



# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

**9:00 - 10:00 A.M.**  
**SHARON BUILDING/MAIN HALL**

*Thursday, May 16, 2024*

## REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

**10:00 - 11:15 A.M.**  
**SHARON BUILDING/MAIN HALL**

**WELCOME FROM JO ANNE CARRICK**, *Shenango Campus Director*

**WELCOME FROM LARA FOWLER**, *Penn State Chief Sustainability Officer*

*Discussion of CWCs and the School for Sustainability*

## ASSET MAPPING EXERCISE

**11:15 A.M. - NOON**  
**FORKER LABORATORY**

### CONVERSATION STATIONS (may be subject to change):

- Accentuating the Positive -- Strategically Communicating Sustainability
- Budget and Grant Brainstorming
- Continuing Education -- Opportunities for Your Campus
- Extension -- Your Partner in Sustainability Education
- GameStop -- An Activity Exchange for Sustainability Group Building
- K-12 Engagement Network -- Helping You Reach Your Local Schools
- Penn State Outreach -- A Strategic Partner for CWCs
- Working Session -- Open to any issues or ideas participants want to discuss

**NOON - 1:30 P.M.**  
**SHARON BUILDING/MAIN HALL**

## LUNCH AND NETWORKING



# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

**12:45 - 1:25 P.M.**

*Thursday, May 16, 2024*

## OPTIONAL CAMPUS TOUR

**1:30 - 3:45 P.M.**  
**FORKER LABORATORY**

## AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS -- DUAL SESSION (*with break in the middle*)

- Developing a Regional CWC Sustainability Council and Succession Planning in our Sustainability Organizations
- "Training the Trainers" -- Getting Sustainability into the Campus Curriculum
- Implementing Sustainable Landscapes at Our Campuses

**or**

- Creating New Recycling Signage and Messaging for Your Campus (1:30-2:30 p.m.)
- Creating A Student Sustainability Ambassadors Program (2:45-3:45 p.m.)

**2:30 - 2:45 P.M.**  
**SHARON BUILDING/MAIN HALL**

## AFTERNOON SNACK BREAK



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# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

**DUAL SESSION WORKSHOP**

*Thursday, May 16, 2024*

## **Developing a Regional Sustainability Council and Succession Planning in Our Sustainability Organizations**

**Ilona Ballreich**, *Director, Sustainable Communities Collaborative*

**Peter Boger**, *Associate Director for Community Engagement, Penn State Sustainability*

**Katie Chriest**, *Outreach and Communications for Commonwealth Campuses, Penn State Sustainability*

As discussed at the fall Working Sessions, many CWCs would like to participate in a regional Sustainability Council, either as a supplement to their own campus's council or to replace having an individual council at their campus. In this facilitated working session, we will build on the morning plenary's asset mapping exercise to work through participants' desires for the format and strategic priorities of a regional council, with a goal of articulating by the end of the session a:

- Draft mission statement,
- Draft charter, and
- Structure for the council(s)

We will also explore how to ensure our CWC sustainability organizations and efforts can be better equipped to handle change and how to build into our processes measures that ensure long-term stability and retention of institutional knowledge and momentum. Come plan how to make our CWC sustainability organizations more sustainable!

Participants should come with your ideas and ready to take ownership of the process to create an outcome that works best for your campus.

*Participants in this session will take ONLY this session, which runs 2 hours, and no others during the afternoon.*



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# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

DUAL SESSION WORKSHOP

Thursday, May 16, 2024

## Developing Regional Sustainability Council(s)

**Peter Buck**, *Associate Director of Climate and Sustainability Education, Penn State Sustainability*

Over the last several years, Penn State Sustainability has periodically offered workshops to help guide faculty in how to integrate sustainability learning outcomes and competencies into their curricula. What we have found is that our most successful workshops have always been in partnership with a Department, Office, or College. In the past, these have included:

- Liberal Arts
- Earth & Mineral Sciences (twice)
- Arts & Architecture (twice)
- Global Programs (twice)
- General Education (twice)
- College of Science: Department of Mathematics

As we think about broader curricular goals for sustainability at Penn State (e.g. creating an “S-designation” within the course catalog and opening an interdisciplinary “School for Sustainability”), it would help to have a team of trainers embedded within different departments and campuses who are knowledgeable about how to train their peers in sustainability curriculum development.

This session is the start of such an effort--come explore how you can be a resource for your campus and peers in making all Penn State education more sustainability-focused. It is rewarding work that connects us to each other, supports our spirit, and rewards leadership!

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# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

DUAL SESSION WORKSHOP

Thursday, May 16, 2024

## Implementing Sustainable Landscapes at Our Campuses

**Krista Bailey**, *Sustainable Campus Strategist, Penn State Sustainability*

**Maddy Cantu**, *Landscape Architect, Office of the Physical Plant*

**Tracey Olexa**, *Operations Engineer, Office of the Physical Plant*

**Casey Sclar**, *Director, Penn State Arboretum (online)*

**Mary Ann Smith**, *Lecturer, Biology, Penn State Schuylkill (online)*

What is a sustainable landscape? Why does it matter? This session will share Penn State's priorities and goals for sustainable campus landscapes. Learn about the new Sustainable Landscape Implementation Plan developed for University Park's central campus and how its priorities and goals will be used when making changes to all campus landscapes to reduce cost, increase biodiversity, and create a healthier environment for campus and community members as well as for non-human beings with whom we share our spaces.

This interactive session will engage participants in strategic planning discussions about resource savings and returns on landscape investments, the emerging Campus Arboreta Network, implementing small and large projects, and promoting landscapes with campus and community classes and groups.

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# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (SHENANGO)

**AFTERNOON SESSION #1 WORKSHOP**

Thursday, May 16, 2024

## Creating New Recycling Signage and Messaging for Your Campus

**Meghan Hoskins**, *Director, Operations and Partnerships, Penn State Sustainability*

**Ayo Oluwalana**, *Program Manager, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Penn State*

Recycling has long been a key sustainability priority for our sustainability councils and Green Teams, even as it remains a challenging effort to get full buy-in from our campuses.

Good news! Come discuss the upcoming plans to replace the recycling signs on all Penn State campuses in effort to make our communications clearer, more consistent, and more compelling! Penn State's Pouring Rights Partner, PepsiCo, has agreed to replace the recycling signage at all our locations, every 3 years.

To make the most of this initiative, we are asking for your input into this process. This session will discuss key questions about the signs, including:

- Will the signs be helpful for your campus stakeholders to understand recycling?
- Do you need messaging considerations particular to your campus?
- What are strategies for communicating to our collective stakeholders about recycling changes/updates - are there particular messages that will best reach our communities?
- How can we share resources to create social media, articles about recycling?
- We will likely add a QR code to all signs - what information should be on the website that it links to?

*Attendees of this session will also register to attend the Afternoon Session #2 workshop on Student Sustainability Ambassadors, which is another effort that can support recycling education on campuses*



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# COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (*SHENANGO*)

**AFTERNOON SESSION #2 WORKSHOP**

*Thursday, May 16, 2024*

## **Creating A Student Sustainability Ambassadors Program**

**Douglas Goodstein**, *Associate Director for Student Engagement, Penn State Sustainability*

Are you keen on engaging your students? What if we could empower our students and advance our campus's sustainability goals at the same time?

That's the benefit of initiating a Sustainability Ambassador Program at your campus. In this session, we invite you to explore a model inter-campus framework developed by Sam Mason from Behrend and Doug Goodstein from University Park. This program is designed to equip student campus sustainability ambassadors with essential training while acknowledging the limited resources (time and financial) preventing any of us from deploying such a program on our campus independently.

The session will highlight our unique educational approach--featuring monthly retreats complemented by shared online asynchronous content delivery while prioritizing inter-campus relationship building--that ensures participants feel integrated into the broader Penn State sustainability initiative. We'll also share the educational topics covered in the ambassador training, ranging from the history and philosophy of the Sustainable Development Goals to the practical experiences in hosting campus engagement activities (e.g. Earth Hour or the World-Wide Teach-In).

Join us to explore how you can connect into this model and inter-campus support to pilot an ambassador program at your campus.

*Attendees of this session will also register to attend the Afternoon Session #1 workshop on Recycling Signage and Messaging at Campuses*