collective can increase its capacity to customers.
\$2,000	<b>Berkeley Student Food Collective Produce Refrigerator (LOAN)</b> Elizabeth Vidar	A 6-foot self-contained open product produce refrigerator was purchased to allow the store to bring in a higher volume of local produce and to reduce waste caused by the wilting, and in turn disposing, of produce.
\$1,500	<b>Blake Garden ADA Path with Native Plant Garden &amp; Viewshed</b> Kinya Shiraishi, Lauri Twitchell, Miriam Grace Eason	UC Berkeley landscape design students lined the pathway connecting a new ADA bathroom in the education center of Blake Garden to the event lawn with native and drought resistant plants to create an equal opportunity for all to experience nature.
\$1,500	<b>Coastal Prairie Restoration and Commemoration</b> Ariel Cherbowsky, Jennifer Podvin	The Strawberry Creek Restoration DeCal, ESPM 187 class, and volunteers will restore the last remaining area of open grassland on the main campus within the Grinnell Natural Area, and an open area north of VLSB by the West Oval Glade.
\$2,000	<b>College of Chemistry Chemical Reuse Facility Expansion</b> Emery Wilson, Michael Kumpf	A student intern was hired to assist with the implementation of a College of Chemistry reuse program for lecture bottle size compressed gases
\$1,200	<b>Community: A Garden Project</b> Grace Lihn, Leo Steinmetz	A sustainable community garden was created at an unused garden space at Clark Kerr Campus, which residents of Clark Kerr can use both as a recreational space and as an organized garden to grow their own vegetables.
\$1,967	<b>Designated Reuse Bins</b> Dan Clipson, Tasha Dowdakin	Six industrial bins on wheels were purchased to be used for reuse/move-out campus projects.
\$2,000	<b>Food Bikery Prototype</b> Jason Trager, John Romankiewicz	The project will build a prototype of a scalable, turnkey food bike that can be used as a model to boost small business ownership among aspiring, environmentally conscious entrepreneurs, while shifting the current mobile food- business portfolio towards a low- carbon model.
\$2,000	<b>Fostering Community: Clark Kerr Lawns to Meadows</b> Alexandra Lalor, Russell Huang	This project aims to convert an underused lawn on Clark Kerr campus into a more student-friendly area with native drought-resistant plants.
\$1,700	<b>Recycling Bins at Clark Kerr Dorm Rooms</b> Eva Malis, Jordan French	This project installed recycling and compost bins in Clark Kerr dorm rooms to help reach the campus' zero waste goal by 2020.

\$600	<b>LED Lighting Retrofit for the C.V. Starr - East Asian Library</b> Anthony Bum Kim	Students replaced all incandescent bulbs in the East Asian Library with LED bulbs to better energy-efficiency.
\$547	<b>Local Composting Efforts at Pi Kappa Alpha</b> Jordan John	Pi Kappa Alpha purchased two compost tumblers to create organic material which they then used to regenerate topsoil and improve vegetation on their property.
\$800	<b>Ohlone Ethnobotany Garden</b> Ariel Cherbowsky	This project aims to work with the Ohlone community to create a gathering space in an area upland of Strawberry Creek within the Grinnell Natural Area that will also serve as an educational resource regarding the Ohlone community's indigenous land management practices and uses of native plants.
\$1,103	<b>Stop Waste in Sororities</b>	Recycling and compost bins were purchased and distributed throughout the Cal Greek Sororities.
\$1,196	<b>Student Organic Garden Education Fund</b> Bofan Chen, Eleanor Lum, Josh Arnold, Marie Koesnodihardjo	The Student Organic Garden Education Fund was created to provide students with a more complete garden education to help them further their involvement in urban agriculture.

**\$22,913 2013 Mini-Grants Total**

## 2014 SPRING GRANTS: 12 AWARDS

\$19,845	<b>Forest Power</b> 2014 Blodgett Student Crew, Ariel Thomson, Bill Stewart, Ricky Satomi, Robert York, Scott Stephens	Propane and grid electricity was replaced in favor of wood at the Blodgett Forest Research Station. The wood used is procured sustainably during the research and demonstration process on adjacent University forestland.
\$25,200	<b>Lab Microscope Retrofits</b> Grace Vasiknanonte, Michael Liu	Metal halide lamps were replaced with thermally stable and efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) lamps in hopes of alleviating inefficiencies in research-grade microscopes.
\$11,378	<b>Low Water Irrigation, Phase II</b> Gary Imazumi, Megan Maurino, Sara Shirazi	Student interns analyzed and monitored local weather information, temperature, humidity, wind, and solar data using the five newly installed weather stations on campus. This data is used to adjust irrigation percentages against the baseline.
\$28,600	<b>Max-R Bins</b> Amaia Schultz, Emily McKeon, Lin	Max-R bins--bins that separate waste into landfill, mixed paper, bottles and cans, and compost--were installed in heavily trafficked buildings around campus.
\$10,000	<b>SERC Mobile App</b> Katherine Walsh, Shaun Beall	The Student Environmental Resource Center and Chinook Book teamed up to create a sustainable living and educational mobile app that provides resources and discounts including events, jobs, links to sustainability organizations, and over 200 mobile coupons from sustainable local merchants.
\$12,400	<b>South Hall Energy Efficiency</b> Daniel Angell, Eric Parsonnet	Project leaders installed special smart plug load meters in South Hall and monitored the building's energy usage patterns.

## 2014 SPRING GRANTS (CONTINUED)

**\$25,600** | **Strawberry Creek Ecological Stabilization Project, Phase II**  
Aysha Massell, Junice Uy

Students designed and installed ecologically-functional grade control structures to increase channel stability and to improve a degraded section of Strawberry Creek. This project also supported ecological restoration efforts for local fish and riparian species by improving habitat conditions and planting native vegetation.

**\$44,117** | **Student Environmental Training Program**  
Claire Kaufman, Katherine Walsh

The Student Environmental Training Program was created to provide leadership training, professional development, and critical thinking skills to UC Berkeley's student environmentalists.

**\$20,396** | **Student Organic Gardening Association Intern Program**  
Anika Rice, Deanna Oganessian, Ellie Lum, Margaret Dowley, Matthew Duffett, Megan Jackson, Sara Cate Jones

This program provided a continuity of management during the summer season to support continued education outreach and garden maintenance.

**Grant: \$4,202** | **Sustainable Food Stand**  
**Loan: \$3,579** | Ayla Peters, Gwen von Klan, Megan Svoboda

The Berkeley Student Food Collective created a food cart to be placed around campus and select areas in Berkeley in order to provide more accessible local, organic, and sustainable fruits, vegetables, and snacks.

**\$8,900** | **Telegraph Green, Phase I**  
Beth Piatniza, Jennifer McDougall, Maggie Hardy

This project aimed to train students in green business certification, help south campus area student-serving businesses obtain green certification, and promote green business consumer decisions via outreach in the campus community.

**\$11,398** | **Video as Marketing for Event Waste Diversion**  
Danielle Lauber, Fatima Nasir, Jonathan Fong, Talitha Mcadams

This project created three video shorts to be shown to the campus community to increase awareness of waste diversion and to provide students with hands-on experience of filmmaking for environmental and social causes.

**\$225,065** | **2014 Spring Grants Total**

## 2014 MINI-GRANTS: 8 AWARDS

**\$525** | **CalSoChill Prototype**  
Geun Ho Ahn

This prototype provided a functional, off-grid mobile charging station for students to use while outdoors.

**\$500** | **Green Hand Dryers**  
Grace Horvath

This project purchased the Sustainable Minds software to conduct a life cycle assessment on the efficiency of hand drivers over paper towels in dorms.

**\$1,992** | **Oxford Tract Community Farm Air Quality Research**  
Brooke Gemmel

Students conducted research at the Oxford Tract Community Farm, a plant research station near campus on the extent to which urban farms can reduce air pollution and the public health concerns related to air pollution and pollutants in urban agriculture.

**\$2,000** | **Russel Tree Farm Restoration**  
Justine Zeni, Ricky Satomi

This restoration project at the UC Russell Tree property helped improve educational opportunities, increase research access for both undergraduate and graduate students, and expand areas available for research use.



- \$2,000 | Soil Remediation Education**  
Kelly Archer, Sara Cate Jones
- The Student Organic Gardening Association created workshops within the 2014 spring decal 'Intro to Organic Gardening', which detailed the processes behind remediating contaminated soil.
- \$1,700 | Sustainable Algae Bioreactor**  
Matthew Kozuch
- Students constructed an environmentally-friendly and functioning algae biofuel reactor on campus to help promote and encourage implementation of renewable energy to the student body and produced a workable biofuel to be used within campus fuel systems.
- \$2,000 | Sustainable Concrete Canoe**  
Anthony Salguero, Christopher Belloch
- Students created a workable concrete canoe using green materials for the national American Society of Civil Engineers Concrete Canoe Competition.
- \$2,000 | WattTime**  
Sho Kawano
- The UC Berkeley Energy Office, WattTime, and CITRIS collaborated to pilot a new method of reducing carbon emissions due to electricity use by neighborhood electric vehicles.

**\$12,717 | 2014 Mini-Grants Total**

## 2015 SPRING GRANTS: 15 AWARDS

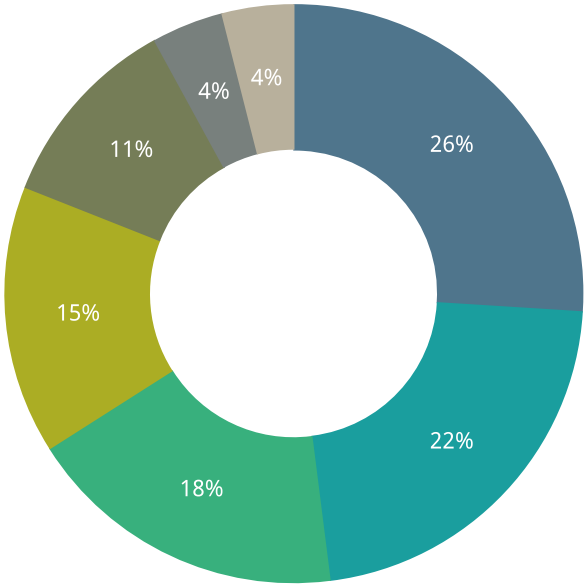
- \$5,836 | Bear Market Bulk Bins**  
Anna Yip, Lucy Tate, Sarah Atkinson
- Cal Dining, Building Sustainability at Cal, and the Zero Waste Research Center, purchased bulk food dispensers to be installed in four on-campus retail locations.
- \$6,434 | Berkeley Art Studio Clay Recycling Project**  
Katelyn Nomura-Weingrow, Vanessa DiTullio
- The Berkeley Art Studio purchased a new pug mill to continue recycling their clay and sell it to students at a lower price than non-recycled clay.
- \$16,000 | Berkeley Parklets, Bike Corrals, and Art Lots**  
Arami Matevosyan
- Students, faculty, and community members joined together to create an affordable parklet prototype. Funding also went towards a parklet DeCal, where students designed a guide on how to build a parklet.
- \$23,550 | Bicycle Parking Improvement Project**  
Greg Haet, Richard Larson
- This project added approximately 120 additional bicycle parking spaces in those areas of the central campus most in need of new bike racks. Work in some areas included repair of damaged racks or removal of outdated/unusable racks. The project also included an outreach component, aimed primarily at proper bike locking.
- \$2,251 | Dual Flush in Cooperatives**  
Serena Tam
- Berkeley Flow of the ASUC Sustainability Team converted existing toilets in the Cloyne Student Cooperative into dual-flush toilets to help conserve water. This was the first-step in the plan to implement dual-flush toilets into future student cooperatives.
- \$15,242 | Expanding Zero Waste in Residence Halls**  
Allie Lalor, Eva Malis, Jean Ji
- Recycling and composting systems were installed in the Clark Kerr Campus, Foothill, and Stern residential halls to provide students with the capacity, motivation, and awareness to sort their waste and minimize landfill waste.
- \$21,000 | Green Lab Supplies and Equipment Award Program**  
Edward Sihua Yang, David Scrimger
- This program was created to improve sustainability practices in campus research labs by purchasing and promoting green lab products and by offering awards and subsidies to labs that participate and become certified.

## 2015 SPRING GRANTS (CONTINUED)

\$14,410	<b>Greener UC Berkeley Fleet</b> Dominique Meroux, Lauren Bennett	The Greener UC Berkeley Fleet established a pilot car-sharing program for campus fleet vehicles within Residential and Student Service Programs. The team will also create an e-bike sharing program for campus staff.
\$11,036	<b>High Efficiency Hand Dryers in Barrows Hall</b> Dennis Uyat, Kristen Flores, Stephanie Kinser	Four high efficiency hand dryers were to be installed in Barrows Hall to provide a sustainable alternative to paper towels. However, the project location was moved to the Residential Sports Facility (RSF).
\$5,399	<b>Healthy Bears Take the Stairs</b> Isabelle Thibau	A mural was painted in the University Hall stairway to motivate students and faculty to take the stairs rather than elevators.
\$15,000 10k Grant 5k Loan	<b>Solar Powering Sigma Chi</b> Daniel Caveney	Sigma Chi installed solar panels on their room, making them the first fraternity house in California to generate power through solar energy.
\$5,500	<b>Sustainability in the Greek Community</b> Cole Triebold, Sierra Westhem	The student project team installed water aerators, motion sensor light switches, and LED lighting in order to improve energy efficiency and decrease water consumption.
\$10,990	<b>Telegraph Green Phase II: The Next Least Generation</b> Ada Shaw, Jacob Gill, Jennifer McDougall, Katie Latimer, Talitha McAdams	This project has been focused on reducing food-service waste from quick serve restaurants on Telegraph Ave.
\$25,932	<b>Tiny House in My Backyard (THIMBY)</b> David Rothblum, Emily Woods, Ian Bollinger, Imran Sheikh, Kenny Gotlieb, Kit Elsworth, Laney Siegner, Oriya Cohen, Roopika Subramanian, Zach Gima	THIMBY's team designed an innovative and sustainable tiny house that can serve as a model for a neighborhood of similarly minded design and build projects from UC Berkeley and the surrounding community.
\$21,700	<b>WattTime: GHG Reductions From Campus Facilities</b> Anna Schneider, Sho Kawano	This project team implemented software and building control systems to shift energy use to times when the cleanest energy is available in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity use in UC Berkeley facilities.

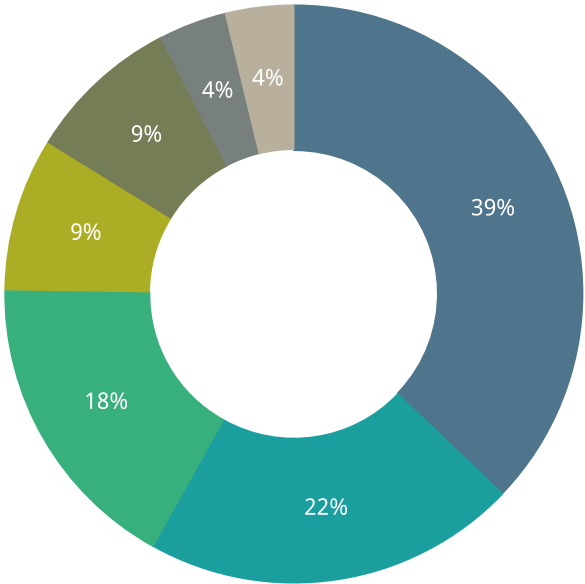
**\$200,230 2015 Spring Grants Total**

# AWARDS BY THEME



**2013-2014 TOTAL AWARDS: 27**

- Waste Diversion & Reduction
- Habitation Restoration & Native Landscaping
- Agriculture & Food Justice
- Energy Conservation & Efficiency
- Education & Behavior Change
- Water Conservation
- Transportation & Urban Development



**2014-2015 TOTAL AWARDS: 23**

- Energy Conservation & Efficiency
- Waste Diversion & Reduction
- Transportation & Urban Development
- Agriculture & Food Justice
- Habitation Restoration & Native Landscaping
- Water Conservation
- Education & Behavior Change

# WEATHER WATCHERS

By Caitriona Smyth

**T**he Low Water Irrigation Phase II Project has installed 5 weather stations on campus, collecting real-time microclimate data on solar radiation, evapotranspiration, humidity, and wind speed, which informs UC Berkeley's Ground Services department on choices around irrigation. Since September of 2014, every drop of water that drips from the sprinklers on memorial glade is controlled by a central computer at Edwards Stadium.

The project builds upon the accomplishments of Low Water Irrigation Phase I, a project funded by TGIF in 2011. In this 2011 pilot project, a weather station was installed at the West Circle, by Mulford Hall; assessments of the weather station estimated up to 60% reduction in water usage on some days, according to Megan Maurino, project leader and water enthusiast. "In Phase I we realized that there was huge water saving potential," states Maurino. "And we gained a lot of support from the public, staff, and university, all of which was crucial for the implementation of Phase II."

With California undergoing its fourth successive drought year, Maurino, a fourth year majoring in Conservation & Resource Studies with a focus on Water Resource and Management, applauds the long-term water savings accomplished by the change. "This project updates an outdated, unsustainable model and brings it where we want to be today--in line with the goals of water conservation and sustainability that the campus has, and that we as individuals have," Maurino said. In addition, Maurino Stated, "It makes infrastructural change. These weather stations have been put on campus, in concrete. These leave a legacy for water conservation at UC Berkeley."



Watering valves that previously needed to be opened and closed manually by Grounds Services staff can now be centrally controlled.

However, the project is not without its challenges. Maurino describes push-back from individuals regarding what the purpose or need for the weather stations is. "This is due to a lack of knowledge about what kind of data the stations are collecting," Maurino said, "We are trying to create signage to address this."

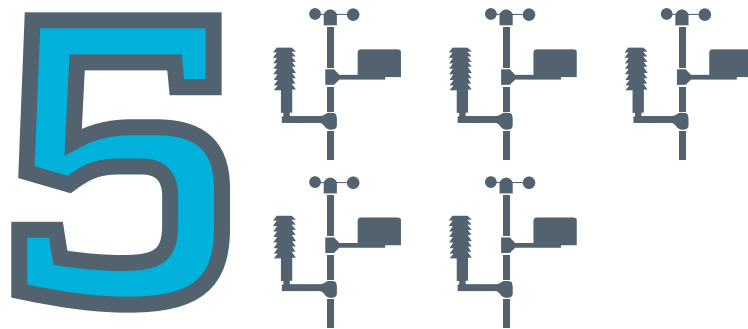
The project owes its successes to the contributions of the Facilities Services-Grounds Services Department.

The Grounds Custodial & Environmental Services department "maintains the campus buildings and grounds by delivering cleaning, cultivation and collection services for all public use facilities," according to the department's website. Gary Imazumi, the Senior Grounds Manager at Grounds Services, and Matthew Wolter, the Lead Irrigation Plumber at Grounds Services, were the masterminds behind the original grant application in 2011. On campus, Grounds Services is a subsidiary of Facilities Services.

Maurino was hired on as a student intern in Phase I and was inspired to apply for the TGIF grant that funded the second, and current, phase of the project. The project team is thus a partnership of efforts from students and staff--PPCS-Grounds Services contributed an approximated \$38,000 in labor costs to the achievements of Phase I. "The campus staff works for the students to have a conducive environment for learning, but oftentimes they don't interact (with) students daily," Maurino said. "Bridging that gap and working with University employees has been a rewarding experience. They're very willing to help and teach myself and other students."

# 60%

## Reduction in water usage



## Weather stations installed on campus

# TELEGRAPH GREEN

By Caitriona Smyth

**T**he Green Business Certification for the Telegraph Berkeley Business District Project seeks to engage five off-campus and one on-campus vendors in green business practices, therefore improving sustainability on campus and in the surrounding Berkeley community.

The project aligns with the University's objective of Zero Waste by 2020, as well as the objective for "the Telegraph area [to] become a more inviting entryway to UC Berkeley, better aligned with campus values, and a living environment for a large percentage of campus undergraduates that reflects and helps promote campus values,"

as noted in the original grant application. "On campus every day I hear and see our commitment to sustainability - we don't allow sales of bottled water, we compost in our offices, we recycle and reuse and discourage printing...but when we walk a block away

for some reason we're much less mindful, more interested in cheap and plentiful items than our environmental footprint," wrote Principal Planner for Physical & Environmental Planning, Jennifer

**"On campus every day I hear and see our commitment to sustainability - we don't allow sales of bottled water, we compost in our offices, we recycle and reuse and discourage printing...but when we walk a block away for some reason we're much less mindful."**

**- McDougall**

McDougall, the project leader and original grant applicant. She continued, "My University job is in the nexus between town and gown, and I wondered about bringing those green values across the moat."

The Green Business checklist addresses six different categories: Solid Waste, Energy, Water, Pollution Prevention, Wastewater, and General. However, Maggie Hardy, the lead on the project, noted, "We are definitely prioritizing waste reduction and proper waste disposal." She continued, "One of our main goals in approaching chain restaurants is to get them to change their packaging practices as a part

of the certification process."

The project originally targeted long-standing small take-out restaurants located close to campus, yet the team encountered difficulties reaching these restaurants.

Hardy notes the many systems restaurants put in place to reduce direct contact with the public— for

example, "comment boxes, administrative assistants, sub-managers, and...creatively evasive responses, including, 'We do have a few restaurants that are LEED certified, but we



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do not plan on having our Telegraph Avenue restaurant go through the certification.” LEED [Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design] “is a green building certification program that... recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices,” according to the U.S. Green Building Council Website.

According to McDougall, “A chief challenge is that the businesses we’ve approached don’t see the value of becoming green certified.” Besides owners who seek out the certification due to personal environmental concerns, such as Mohammed Ali, the owner of Julie’s Cafe, many owners and staff appear “overwhelmed,” despite the team’s offers to help with the certification process. As a result, they are “reactive to regulatory change and uninterested in voluntary improvements that take time and trouble to achieve,” said McDougall. Consequently, the project is re-gearing its focus and targeting chain restaurants located in close proximity to the campus, and responsible for producing high quantities of waste.

The team is reaching out to students to garner support, and encourage the restaurants to seek LEED certification. They have tabled in the dining commons, at Calapalooza, and on World Food Day, where they handed out fliers about local LEED certified businesses, and

collected 40 student signatures on a pledge to request compostable packaging the next time they eat out. Hardy notes that these efforts to engage students have been successful—students have “said that they would put the list of green certified businesses on their refrigerators...[or] that they would go eat lunch at one of the businesses on our list.” “Although we have had difficulty reaching the owners of businesses that are not yet certified, I think we have still contributed to the network supporting businesses that have taken the extra effort to become certified green businesses,” explained Hardy.

Next up, they project will be drafting a petition that asks restaurants to participate in the program, and building up a social media network to circulate it. They also plan to use social media to educate students on proper waste disposal practices, with information specific to packaging purchased at restaurants near campus, as Hardy notes this also poses a problem to reducing our campus waste stream.

The necessity of gaining student support for the program comes back to the two primary difficulties Hardy has identified in convincing businesses to partake in the program: 1) the most successful businesses are sufficiently popular as it is, so promises of a bolstered clientele does not incentivize participation, and 2) the busiest restaurants are too preoccupied

In addition to McDougall, the project leader, and Hardy, the lead intern, the entire project team consists of two other interns—Judy Lai and Stephanie Lin—as well as many University staff and individuals working in local government. The contact with those involved in green business certification for the City of Berkeley and Alameda County evolved as a “natural alliance,” according to McDougall, and has encouraged the Telegraph Berkeley project to adopt their models and training programs. “We used the Downtown Berkeley certification project, which took place a few years ago, as a model for this project,” Hardy said. “We have followed their model of training interns to pair with businesses as they work through the certification project, though we will need to adjust our model to account for the lower levels of interest among businesses in the Telegraph area.” The team has also received help from The Bay Area Green Business Program.

Throughout this project, the team has experienced the difficulties of encouraging behavioral changes in consumer purchasing habits and institutional changes in businesses. Yet, the hard work is not without its takeaways. “We’ve learned a lot about the hardworking businesses in the south campus area; we’re raising awareness in the district and among the campus community about green values; and we’re building demand for onsite, front of house

composting in area businesses,” McDougall said. Yet, “One of our achievements in the end may be a great set of questions for future TGIF projects.”

**“I hope that this project will have a long-term impact on the purchasing habits of Cal students, making them more aware of the environmental practices of the businesses they patronize.”**

with daily needs to prioritize a voluntary project, despite benefits to the long-run. “Because [successful chains] like Chipotle and Yogurtland have such a stable student clientele, they don’t really need to engage in projects that would improve their image on campus,” Hardy said. As a result, collecting student signatures on a petition and proving student support for LEED-certified businesses have become increasingly important to the project’s success. As for the second difficulty, that of involving small business owners, Hardy said, “This project has been eye-opening for me...it has helped me realized how important it is to create incentives for small business owners to take time out of their days to prioritize environmental issues.”

“I hope that this project will have a long-term impact on the purchasing habits of Cal students, making them more aware of the environmental practices of the businesses they patronize,” stated Hardy.

Hardy concluded, “Our project is about changing values: both inspiring businesses to have green business values, and inspiring campus consumers to demand them when they leave campus.”



# Budget Summary

**\$6 /** 

Per Student Semester Fee

As per the original TGIF referendum, the fee of \$5.50/semester per student in FY14 increased to \$6.00/semester per student in FY15. TGIF received a total of \$356,147 in student fees for FY14 and \$360,268 in student fees for FY15.

**+55k**

Operational Budget Increase  
From FY14 to FY15

The operational budget from FY14 to FY15 increased by approximately \$55,000 to accommodate the following:

- Creation of new student staff positions
- Professional learning development for student staff and TGIF project leaders
- Addition of Nature Village and Zero Waste Research Center budgets
- The reclassification of the TGIF Coordinator position and equity adjustment.

**\$298,429**

FY15 Remaining Balance

The total remaining FY15 balance is \$298,429. \$131,292 is restricted funding allocated to current TGIF projects. The remaining \$165,500 is unrestricted funding allocated to FY16 fund expenses and contingency funds

**\$131,929** **\$165,500**  
Restricted Funds      Unrestricted Funds

## The Green Initiative Fund Statement of Activity July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014

### BEGINNING BALANCE

Allocated Funds	218,563
Unallocated Funds	64,659
<b>TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>\$283,222</b>

### REVENUES

TGIF Mug Sales	2,860
Student Fees	356,147
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$359,007</b>

### EXPENSES

OPERATING	
Coordinator Wages	38,694
Student Wages	5,392
Benefits	16,086
Compensation	1,084
Gen. & Employee Insurance	397
Supplies & Expenses	3,885
TGIF Project Leader Travel-Conf-Mtngs-Trngs-Events	9,993
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$75,531</b>
GRANTS	
Nature Village Leadership Housing Fellowships	11,390
Return of ASUC Green Certification Grant	-26,964
Return of BSFC Fridge Loan	-200
2008 Grant Awards	0
2009 Grant Awards	15,260
2010 Grant Awards	0
2011 Grant Awards	0
2012 Grant Awards	8,000
2012 Mini-Grant Awards	0
2013 Grant Awards	130,451
2013 Mini-Grant Awards	18,963
2014 Grant Awards	183,338
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>340,238</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$415,770</b>

### NET REVENUES/(EXPENSES)

**\$56,763**

### BEGINNING BALANCE FOR FY15

RESTRICTED	
2009 Grant Awards	19,551
2012 Grant Awards	13,659
2013 Grant Awards	20,141
2013 Mini-Grant Awards	2,000
2014 Grant Awards	47,277
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>102,628</b>
UNRESTRICTED	
2014 Fall Mini-Grants	20,000
FY15 Operating Budget	100,000
Contingency Funds	26,118
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>146,118</b>

**TOTAL BALANCE \$248,746**

## The Green Initiative Fund Statement of Activity July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015

### BEGINNING BALANCE

Allocated Funds	102,628
Unallocated Funds	146,118
<b>TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>\$248,746</b>

### REVENUES

Student Fees	360,268
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$360,268</b>

### EXPENSES

<b>OPERATING</b>	
Coordinator Wages	60,255
LEAD Center 20% Contribution for Coordinator Wages	-14,482
Student Wages	22,105
Benefits	25,355
Compensation	1,146
Gen. & Employee Insurance	855
Supplies & Expenses	1,544
TGIF Project Leader Travel-Conf-Mtngs-Trngs-Events	19,540
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>116,318</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>	
Return of BSFC Fridge Loan	-800
2012 Grant Awards	5,000
2013 Grant Awards	20,202
2013 Mini-Grant Awards	0
2014 Grant Awards	31,298
2014 Mini-Grant Awards	10,717
2015 Grant Awards	104,447
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>170,864</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$287,182</b>

### NET REVENUES/(EXPENSES)

**\$73,086**

#### BEGINNING BALANCE FOR FY15

<b>RESTRICTED</b>	
2012 Grant Awards	8,659
2013 Grant Awards	-61
2013 Mini-Grant Awards	2,000
2014 Grant Awards	15,979
2014 Mini-Grant Awards	2,000
2015 Grant Awards	103,352
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>131,929</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED</b>	
2015 Fall Mini-Grants	20,000
FY 16 Operating Budget	100,000
SERC Space Award-Pending Space	20,000
Contingency Funds	26,500
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>166,500</b>

**TOTAL BALANCE \$298,429**

## METRICS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# #THANKGOODNESSITSFUNDED

**150** native plants were planted around Strawberry Creek



## Strawberry Creek Restoration project



Strawberry Creek Restoration project improved the habitat for the following fish species: Three-spined stickleback, Sacramento Sucker, California Roach Minnow. Two are now living on-site.

## Community: A Garden project:



**50lb**

“We have saved as much as four thousand gallons of water from being used on lawn space (this is based on data from the EPA rather than data from Clark Kerr itself, so the number could be off), and produced at least 50 lbs. of vegetables that were consumed (which is far under our projected peak output after further soil development and better planting techniques).”

— Grace Lihn



In 2014, The Strawberry Creek Ecological Stabilization Project received much needed funding from UC Berkeley’s Capital Renewal Program. TGIF is grateful to Sally McGarrahan and Capital Projects for this support.

## Higher Ed Sustainability Conferences.

From 2013-2015, 24 TGIF projects have presented at the annual CA Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference (AASHE).



## Berkeley PowerSave Campus



Berkeley PowerSave Campus won a 2015 Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Best Practice Award in the Student Energy Efficiency Program category at CHESC for their TGIF funded project LED Microscope Retrofits. This is the third TGIF funded PowerSave Campus project that has won in this category since 2012.

## CACS Sustainability Award



From 2014-2015, the following TGIF Project Leaders have won a Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS): Eli Perszyk and Megan Maurino. The Student Environmental Resource Center won a 2015 CACS Sustainability Award for enhancing a culture of sustainability at UC Berkeley and supporting student environmental leadership.



## Lab Microscope Retrofits

TGIF Funded Projects “Lab Microscope Retrofits,” “Fight the Flow,” and “End the Cycle- Sustainable Laundry Campaign” presented at the 2015 American Council for an Energy- Efficient Economy Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Industry Conference.



## Student Sustainability Poster Session

In 2014, twenty TGIF funded projects were presented at UC Office of the President (UCOP) during an April Earth Day Sustainability Expo and UCOP April Breakfast Student Sustainability Poster Session and in 2015, five TGIF funded projects were presented at the UC Office of the President during a UCOP May Breakfast Student Sustainability Poster Session.

## “How-to Guide: Campus Green Fund Implementation”



In 2013, then-TGIF-Coordinator, Katherine Walsh, co-authored with the Campus Green Fund Collaborative. The guide was published by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.



## Farm Air Quality Research

TGIF Funded Projects “CalSoChill,” “Oxford Tract Community Farm Air Quality Research,” and “Sustainable Algae Bioreactor” presented at the 2015 Engineer’s for a Sustainable World (ESW) national conference.



## ASCE Concrete Canoe Competition

TGIF funded project “Sustainability Concrete Canoe,” participated in the 2015 ASCE Concrete Canoe Competition at Clemson University, where the group came in 3rd place overall and 1st in oral presentation and design paper. The project also won the “Spirit of the Competition” award.



## Best Grocery

TGIF funded project Berkeley Student Food Collective was nominated in the Best Grocery category of the 2014 Best of Berkeley Awards.



Pictured: **CRRS Waste Audit** Photography credit: **Cesar Ruiz**

# Campus Green Fund Transforms Sustainability at UC Berkeley

By Eva Malis

The University of California, Berkeley is celebrated today for its top-ranked environmental studies program, its innovative sustainability initiatives, and its strong community and culture of sustainability; however, UC Berkeley didn't always have this esteem.

As a pressing ecological crisis gained more publicity throughout the last few decades, students and academic institutions moved to take action in the face of this new challenge. Universities have prioritized improving the sustainability of their own campuses, fighting complacency and working hard to initiate numerous sustainability projects. Students have played a critical role in the establishment of sustainability-focused initiatives and infrastructure in academic institutions across the nation, and such has been the case at UC Berkeley.

One of the biggest obstacles impeding campus sustainability initiatives proved to be lack of funding. Whether initiated by the university or its students, many projects require significant funding and approvals to make substantial changes to campus operations. Without a reliable source of funding to support campus sustainability initiatives, significant progress seemed intangible to institutions and their invested communities.

In 2006, UC Santa Barbara became the first UC to pass a fee to create a campus green fund that would “reduce the University’s impact on

the environment” (TGIF-UCSB). In 2007, UC Berkeley students voted to create their own campus green fund by enacting a \$5 per semester student fee. Fifteen students formed a core TGIF design team, with 30 additional volunteers recruited to join the team for the TGIF Campaign. UC Berkeley’s TGIF Referendum passed with 69% of the vote in the ASUC elections, and TGIF launched into operation for the 2007-2008 academic year.

The referendum also established the first TGIF committee, which then developed the fundamental infrastructural and operational processes of TGIF. The Committee wrote the TGIF Bylaws and launched a robust publicity campaign to increase campus awareness of the new fund. The campus community submitted 28 applications during TGIF’s first grant cycle, from which the TGIF Committee selected nine projects and awarded a cumulative total of \$168,615. The TGIF Committee received a 2008 award from the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS) that recognized its incredible efforts to promote sustainability within the UC Berkeley community.

During its second year (2008-2009), TGIF hired its first Coordinator, Nicole Leung, who worked to support the processes of TGIF and further campus awareness of TGIF’s existence. Even more students applied for funding in 2009, with a total of \$286,650 awarded across ten different



projects. The following year (2009-2010), TGIF received 39 applications after introducing the Abstract System, a new 2-phase step in the grant application process. Of the 39 abstracts, 21 were invited to submit a final application, and 14 proposals were awarded a collective sum of \$249,150.

During the first three years of TGIF's existence, a trend of growth and development in the campus community became visible. Many of the accepted projects increased education of campus sustainability in addition to reducing the amount of natural and financial resources consumed by the university. Some of these projects included the I Heart Tap Water campaign, Building Sustainability at Cal, Earth Week, the Office of Sustainability and Energy Student Internship Program, the Berkeley Student Food Collective, and BicyCAL, all of which still have significant presence and legacy of impacts at UC Berkeley today.

In TGIF's fourth year of existence, a new Coordinator, Katherine Walsh was hired. "My arrival was the first time the Coordinator position would be classified as a full-time career staff position rather than part-time," explained Walsh, who is now the Director of the Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC).

"I got to start with a program that was still new and relatively small, develop a vision for it, and work to guide that vision," said Walsh. "I set a goal for TGIF to become the best campus green fund in the nation. And UC Berkeley was the perfect place to set an ambitious goal like that." During her first year as Coordinator, Walsh worked diligently to set a

precedent for other university campus green funds. TGIF's publicity and outreach efforts expanded to include attendance at national conferences, where UC Berkeley's TGIF was considered a leading initiative and model for other universities. "I'm really proud that Berkeley was seen as such a

model, and that we had the opportunity to co-author a Best Practices Guide on campus green funds for AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education)", stated Walsh.

Walsh introduced a number of new programs to improve the TGIF grant-awarding process, including abstract-writing workshops and trainings throughout the 2011 grant cycle to provide support for students and their projects and new, more comprehensive reporting

requirements for grant awardees. The next year, she introduced the Fall Mini-Grant program "to finance projects of smaller scope and shorter timelines" because they "found that just having one application cycle in the spring semester wasn't enough, given the demand," explained Walsh. This proved to be an immensely successful initiative, and twelve projects were awarded a total of \$17,525 in mini-grant funds during its first cycle.

TGIF's projects foster greater collaboration between campus departments and groups, and grow student-staff partnerships. "TGIF is one of those great programs that brings people together," said Walsh. "There are staff who love TGIF because it has given them a chance to work with students." There are evident benefits for which this collaboration is necessary. Jimmy Dunn, an undergraduate student at Cal and a TGIF

**"Since 2008, TGIF has provided valuable funding, advice, and guidance to a wide array of student and staff projects, and the cumulative impact of these projects has been impressive."**

**— Lisa McNeilly,**

*Director, Office of Sustainability and Energy*





“TGIF is an amazing resource for students and staff to implement cutting edge sustainability projects for the campus community. They are the driving force behind many of the sustainability efforts on campus.

— **Aysha Massell** (Past TGIF Student Project Lead, Environmental Protection Specialist, EH&S)



“TGIF has empowered the campus community, staff and students alike, to have a stake in the future of UC Berkeley.”

— **Tim Pine** (Environmental Protection Specialist, EH&S)

Program Associate, explained, “TGIF projects require that project leaders receive approval from campus departments and that they have a financial sponsor to receive and administer the funds, which takes care of most of the foreseeable speed bumps in a project’s lifetime.” Tim Pine of Environmental Health and Safety proclaimed, “I’ve felt a sense of stewardship in the students I worked with that applied for a TGIF grant, whether they got funded or not.” From the student perspective, Sara Cate Jones from the Student Organic Gardening Association explained, “While it is not necessarily a requirement of TGIF, they also help us administratively as they act as both an advocate and a liaison between our student organization and larger university entities, such as the ASUC.”

One of the biggest impacts of TGIF has been on the student community. “TGIF sends the message to the greater community that sustainability projects are a priority and that they’re worth being funded,” affirmed Grace Lihn of the Berkeley Student Food Collective, a TGIF-funded, cooperatively run student grocery store that relies on TGIF for advising and support and has reapplied for more funding to grow projects and initiatives of the store. “Thanks to TGIF, the Food Collective has been able to expand its membership and its store, foster resilience within our community, and take one step closer to making real food affordable and accessible.”

“In working with TGIF through Cal Dining, I have been able to push forward projects, like the Bulk Bin Project, that Cal Dining initially was skeptical of, but that in the end became rooted in the management and responsibilities of Cal Dining,” explained Sarah Atkinson, former coordinator of the Cal Dining Sustainability Team. “By providing these funds for long-term projects, TGIF has made the Cal Dining Sustainability Team grow as a resource to Cal Dining in their movement towards a more sustainable campus department.”

“The Strawberry Creek restoration project I worked on as a student would never have happened without TGIF,” asserted Aysha Massell, a Cal Alumna. “TGIF was willing to take a risk and invest a significant amount of money for the design and permitting stages, which then enabled others to fund the actual construction of the project.”

On the same initiative to restore Strawberry Creek as Massell, staff member Tim Pine confidently stated, “Because my team within the Office of Environment, Health & Safety (the Environmental Protection Team) has been so active in applying for and receiving support from TGIF, I’ve seen, and continue to see on a daily basis, the positive effects of the initiative—for instance, there are hundreds of native trees and plants thriving in the campus Natural Areas that were started as seedlings in the Strawberry Creek Native Plant Nursery, grown and transplanted by Cal students as well as Berkeley High School classes and children as young as five years old.” The Strawberry Creek Native Plant Nursery started as a TGIF project and continues to bring students together to invest in the campus landscape and gain valuable experience with restoration ecology and familiarity with native plants.

In 2012, a TGIF grant funded the formation of the Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC), now the central hub of student environmental activity on the UC Berkeley campus, and TGIF Coordinator Katherine Walsh officially became SERC Director in December 2013. The Student Environmental Resource Center aims to cultivate a collaborative space to strengthen the collective effectiveness of the sustainability community



and provides resources for students to actualize their visions of a more equitable, socially just, and resilient future. SERC was so successful that TGIF transitioned to a program under the SERC portfolio. SERC now leads a number of wide-reaching programs including Earth Week, Solar Spring Break, the Environmental Coalition (ECO), a Career Series, a DeCal Fellowship Program, the Zero Waste Research Center, and Nature Village. More can be found on SERC's impacts and objectives at [serc.berkeley.edu](http://serc.berkeley.edu).

Sharon Daraphonhdeth, the current TGIF & Sustainability Initiatives Coordinator, was hired in August 2014. Daraphonhdeth campaigned for a campus green fund at SF State University and views the opportunity to work with project leaders and applicants at UC Berkeley as a privilege. "What TGIF offers to the campus community is support and opportunities for students. Students develop valuable professional project management skills through the process and can trust that with TGIF's support their project will not fail," explained Daraphonhdeth kindly. "I've learned that campus green funds hold the power to enhance student engagement, which can inspire great change." Since her arrival at UC Berkeley, she has spearheaded a rebranding process to make TGIF more visible and has successfully recruited more applicants from groups of students not previously reached.

Students and staff alike agree that TGIF has also helped foster individual growth. Third year Environmental Economics student and former coordinator for the SPROUTS team (Student Projects Redefining Our University's Trash, Sustainably) Pallavi Sherikar professed, "TGIF has the unique ability to develop and foster students' growth through an abundance of practice in grant-writing, leadership and teamwork in a way that produces tangible positive impacts. It is at the flagship of UC Berkeley sustainability." Lisa McNeilly of the Office of Sustainability and Energy stated, "The number of student internships and service learning opportunities has definitely raised the bar for student involvement on campus."

"TGIF gives UC Berkeley students the opportunity to apply their academics to a project they care about, stewards student-staff collaboration, and promotes not only sustainable infrastructure, but a culture of social and environmental responsibility as well."

— Jimmy Dunn (TGIF Program Associate)

Furthermore, the more recent projects are continuing to grow in creativity and address large-scale issues while encouraging cross-collaboration among students and other campus entities. "The projects are becoming more innovative and diverse because we have surpassed basic sustainability initiatives," stated Walsh on the ways in which she has seen TGIF grow. The 2015 Grant Cycle included a clay recycling project in Berkeley Art Studio, installation of community-designed bike parklets and corrals, a pilot e-bike-sharing program among staff, incentives for purchasing Green Lab supplies, and the design of an innovative and sustainable tiny house that demonstrates the union between affordable and sustainable housing.

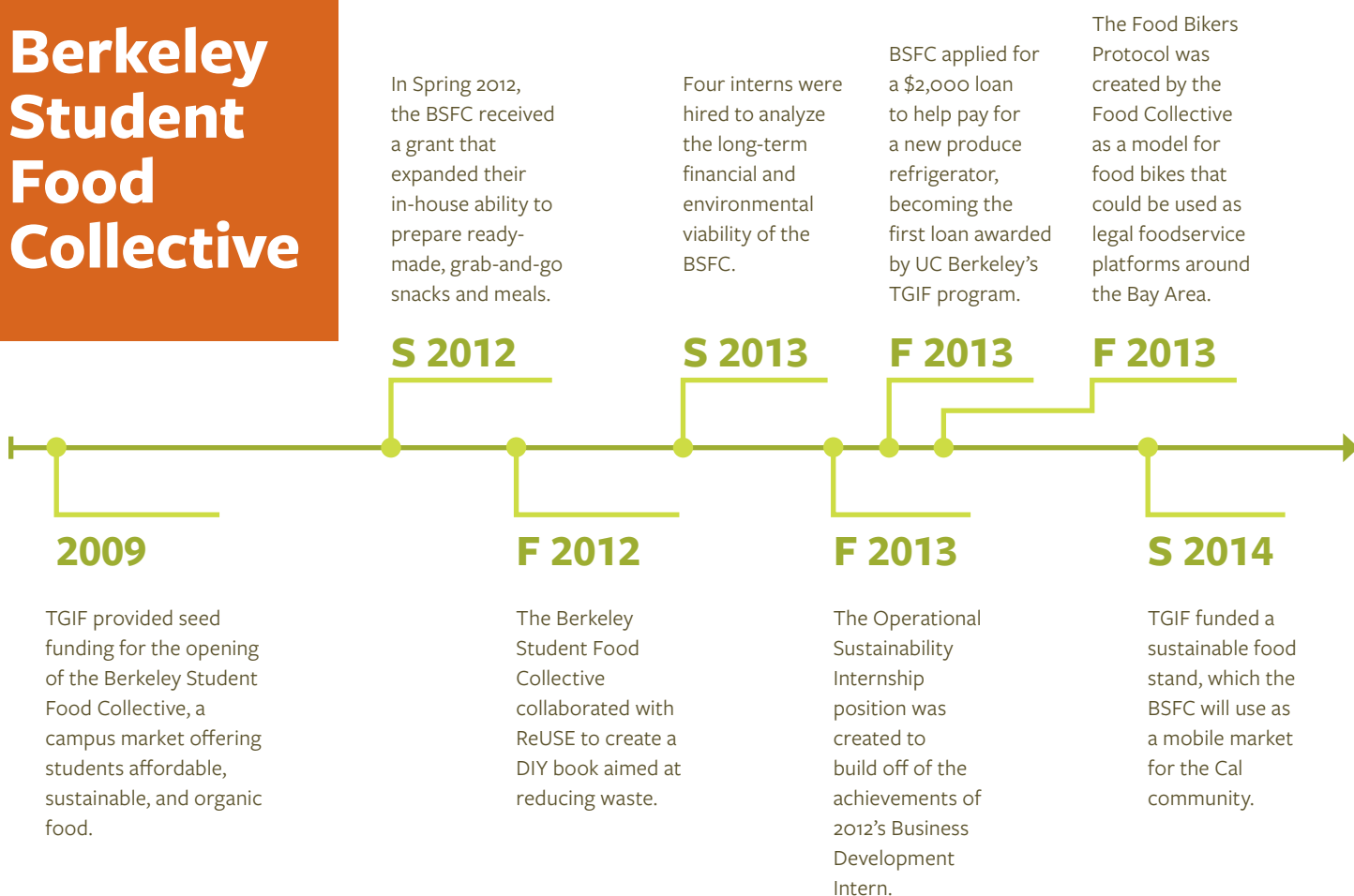
"It's hard to find an area of sustainability that hasn't benefited from TGIF, whether having received seed funding for a new effort or a little extra nudge for an on-going one," stated Lisa McNeilly of the Office of Sustainability and Energy. Many other prominent campus individuals seem to agree. Tim Pine declared that "the positive impacts are all around [him], big and little". Sharon Daraphonhdeth affirms that "this campus would not have a culture of sustainability without TGIF and the students who bring it to life."

The impacts and legacy of The Green Initiative Fund at UC Berkeley are unparalleled. This is visible throughout the physical campus and individual testimonies from the campus community. Yet, there is still a wealth of potential for TGIF to continue to push boundaries, set precedents, and drive UC Berkeley to the apex of campus sustainability. This sustained exponential progress can only be made possible by continued support of TGIF by campus students, staff, faculty, and administrators alike.

## THROUGH THE YEARS

### TGIF PROJECT TIMELINE

# Berkeley Student Food Collective



**The Berkeley Student Food Collective** opened in 2010 thanks to a TGIF grant. Since its opening, the BSFC has won additional grants that have helped it expand and grow as an organization, all while staying true to its original aspiration: to provide Berkeley students and community members with healthy, organic, locally-grown food at a reasonable price while also educating them about making smart, sustainable food decisions.



## THROUGH THE YEARS

### TGIF PROJECT TIMELINE

#### Strawberry Creek

Returning to graduate school after time in the working world can be a major shift. Before beginning my PhD in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, I worked for many years for the Oakland-based nonprofit Save The Bay leading students, companies and members of the public planting native species along the shores of the San Francisco Bay. As I began my degree in 2012, I was eager to gain a new set of scientific skills and perspectives, but I was also determined to stay involved with local, community-oriented restoration efforts.

The question was, how do I successfully pursue these non-dissertation topics given the limited time and resources that characterize the graduate student experience? TGIF ended up being a major part of my answer to this question. In the spring of 2013, I applied for a TGIF grant titled “Fitting Plant to Place: Site Specific Restoration Planning for Strawberry Creek.” Through this grant, I was able to incorporate theoretical research on ecological restoration trajectories with undergraduate education, community volunteering and high school education.

Strawberry Creek, year-round, is a unique feature for an urban campus in arid California. In fact, the creek was a central reason for locating UC Berkeley’s campus in its present location. Over the years, grazing and human impacts destroyed the native vegetation along the creek and invasive species like english ivy took over as the creek was modified to make way for a growing university. Beginning in the 80’s and 90’s, dedicated stewards such as Robert Charbonneau and Tim Pine led the revival of the creek, vastly improving the water quality and controlling the ivy along the banks. In the mid-2000’s, students began planting native species to replace the sprawling ivy.

Our activities started with the 2012 TGIF project “Filling the Weed-Shaped Hole,” which assessed the best species for planting along the creek given its urbanized nature. “Fitting Plant to Place” brought these results from the greenhouse into the field. In our first year, we planted and maintained over 400 native species, keeping over 90 percent of them alive through California’s historic drought. One of the major benefits of working on campus is easy access for the numerous UC Berkeley undergraduates who have worked on hands-on planting and project follow up. Situating ecological science and stewardship activities on campus vastly expands outreach possibilities and allows for results to be incorporated by students in subsequent years.

Importantly, our project has also served as a connection to the broader community. We have partnered with three International Baccalaureate Environmental Science classes through Berkeley High School teacher Russell Campisi. These students have integrated restoration work on the creek into their data-oriented coursework, and have been responsible for the planting of an additional 250 plants in the 2014-2015 school year. For three months following planting, students measured plant growth and watered to keep the plants alive in this dry year. By incorporating ecological science with stewardship in our urban environment, we are exposing the next generation to both the methods of and the reasons for contributing to local ecosystems.

Without the support of TGIF, programs like these would be nearly impossible to execute on the UC Berkeley campus. Over the years, TGIF has been the single largest contributor to the restoration and maintenance of Strawberry Creek, which greatly benefits UC Berkeley students, community members and urban wildlife. Thanks, TGIF!

**By Dylan Chapple**  
PhD Candidate



Steve Maranzana

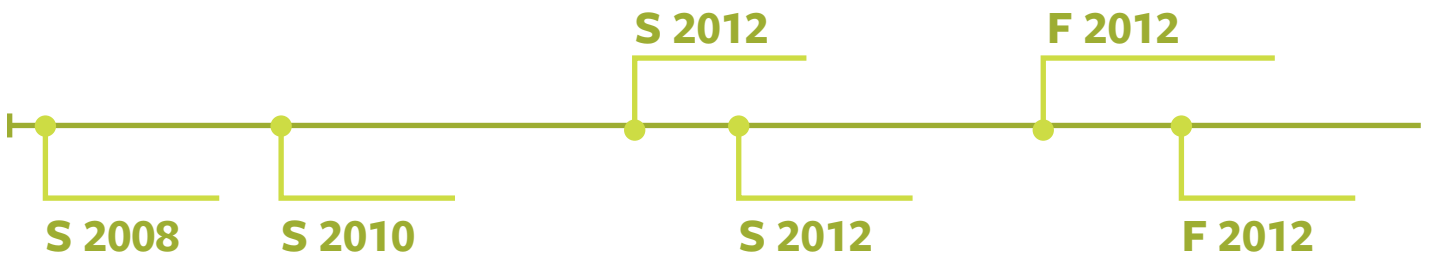
TGIF project Strawberry Creek Ecological Stabilization Project was dedicated on April 8, 2015 in memory of Steve Maranzana, former EH&S Manager and Cal alum. Steve was an incredible and inspiring champion of both Strawberry Creek and student sustainability leadership at UC Berkeley. He is truly missed by all of us at TGIF and SERC, and we could not be more proud, nor have found it more fitting, that this project was dedicated in his memory. Steve’s legacy with the creek will live on in perpetuity.

**Strawberry Creek** is the main watercourse through UC Berkeley, offering a variety of plant and animal species to the Cal community. TGIF grants from 2008-2014 have funded restoration and protection projects, including constructing a native plant nursery, creating a Strawberry Creek tour booklet, and a site-specific restoration project that plants native and drought resistant plants along the creek's edge.

# Strawberry Creek

The SC Watershed Stewardship Program expanded the Restoration Leadership Program to include environmental education outreach, member skill development, and pollution monitoring to track water quality.

Purchased a water quality probe that assists with sediment and erosion research along Strawberry Creek.



**S 2008**

Designed and constructed the Strawberry Creek Native Plant Nursery & Garden.

**S 2010**

As part of the Lawns to Meadows project, two large lawn areas near Strawberry Creek were converted into meadows.

**S 2012**

Student interns studied and identified native plants that could enhance Strawberry Creek's natural ecosystem.

**S 2012**

**F 2012**

Created a Sustainable Water Infrastructure Campus Tour booklet and online guide.

**F 2012**

Measures were implemented to regain ecological stability, basic LID strategies and habitat restoration.

**S 2013**

The best plants for each site were identified by measuring soil characteristics and landscape factors. This information was compiled into a guide which volunteers could easily follow.

**S 2013**

A collaboration of students and faculty completed two restoration projects in the Grinnell Natural Area.

**F 2013**

**S 2013**

A training program was developed for UC Berkeley undergraduate students with an interest in sustainable soil use and habitat restoration.

**F 2013**

A gathering space was created in the Grinnell Natural Area to serve as an educational resource about the Ohlone's indigenous land management and use of native plants.

**S 2014**

A student-designed, ecologically-functional grade control structure was added to a degraded section of Strawberry Creek to increase channel stability and support native species.



# Zero Waste Research Center

Kimberley Lam and Claire Porter from Campus Refuse Recycling Services (CRRS), sought to create the Zero Waste Research Center (ZWRC) by applying for a TGIF Grant of \$19,000 in 2012. The goal of the ZWRC was to create a team of undergraduate students who would focus on upstream strategies towards waste diversion. In other words, they would conduct research on preventative and creative solutions to reducing waste at UC Berkeley. Since then, over 12 students have served as ZWRC Program Associates, where they have worked on a variety of waste reduction projects and produced a wealth of waste research. Such examples of projects include the following:

- 1) Environmentally Preferred Products (EPP) Roadshows: By working with CRRS and Supply Chain Management Group representatives Sandy Macaseib and Alex Butler, the ZWRC created a list of recommended office products and promoted them at tabling events at different buildings across campus in what became known as the EPP Roadshows. One product that was promoted was the Pilot B2P, which is a refillable pen made out of recycled PET#1 water bottles.
- 2) Plastic Disclosure Project (PDP): The PDP sought out to measure UC Berkeley's plastic footprint. The report identifies the missing loops found in tracking the campus's plastic waste, as well as the need for more disclosure. It also identifies the plastic footprint of commonly found plastic products such as coffee cup lids and plastic water bottles. The final PDP will be published in 2015.
- 3) Plastics Recycling Facility: The ZWRC is very excited to partake in the creation and development of UC Berkeley's very own plastic recycling facility. Partnering with CRRS and faculty representatives from the College of Engineering, the facility plans to convert all plastics (#1-7) collected on UC Berkeley, into sustainable products and materials used on campus. Stay tuned for more information.
- 4) In 2014, the Zero Waste Research Center (ZWRC) became a functional program within the Student Environmental Resource Center. Now, the portfolio of the ZWRC has expanded to include the Zero Waste Movement DeCal, and in March 2015, the ZWRC co-hosted the 3rd Annual Zero Waste Youth Convergence. The ZWRC team is excited for the 2015-2016 academic year and hopes to make more progress on finding innovative strategies toward reducing waste on campus.



### Hello from Nature Village!

The Sustainable Families Program at University Village has taken off these last two years. After a trying transition period, Nature Village has come back strong with a diverse team that includes a Director, Program Associates, and a group of volunteers.

The goal of Nature Village is twofold: first, to address the physical challenges to sustainable infrastructure, and second, to address the lack of a sustainability program that targets a diverse group of residents from all ages and cultures. The infrastructure of University Village, built during WWII and converted to housing for married students in 1956, is old and correspondingly unsustainable. When Nature Village was founded in 2011, there was no sustainability program at University Village, and the only thing that resembled an attempt to be environmentally friendly involved the few recycling bins in the trash enclosures, which were found to have an 18% contamination rate. University Village has become, for us, a microcosm of society. While the utopian ideal may be a state-of-the-art, zero-waste, carbon-neutral village, in reality, we have to work with what we've got and take small steps towards physical and habitual change.

Over the past four years, Nature Village has taken initiative on multiple projects. The Water Project has focused on the installation of low-flow shower valves in apartments, the Laundry

Project on the distribution of drying racks to residents, and the Waste Management Project has involved both the installation of an e-waste program and the distribution of individual and large-scale compost containers.

While continuing all abovementioned projects, Nature Village has largely focused on education and outreach. We created the Green Family Ambassador Program for families who want to get involved but have limited time to commit. Our hope is that they will not only be the ones to communicate sustainable habits to the rest of the Village, but also form small working-groups to address issues they are passionate about. We have focused on targeting the programs on families, which means finding ways to engage both children and adults from diverse international backgrounds.

With a few events under our belt, including a Social Potluck where the families were “zero-waste certified,” a Do-it-Yourself Craft Event, Sunday Bike Rides, and Yard, Toy, and Book Sales, we hope to continue building community around ideas of sustainability. We have many ideas for the future, including hosting water- and energy-savings competitions, working in the community garden, and creating an environmental walking tour of the Village. There is so much we can do with Nature Village, so keep an eye out for us in the future!

Sincerely,

**Nature Village Team**

# LOOKING FORWARD

Through the last 7 years, The Green Initiative Fund has become a leading model for campus green funds nationwide. The campus has seen remarkable institutional, physical, and behavioral changes that reflect the impact and need for sustainability initiatives.

As TGIF has now secured a permanent home within the Student Environmental Resource Center, we are excited to continue and expand the scope of what TGIF offers and are looking forward. After my first year as The Green Initiative Fund and Sustainability Initiatives Coordinator, I'm thrilled to say that TGIF, in its entirety, has exceeded my humble expectations. From the 141 TGIF projects to the 240+ internships TGIF has provided since 2008, it's been incredible to witness and be a part of the process.

The growth of TGIF has produced measurable outcomes that have truly impacted the culture of sustainability, leadership, and involvement at UC Berkeley. As you may have seen in this latest Annual Report, TGIF has surpassed the \$2 million mark in a mere 7 years. This not only illuminates the success of TGIF but also positively highlights its capability and use by students, staff and faculty. From the largest grant of \$91,000 to start the Berkeley Student Food Collective to over \$900,000 allocated to student internships, we take pride in keeping our funding transparent and in supporting the student leaders who keep TGIF fresh and inspiring.

The 2015-2016 academic year is the most pivotal year for The Green Initiative Fund. In the spring of 2016, TGIF will be coming to its sunset period,



**Sharon Daraphondeth**  
Coordinator, The Green Initiative Fund  
& Sustainability Initiatives

and we will be going back to students at UC Berkeley to ask for their support in keeping TGIF as UC Berkeley's green fund. This means we will be spending this next year launching our TGIF Renewal campaign. We understand that this will not be an easy win, but we look forward to reaching out to our campus community, partners, and students for their support to keep TGIF's legacy. We look forward to the challenge and will take this also as an opportunity to create more visibility for TGIF and to showcase the impact it has created on campus.

Moving forward, our main priorities for the 2015-2016 academic year are as follows:

- Lead a successful TGIF campaign, by passing the TGIF referendum
- Increase fundraising efforts and secure space for the Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC)
- Continue to provide seed funding for innovative projects, that will make deep and lasting sustainable impacts at UC Berkeley
- Keep our commitment to making all TGIF budget information transparent
- Commit to environmental justice, social equity, and inclusion in all our grant making decisions, programming, and staff values

As TGIF has now found a permanent home with the Student Environmental Resource Center, we are excited to continue to expand the scope of what TGIF offers by committing to constitute an active, innovative, and educational green fund for UC Berkeley. We hope to expand the reach of what our sustainability impact can be and to foster more collaborative projects and partnerships across campus. This has been an epic run for TGIF and though we've already been a part of such substantial change on campus, this is truly only the beginning. We are ready to embrace this upcoming year, and look forward to growing the impact of TGIF.

**Go Bears and Stay Green,**

**Sharon**





# THANK YOU:

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