

# SUSTAINABILITY

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES, STEWARDING RESOURCES, AND DISCOVERING SOLUTIONS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

# UPDATE

## DISCOVER



### Teaching and Research Grants

Grants for new sustainability course development and research projects were awarded to **ten departments** across UVA. Six new courses funded last year began this January, with **234 students** enrolled.

### Course Development Grants

- Asceticism and Sustainability
- Sustainability in France
- Narrating (Un-)Sustainability: Ecocritical Explorations in Italy
- Chemistry of the Anthropocene
- Words on Paper - History of Climate Science, Policy and Art
- Sustainable Local Economies
- Islam, Science, and the Environment
- Regional Writing on Sustainable Climate Solutions

### Research Grants

These included studies of native wild flowers, the impact of natural environments on children's emotions, vehicle idling reduction policies, air pollution inequalities, and women's sense of belonging in STEM.

## ENGAGE



### Environmental Justice Advisory Council

In October, former Governor convened the first **Environmental Justice Advisory Council** (Executive Order 74), which will be facilitated by UVA's Institute for Environmental Negotiation.



### UVA Sustainability Days

Approximately **660 attendees** attended seven events.



### MLK Diversity & Equity Event

The 2018 Community MLK Celebration Event hosted by UVA Sustainability brought guest speaker Happy Johnson to a roundtable discussion **and artist and activist Candy Chang** to explore the **intersections of equity, diversity, art, and healing through community building.**

## STEWARD



### GameDay Recycling Challenge

In the GameDay Recycling Challenge football competition, UVA placed **#3 nationally** for Total Recycling and **#10 nationally** for Diversion Rate. UVA diverted 55,362 pounds of waste from landfills at the fall Homecomings football game, a recycling rate of 77%.



### Food Symposium

In December, UVA hosted the **Virginia Higher Education Sustainable Food Supply Chain Symposium**, with special guests - the First Lady of Virginia and the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry. The symposium focused on increasing the understanding of the barriers and possible strategies to overcome barriers in purchasing sustainable food.



### Zero Waste Women's Global Leadership Forum

The Women's Global Leadership Forum committed to a zero waste event, with volunteers on hand to help attendees sort materials, diverting **814 pounds of compostable materials** from landfills.



### Green Labs

In October 2017, the Green Labs Program led UVA's first **Shut the Sash** competition, a proven strategy for implementing safer, more efficient working standards under chemical fume hoods. The campaign resulted in a 32% improvement for sash position in the Physical & Life Sciences Building.



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*From the Grounds Up*