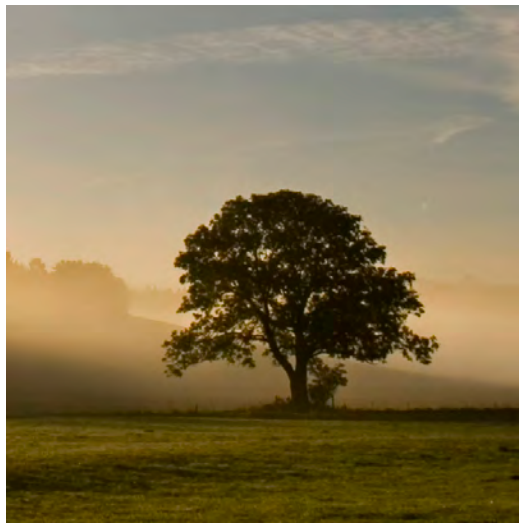


+ THE HUMAN FACTOR



Foothill College Center for a Sustainable Future



CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

SUSTAINABLE LEARNING COMMUNITY PROJECT GAINS NATIONAL ATTENTION

The national association for sustainability on campuses, AASHE, recently chose Foothill College's Sustainable Learning Community project as runner up in a nationwide competition. Congrats to all who have participated in this wonderful learning community over the past three years!

SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

Brenda Visas to resume role as Sustainability Coordinator. To learn more, see page 8.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

November's Native American Heritage month was co-sponsored by the Center, with many of the activities linked to sustainable topics. For more information, see page 4.

+ OUR MISSION
Foster ecoliteracy across the curriculum
Revitalize & re-envision general education through the lens of sustainability
Cultivate sustainable values and practices on campus
Collaborate with the greater community toward a sustainable future

TEAM ENERGY CHAMPIONS...

by Fillary T. Susanto

Last Summer Instructors Jamie Orr and Robert Cormia teamed up to recruit a handful of engineering students from Foothill College to become energy champions. So who are these "energy champions" exactly, and what do we do? Energy champions are environment lovers, sustainability supporters and most importantly, students who work to promote sustainability and improve the energy efficiency of our campus. Our ultimate goal is to reduce district energy use through

the One-Million Kilowatt Hour Challenge, part of the Community Energy Champions grant program held by Silicon Valley Energy Watch. To achieve this goal, we designed a step-by-step plan. First, we have to identify the problem areas on our campus. By gathering data on our campus' energy usage and production, we will be able to

analyze our consumption pattern and identify areas where we use energy inefficiently. Next, we will design an energy model that optimizes the energy production on our campus.

But to be able to design the best energy model, we first need to do the research on the energy sources of our campus. For example, one of our sources of energy is solar power. We intend to investigate and learn more about the storage and the specific usage of our solar panels.

Energy champions and our instructors spent this quarter (Fall 2013) on planning the projects and getting corporations and people involved. To be able to work effectively, we divided ourselves into groups with each one working on a specific project and increasing the efficiency of our work. My group has chosen to work on analyzing the energy consumption and production, as I am interested in learning more about the function and mechanism of solar panels and how they work to create and store energy. Hopefully by understanding and analyzing it in depth, we will be able to optimize the benefits and usage. I am also interested in creating effective energy models that can be applied on our campus and increase efficiency. By

the start of Winter 2014, the Energy Champions will begin to implement all the plans that we have made and will begin to work toward our target.

We also hope that our work here at Foothill will inspire other colleges and campuses around the country and the world to participate and raise awareness of the dangers of global warming and energy poverty.



“THE ONE MILLION KWH CHALLENGE IS THE PERFECT MOTIVATION FOR THE ENTIRE FOOTHILL-DE ANZA COMMUNITY TO NOT ONLY BECOME MORE ENERGY INTELLIGENT, BUT TO PUT THAT INTELLIGENCE TO USE TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL.”

You can also help us with this challenge! Your help is crucial because this is a global problem that is impossible to solve without the cooperation and participation of everyone. You can help us reduce energy consumption by taking simple

steps like turning off electrical appliances, computers and lights when not in use. Another thing that you can do to help is to be proactive by increasing the awareness of your peers and supporting people like us to achieve our common purpose. According to Instructor Orr “The One Million kWh Challenge is the perfect motivation for the entire Foothill-De Anza Community to not only become more energy intelligent, but to put that intelligence to use towards a common goal. The Energy Champions leading this effort are an inspiring group of students that will have impact well beyond their involvement on this project and are a testament to the quality of students this district enrolls.”

Together, we can achieve a sustainable campus! If you'd like to join Team Energy Champion, please contact Dr. Jamie Orr at orrjamie@fhda.edu.



Fillary “Larry” Susanto is an Engineering Student, an Intern with the Foothill Center for a Sustainable Future, and an Energy Champion!



WINTER HOLIDAY SHUTDOWN

GREEN OFFICE BREAK & HOLIDAY CHECKLIST!!

Check out this break and holiday checklist, created by the University of Massachusetts 'Sustainable UMass' program. If you can take a few minutes before you head off for the holidays to do these things, we can save a little extra energy over the break and help our Energy Champions with their quest to reduce 1 million kWh!!

- ☑ Tightly shut and lock all windows in the office including storm windows. Shut blinds.
- ☑ For winter closings, turn down the thermostat to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. For warm weather and summer closings, turn off air conditioners and make sure the heat thermostat is turned off.
- ☑ Unplug appliances: printers, photocopiers, fax machines, microwaves, coffee pots, and chargers
- ☑ After shutting them down, unplug all computers and monitors from wall sockets.
- ☑ Turn off faucets and report any leaks to maintenance
- ☑ Water any office plants
- ☑ Turn off the lights

KJ's Cafe
celebrates Earth Day every day!

KJ's recycles 100% of their plastic, glass and cardboard
 KJ's coffee grounds are used on-campus for compost and are available to all customers
 KJ's has switched to eco-friendly cleaning products*
 KJ's offers organic and/ Fair Trade Certified™ coffee options
 KJ's offers a 15¢ discount for bringing your own cup
 KJ's uses Greenware™ cold cups that are made from corn and are 100% compostable*
 All milk products Rbst (hormone) free

Please choose consciously.
 ✓ Reduce.
 ✓ Reuse.
 ✓ Recycle.

KJ'S
Cafe a la carte

*occasionally suppliers will replace at their discretion when out of stock

SUSTAINING THE SPIRIT: NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

by Scott Lankford



Foothill’s third-annual Native American Heritage Month (co-sponsored by the Center for a Sustainable Future) focused intensively on issues of environmental justice for all.

Highlights included a November 5 keynote lecture by Fond du Lac tribal member and eco-activist Rochelle Diver, a prominent sustainability advocate within the United Nations. As a lead staff member for the International Native Treaty Council, based in San Francisco, Rochelle described the Council itself as “an organization of Indigenous Peoples from North, Central, South America, the Caribbean and the Pacific working for the

Sovereignty and Self Determination of Indigenous Peoples and the recognition and protection of Indigenous Rights, Treaties, Traditional Cultures and Sacred Lands.” Within her tribe’s own traditional homelands --where sustainable wild rice harvesting has nourished human cultures for tens of centuries-- Rochelle has already spent a lifetime fighting for clean air, water and food security within the Great Lakes region. Further from home, she has also proudly represented the International Indian Treaty Council at the United Nations in New York (as well as at UN-sponsored events from Australia to South America). For Foothill students, one memorable highlight of her lecture was a direct challenge to identify which precise provisions of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples could best be invoked to help assure a sustainable future for us all.

Next Aleut tribal historian and documentarian Judy Young shared intimate glimpses of her own personal journey from Alaska’s remote archipelago to San Francisco’s Haight-Ashbury district during the Summer of Love--along with wrenching tales of the environmental and social costs of Alaska’s colonization and exploitation (from the

Foothill College presents
November 2013

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH


10/21 12:1-00 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 PERFORMANCE: CALPULI TONALEHQUEH GROUP	11/13 12:00-1:00 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 LECTURE: FILM-MAKER JUDY YOUNG (ALEUT)	11/20 12:00-1:00 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 LECTURE: ANN-MARIE SAYERS (ESALEN)
11/4 12:00-2:00 Main Dining Hall FILM: SMOKE SIGNALS	11/14 11:00-1:00 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 FILM: POWER PATHS	11/25 12:00-0:00 Main Dining Hall FILM: OGALLALA LEGACY
11/5 12:00-1:00 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 LECTURE: ROCHELLE DIVER (FOND DU LAC), INTL. TREATY COUNCIL	11/18 9:00-9:50 Room 4401 FILM: POCOHONTAS-THE DOCUMENTARY	11/27 12:00-1:00 Campus Center Plaza LIVE MUSIC: NATIVE ROCK
11/6 12:00-1:00 Rm 3305 DISCUSSION: TWO-SPIRITS	11/19 11:00-11:50 Hearthside Lounge Rm 2313 LECTURE: DR. THARON WEIGHILL (CHUMASH)	11/6-11/29 Main Dining Hall PHOTO EXHIBIT: STANFORD POWOW CEREMONIES
11/11 12:00-2:00 Main Dining Hall FILM: ALEUT HISTORY		

Aleut
11/11/13
www.aaleut.com

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11000 BURNETT BLVD., SUITE 100
DUBLIN, CA 94568
(916) 875-4000

first Russian fur traders of the 1700s forward to the present-day petro-economy). Later Dr. Tharon Weighill, a member of the Chumash tribe, spoke eloquently of his lifelong work with the legendary American Indian Movement civil rights activists (from indigenous occupations of Alcatraz Island onward). To close out the month's lectures, local Ohlone tribal elder Anne-Marie Sayers and her artist-daughter Kanyon Sayers both described their lifelong work of stewardship and restoration at the Indian Canyon Preserve south of Gilroy -- which ironically remains the only piece of land under the direct control of San Francisco's original inhabitants, the Ohlone Tribe.



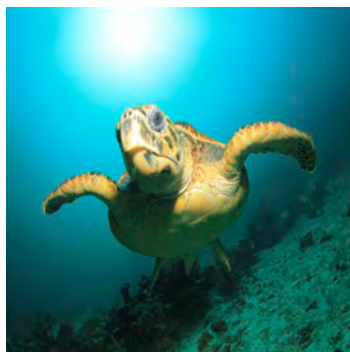
Framed by an ongoing series of films, photo exhibits, and live musical performances, virtually every aspect of Foothill's Native American Heritage Month 2013 focused directly or indirectly on issues of sustainability and planetary survival--ranging from award-winning documentaries about Pocahontas and electric power generation to the eerie and ancient flute and drumming dance music of the Aztec and Mayan ceremonies (not to mention the more contemporary eco-themed lyrics of the legendary Bay Area Native Rock band, Medicine Road). 

FOOTHILL SUSTAINABILITY COURSE SPOTLIGHT

Take a look at our sustainability/environmental related course offerings for Winter Quarter 2014!



- ☑ BIO 1C: Evolution, Systematics & Ecology
- ☑ BIO 9 & 9L: Environmental Biology & Lab
- ☑ CHEM 20: I Matter - Intro To Green Chemistry & The Environment
- ☑ ENGR 39: Energy, Society & The Environment
- ☑ ENGR 40: Intro To Clean Energy Technology



SWIMMING WITH THE TURTLES

MY VOLUNTEER SUMMER by Manthan Bharat Thakkar

It all started one winter evening as I was sitting in the Foothill computer lab, wondering what I would do over the summer. SLEEP! was the first thing that came to my mind, followed by an idea to Google “101 ways how not to waste your summer.” Nothing useful came up, although I do recommend a video by Escapist Magazine called “LoadingReadyRun: Ways to Spend Your Summer.” It’s informative yet funny, but not exactly what I had in mind.

After almost an hour of shuffling through results for “summer internship,” “Volunteer

over the summer,” “unpaid internship opportunity,” and “exchange programs for students,” I came across a volunteer program at Dekamer, a Sea Turtle Research, Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre along the southern coast of Turkey. This seemed perfect for me and so I sent an email asking about the opportunity and more details.

It took a few months to hear back and get more details, with the following months spent planning and preparing for the trip. After 30 hours, two flight transfers and a fourteen-hour bus ride, I arrived at the camp. All of the

(CONTINUED)

volunteers gathered around and introduced themselves in their own languages: French; Spanish; English; Turkish. I felt lost and out of place since the only thing we really seemed to have in common was being there at that same time—yet I knew this was going to be a wonderful experience, something more than I ever imagined! This was that adventure of a lifetime I had always dreamt about.

It turned out to be very easy to make friends there. Most of us spent the days talking about our experiences and walking the length of the beach during sunset and sunrise—I realized



that there was a bit of philosopher in all of us. Camping life involved cooking our own meals, sleeping in tents and caravans and for me, going for long swims in the ocean each evening. One evening I swam for 30 minutes away from the beach and it felt as though I had entered a whole new world. The water was so blue I could see the sea floor 60 feet below me. With no sign of the beach in any




direction, I felt a rush I have never ever felt before. I was an explorer, visiting a place untainted by human presence. Although I have to admit, the thought of a killer shark biting my legs was pretty scary. Nevertheless, it is times

like these that bring you closer to the shark and true bonds are formed with nature.

When you hear the word “Volunteer,” the first thing that often comes to mind is hard work for free. But what most people fail to see is that these organizations

take care of your room and board for free or very minimum fees, allowing you to “holiday” in exchange for doing work that you are passionate about. Our job was to patrol the beach each moonlit night (which was five-kilometers long) to record turtle tracks. One of our most important jobs was to lay cages over turtle nests to protect the eggs from being eaten by the foxes and raccoons from the surrounding hills.

This worked surprisingly well and it was not too often that we saw broken eggs, left by the foxes as a sign of victory. In fact you wouldn’t believe me if I told you that I once heard a fox say, “Challenge accepted.” *Spread the message, the fox has finally spoken.* We were responsible for taking care of injured turtles, which were kept in huge tanks at our camp. We also spoke to tourists on the beach to spread awareness about this endangered species. Before I knew it, my month’s stay at the camp was over and I was on my airplane headed back to San Francisco.

Sitting in a café in the Bay Area, as I look back at those days I realize how much this experience has changed who I am. Although I still have the same name and physical appearance, I am not afraid to ‘live’ anymore. I wish each and every one of you could have experienced this with me – but every single person has their own adventure waiting for them so I will just encourage you to seek yours out and not be afraid of it! 

Manthan “Monte” Bharat Thakkar is a Computer Science Student at Foothill.






Foothill College
Center for a
Sustainable Future



Hiding your inner 'GREEN'?

Is there sustainability in your soul?

WE NEED YOU!

We are looking for new classified, faculty, administrator and student recruits to work on the Sustainability committee for 2013-14. If you would like to become part of a fun and exciting team (and earn some PGA/PAA credit!) please contact Brenda Visas at davisvisasbrenda@fhda.edu. Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 3:45 p.m. 

ADIEU...

After serving four years as your sustainability coordinator, I will be turning the reigns back over to the capable hands of Brenda Visas. While I have very much enjoyed all of the sustainable projects and events I have worked on, I will begin a new interim assignment in Marketing this January that will require my full attention! Brenda will resume her role as Sustainability Coordinator, and will be the chair of the Sustainability Committee. If you have any questions regarding meetings or agenda items, you can contact her at davisvisasbrenda@fhda.edu. For those of you involved in the Sustainable Learning Community, Scott Lankford has agreed to lead that charge so please contact him at lankfordscott@fhda.edu with any questions.

I will still be around, and hope to be involved in some of the sustainable projects and activities in the future. I wanted to thank each of you who have been involved with the innovation and collaborations happening around sustainability. There are a number of new projects in the works and it will be very exciting to see them develop on campus! Please be sure to stop by and say hello any time in the marketing department.

All my best, *Mia Casey*