



SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

June 2020

Faculty Highlights Section

Women in Green Summit: Strengthening the Pillars of Sustainability, Resiliency, Wellness and Equity



The flyer features the USGBC logo in the top left corner, which includes a circular emblem with a tree and the text 'U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL' and 'USGBC'. Below the logo are three orange and white chevrons pointing right. The main title 'USGBC TAMPA BAY WOMEN IN GREEN' is in large, bold, orange letters. Underneath, it says 'Celebrating our 2020 Sheroes' in white. The date and time 'June 16 12 - 1:30 PM ONLINE' are in orange, followed by the URL 'https://usgbctampawomeningreen2020.eventbrite.com' in white. A white banner across the middle reads 'Join our panelists and equity discussion'. Below this are five portrait photos of the panelists, each with their name and title listed underneath in white text.

**USGBC TAMPA BAY
WOMEN IN GREEN**
Celebrating our 2020 Sheroes
June 16 12 - 1:30 PM ONLINE
<https://usgbctampawomeningreen2020.eventbrite.com>

Join our panelists and equity discussion

 <p>Brooke Hansen Director, Sustainable Tourism Program, USF Patel College of Global Sustainability</p>	 <p>Erica Nelson Deputy Director of Operations, Harvest Hope, University Area CDC</p>	 <p>Shalini Ramesh Director International WELL Building Institute</p>	 <p>Sharon Hanna-West Faculty USF Muma College of Business</p>	 <p>Sheridan Boyle Sustainability Coordinator City of Clearwater</p>
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On June 16th, Dr. Brooke Hansen moderated the US Green Building Council's inaugural "Tampa Bay Women in Green Summit", where expert panelists spoke about the four USGBC pillars of Sustainability, Resiliency, Wellness, and Equity. Erica Nelson led a call to action around issues of equity, made more urgent by the current widespread protests about inequalities and racial injustice. Sharon Hanna-West, PCGS Director of the Sustainable Business concentration, highlighted trends in the business world towards the triple bottom line of people, planet, and prosperity and spoke of her work in the community assisting small businesses to develop sustainability practices and plans. Shalini Ramesh discussed how the people-centered WELL Building Institute and their certification system is meeting the challenges of Covid-19 with a new task force and recommendations. Sheridan Boyle described the City of Clearwater's

commitment to sustainability with their Greenprint Sustainability Action Plan and the reduction of greenhouse gases. The panelists embodied the USGBC's promotion of Sheroes: women heroes, who stand up for a future with clean air, clean water, healthy food, access to quality education, equitable housing, and more.

Associate Faculty Member Publishes Article on Covid 19 and Food Activism

Dr. Patricia La Trecchia is an associate faculty member of our College. For the past decade, she has been teaching Food Culture in the Mediterranean. Recently, she published an article entitled "Italian Farmers and Migrant Farmworkers: Food Activism and Food Justice in the Time of COVID-19," which is forthcoming in *Gastronomica: The Journal for Food Studies*.

City of Tampa hires new Sustainability & Resiliency Officer: Whit Remer, a PCGS Courtesy Faculty Member

The City of Tampa has hired Whitford Remer as their new Sustainability & Resiliency Officer. Mayor Castor sought a professional who has extensive experience in sustainability and resiliency. As the overseer of this branch of our local government, Mr. Remer's duties include developing a climate action and resiliency plan for the city, tackling urgent issues, such as sea level rising and storm water management, helping the city transition to 100% renewable energy by 2045, ensuring environmental justice for Tampa citizens, and implementing the city's sustainability and resiliency road map.

Mr. Remer's has extensive background as an environmental attorney that worked on the effects of climate change and natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina. Our College is pleased that Mr. Remer, a PCGS courtesy faculty member, has been selected for this critical new role for the City of Tampa.



New United Nations Center Established at PCGS: The USF Sustainable Development Action Alliance

A new United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) partnership was created in spring 2020 with the establishment of the USF SDG Action Alliance, led by founding coordinators Dr. Brooke Hansen and Dr. Heather Rothrock. The alliance's mission and goals were co-created by PCGS faculty and students in the graduate course IDS 6216, Implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The first events co-sponsored by the SDG Action Alliance included SDG education and outreach at the Florida State Fair and a statewide webinar hosted by Dr. Brooke Hansen. PCGS's commitment to the

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council



Clean Sky Tampa Bay

PCGS students are invited to join an information session on Wed, June 10th at 2pm, hosted by PCGS and Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)

This is an upcoming project opportunity for Fall 2020. More details will be forthcoming after the student info session.

Key Projects for students include:

- **Energy assessments by key structures as identified by each county**
- **Technical training for students on REopt Tool**
- **Case Studies as deliverables**

Please RSVP to

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/clean-sky-tampa-bay-tickets-107828658420?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/clean-sky-tampa-bay-tickets-107828658420?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch)

aff=ebdssbonlinesearch by Monday, June 8th



**UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA**

Patel College of Global Sustainability

PCGS is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC). This significant initiative is sponsored by the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). "This partnership will further strengthen our USF PCGS collaboration with our public sector organizations and offer our graduate students real-world technical experience," remarks Kelly Gaskell, Director of PCGS Student Development. This collaborative effort will include Pinellas County, Hillsborough County, Manatee County, and the City of Largo.

On June 10, PCGS hosted an informational session on this partnership. Key projects for our students include energy assessments of structures identified by each county, technical training for students on the REopt Tool, and case studies. Faculty lead Dr. Pradeep Haldar comments "We're excited to partner with the TBRPC as part of their Department of Energy "Clear Sky Tampa Bay" Project to develop a framework for enhancing resiliency through solar and energy storage implementation. It is a tremendous opportunity for our students at the Patel College, who will learn by researching cutting edge renewable energy technologies and its impact on public safety. They will also contribute by conducting assessments on resilience and energy using tool kits that will assist in building innovation networks and create impacts at

a regional and national level.” Opportunities such as this project, help our students gain real-world experience and expertise that will greatly benefit them in their future sustainability careers.

In Memoriam

Martin Schönfeld, 1963-2020



Dear All,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the unexpected death of a great friend of our College, Professor Martin Schönfeld, in Taiwan recently. Martin was a great believer and practitioner of sustainability and was an associate faculty member of our College. He contributed immensely to our MA program. Link to his PCGS faculty page: <https://www.usf.edu/pcgs/about/associated-faculty.aspx#martin>

We were extremely sad to hear the news of his passing and we will miss him dearly.

Dean Parayil

Join Our Alumni Network

**CONGRATULATIONS
SPRING 2020
GRADUATES!**

PCGS ALUMNI NETWORK

You are invited to join the PCGS Alumni Network! Since 2017, our goals include providing opportunities for alumni to network with each other and fundraising to support the PCGS Student Scholarship Fund.

Join for Free: <https://bit.ly/2JwkNYQ>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT KELLY GASKELL AT KGASKELL@USF.EDU



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A PREEMINENT RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Our Alumni Network was established in November of 2017 and its goal is to provide opportunities for alumni to network with each other and current PCGS students.

Join for Free: <https://www.usf.edu/pcgs/student-resources/alumni-network.aspx>

Student Engagement

Virtual Seminars

USF Patel College of Global Sustainability and
USF Alumni Association
Host

Career Conversations
With Alumni Network Leaders

Thursday, May 21st 4:00-5:00 PM, Zoom call

RSVP To Tyrone Gray, USF Student Alumni Officer, at tgray@usf.edu by May 18th



Kendria Ferguson, M.A., LEED GA

She graduated from PCGS in 2017 with a renewable energy concentration. She is from the Bahamas and has extensive experience working with the Bahamas Government Ministry of Environment and Housing to ban plastic products and increase renewable energy use. She currently works as a freelance writer for 360 Caribbean Web. She will be discussing sustainability issues for small island development and giving interview tips.



Arnel Garcesa M.A., LEED GA, WELL AP

He graduated from PCGS in 2017 with a renewable energy concentration. He currently works as an Energy Specialist for Cenergistic, a nationwide firm which partners with public institutions to reduce utility expenditures. He currently conducts on-site energy audits for Florida State University aimed at optimizing existing mechanical equipment. He also currently studies statistics and conducts research at Florida State University. He will be discussing how to stand apart during the job application process and preparing for career-development success.

SAA
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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Housing Conversations
Thursday, June 4, 3:00-3:45 PM

Please join Kelly Gaskell, Director of Student Development, and Leah Mowery, PCGS 2020 Coverdell Fellow, in an open conversation about housing for PCGS students including suggestions, personal experience from Leah Mowery, information on our housing Facebook page, and open time for questions and discussion!

RSVP to Leah Mowery at lmowery@usf.edu to receive the link

Request to join the unofficial USF Patel College of Global Sustainability Housing Page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/571864603734655/>

Even in a pandemic, PCGS is committed to ensuring their students feel part of our community. PCGS is

hosting multiple virtual student engagement events throughout this summer! One of the recurring events will be housing conversations, where PCGS Coverdell Fellow Leah Mowery will be discussing her personal experience finding housing as a student moving to Tampa from Chicago and providing insights based on things she's learned and questions from incoming students. Our other exciting event will be a Q&A with current PCGS students in August, where they will share their experience at PCGS and answer questions from new students!

Student Resources

We Got U-SF



We have great news to share with you about new student scholarships! PCGS is pleased to inform you that the University of South Florida will be investing \$20 million to help students who are experiencing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible students will receive an email from USF's Office of Financial Aid or the Office of Admissions. Already 22,000 students are receiving financial help through the We Got USF Scholarship.

Our college understands that many of our students are experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic. We encourage you to look into this scholarship fund to see if you qualify.

Click here for more information: <https://www.usf.edu/financial-aid/wegotu-sf/index.aspx>

Office of Financial Services Contact: 813-974-4700; sfshelp@usf.edu

Student Development

The Student Development Office provides valuable resources to our students, including professional development and sustainability seminars, networking assistance with professional organizations and NGOs, resume and cover letter reviews, letters of reference, and more. If you have questions regarding student resources or would like assistance with job searches, please contact PCGS Assistant Director

Kelly Gaskell, kgaskell@usf.edu for assistance.

Click Here for Access to Our Student Development Handbook:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ak8kXMLm3asJf1u6cxURnAZrDn7uzB_y/view



Feed-A-Bull Pantry

The Feed-A-Bull Pantry has remained open and is available for students experiencing food insecurity. They have updated their services' protocols to incorporate the need for safer practices for COVID-19 to protect student patrons. If you are a student in need of this service and have allergies or religious beliefs that affect your diet, you can contact the pantry at feedabull@usf.edu. The food pantry is also accepting donations.

For more information on hours: <https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-health-services/services/feed-a-bull-food-pantry.aspx>

Student Health Services

Student Health Services are still available to those enrolled at the University of South Florida. While walk-ins are currently unavailable, you can call the office at 813-974-2331 to schedule an appointment. Their website does not suggest doing an online request due to the influx of patients their office is now receiving. Additionally, it may take up to 2 business days for your request to be processed.

For more information click here: <https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-health-services/services/appointments.aspx>

Latest Covid 19 Update

On June 23, the Florida Board of Governors approved our University's reopening plan for the Fall 2020 Semester. USF is currently in Phase I of its four-phase plan.

Phase I includes:

- All course instruction continues remotely.
- All individuals who can work remotely should continue to do so.
- Faculty or staff performing critical functions can remain at, or return to, work if certain health and safety conditions in the workspace are met, including physical distancing, cleaning materials and hand sanitizer are available and face coverings are worn in enclosed spaces and in areas where physical distancing can't be maintained.
- No more than 25% of employees should be on campus. No events or meetings should be held in person. Common areas and gathering spaces remain closed.

The University's COVID 19 task force will continue to monitor the virus as we proceed with the reopening plan. Be sure to continuously check your emails for further updates from USF. Click here for the most recent official coronavirus update by the university: <https://www.usf.edu/coronavirus/>

Fall 2020 On Campus & Online Course Offerings



REGISTER FOR SUMMER / FALL PATEL COLLEGE OF GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY CLASSES TODAY !!

FOR REGISTRATION, FOLLOW THE BELOW STEPS

OASIS ACCOUNT → STUDENT → REGISTRATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY COURSES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jamie Chmiel (Academic Services Administrator)
jchmiel@usf.edu

Our College is looking forward to our students joining us for another semester. We will be offering classes both on-campus and online during the upcoming semester. We understand that some of our students do not have their official schedules set yet, so we would like to direct them to our website, where they will find the official fall schedule at <https://www.usf.edu/pcgs/ma-program/index.aspx>. There, you will also find information regarding your concentration. If you wish to learn more about the MA degree, please contact our Academic Program Director Randall Pape at rpape@usf.edu and our Academic Services Administrator Jamie Chimel at jchmiel@usf.edu.



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Patel College of Global Sustainability

SUMMER 2020
VIRTUAL STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT EVENTS
SCHEDULE



May:

May 16: Career Conversations

June:

June 4: Housing Conversations

July:

July 2: Housing Conversations

July 30: Housing Conversations

August:

August 6: Q&A with Current
PCGS Students

Contact Kelly Gaskell, Director of Student Development, at kgaskell@usf.edu
and
Leah Mowery, Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow, at lmowery@usf.edu
for more Information

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GIVE A GIFT TODAY

Help Support Our Future

Sustainability Leaders



If you are interested in presenting in our Sustainability Speaker Series or connecting with PCGS on partnerships or conference sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kelly Gaskell, PCGS Director of Development. kgaskell@usf.edu.