



SUSTAINABILITY UVA
From the Grounds Up



UVA SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS: MARCH 2019

For sustainability at UVA, 2018 was a year of accelerated action, deeper engagement, and new partnerships. Thousands of individuals associated with the University and surrounding community contributed their passion and experience to catalyze change at UVA and beyond as global sustainability challenges have become increasingly urgent.

As we move into 2019 and a phase of focused sustainability strategic planning, UVA will further deepen its leadership in all realms of sustainability including science, technology, engineering, design, humanities, ethics, governance, business, law, policy, public health, and other discovery areas; curriculum and research; and our practices as they relate to environmental stewardship.

With UVA sustainability staff engaged in parallel climate action planning processes in the city and county, regional climate action networks and partnerships are growing. We will continue to build connections between these realms to leverage the unique opportunities for sustainability in higher education and in our community.

DISCOVER

Sustainability Faculty Fellows: This new program awarded 4 faculty fellowships to support core sustainability course offerings and student advising in the Global Environments + Sustainability Research Capstone Seminar.

Research and Course Development Grants: In Fall 2018, the Committee on Sustainability's Research Development Grants and Course Development Fellowships program awarded 19 grants of \$8000 each. A February Environment as a Learning Tool Symposium highlighted work made possible by previous Research Development Grants.

Environmental Resilience Institute: In January ERI launched a Water Futures Initiative and a J-term Environmental Extern program. Last fall, ERI funded 4 new CoLabs and 6 new rapid response grants in the wake of Hurricane Florence.



ENGAGE

MLK Community Celebration: In January UVA Sustainability and the 9 Pillars Hip Hop Cultural Festival hosted “Voices for Change” with keynote speaker Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Vice President of Climate, Environmental Justice & Community Revitalization for the Hip Hop Caucus. Over 200 attendees engaged in dialogue on the power of community and civic process to bring about positive change.

Game Day Challenge: Over 100 volunteers contributed to UVA’s participation in the 2018 football Game Day Challenge, with UVA ranking in the top ten nationwide for total recycling. UVA will compete in the national Recyclemania GameDay Basketball competition at the March 2 game versus Pitt.

STEWARD

Smart Energy Decisions Innovation Award: In December UVA was named by the Smart Energy Decisions Innovation Award Advisory Panel as the 2019 Innovation Award winner in the category “Higher Education Energy Efficiency Technology” for its Delta Force program and Clark Hall. Delta Force, a building retro-commissioning team, drives down energy and water use through building management and systems upgrades. Delta Force has invested \$15.5 million in improvements to existing buildings on UVA's Grounds, resulting in \$35 million in avoided costs.

LEED for Existing Buildings: With its LEED-Operations + Maintenance (LEED-OM) Silver certification, Clark Hall became the first building in Virginia and one of the first in higher education in the world to achieve LEED-OM under version 4 of the rating system.

Green Labs Award: In October the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories recognized the University of Virginia with a Sustainable Procurement Leadership Award, based on the extent that UVA has worked with procurement teams and lab occupants to promote the use of sustainable products in labs.