



## ESLP ART TEAMS 2014

### Fossil Free Divestment UCD

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- Create a series of visuals showing simplified versions of the UC structure, particularly the UC investment structure for the Fossil Free UC website
- Make a short and entertaining film that depicts how much carbon emissions would cost the school if we continue to invest in fossil fuels for the Fossil Free UC website
- Write a research essay on coalition building within the local and statewide communities to build a movement that connects similar campaigns and efforts. Answer the question: How can we make California into a model of fossil fuel independence for other states and the world?

"With eleven campuses and approximately 200,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the UC system is known as the premier public university system in the world. The UC Regents control policy for the institution's investment portfolio of nearly \$81 billion. In the tradition of successful divestment campaigns against the South African apartheid, Sudan, and tobacco, we are targeting the UC Regents and asking for divestment. Specifically, Fossil Free UC is asking the university to adopt a five-year plan to freeze new fossil fuel investments, implement a negative screen for the top 194 companies and roll out investment alternatives that address climate-risk and sustainability.

"Fossil Free UC (FFUC) is a campaign made up of a coalition of students, faculty, staff, and alumni from the entire UC system, with additional support from partner organizations like the California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC) and 350.org. The campaign strives to: a) raise awareness on and off campus of the dangers of fossil fuels, b) pressure the UC Regents to vote for a full divestment of the General Endowment Pool, and c) to aid the

administration in developing a reinvestment plan that is both adjusted for climate risk and socially responsible, thereby upholding the mission of the university.

"The campaign targets the *General Endowment Pool*, worth nearly \$7 billion. In divesting, the UC Regents would indicate that they—as representatives of America's intellectual, scientific, and progressive powerhouse—have had enough of the industry and will no longer support the fossil fuel industry's continuing mass environmental degradation and widespread societal harm for the sake of its students, community, and world at large.

"FFUC is, of course, a coalition, and is one of the only divestment campaigns that spans campuses to work towards a larger divestment win. However, to support this inter-campus campaign, each UC campus has its own active campaign."

Taken from: <http://www.fossilfreeuc.org/about>

## DOMES II: Davis Community Farm—Ecovillage + Urban Edge Agricultural Park

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- Learn about urban edge agricultural parks as a conservation tool
- Learn about sustainable infrastructure, basic real estate financing, and zoning codes
- Design an ecovillage for Davis students
- Develop and implement a community organizing plan to establish a student owned and operated community farm

### PROJECT SUMMARY

This proposal is for a **community forum** and **feasibility study** of an innovative model for an agricultural park and ecovillage—The Davis Community Farm (DCF). The concept envisions a community based approach to making an agriculturally oriented place that can celebrate our shared needs for food and open space. The basic program has two interdependent features: 1) a sustainable ecovillage design for a compact neighborhood development, which provides care and housing for elderly and mentally ill people; and 2) access to prime agricultural land and affordable housing for new and beginning farmers. This proposal does not revolve around bricks-and mortar or even a specific location for this place. Instead, it seeks to identify and evaluate inclusively synergistic criteria for the DCF that

can inform the selection of an optimal urban-edge site near Davis.

The DCF program calls for cluster housing of special needs groups with facilities that support independent living and prevent institutionalization. Compact cluster housing would leave many acres of valuable agricultural land untouched, which can be protected by a conservation easement. The concept that an appropriate amount of affordable housing can amplify agricultural conservation runs counter to conventional wisdom. Urban-edge land can be especially difficult to conserve because the values typically exceed what most agricultural users can afford to pay. For this reason, urban-edge agricultural land often lays fallow and is typically some of the least productive. Thus, the inclusion of affordable housing not only leverages conservation of a much larger parcel for agriculture than one without housing but also serves the needs of these groups and provides these people with a beautiful place to live.

The organic food produced there by resident farmers can improve nutrition for the DCF residents and reduce food-insecurity in the Davis community. The DCF encourages access and use of the site by the general public through community supported agriculture (CSA), a food hub distribution center, classrooms and meeting space, and land set aside for community gardens. The elderly and mentally ill often lack meaningful connection to the larger community. The DCF integrates these typically isolated groups in meaningful and therapeutic ways. Bicycle connectivity to the DCF is a fundamental and necessary feature. In these ways, the DCF serves multiple critical community needs and simultaneously beautifies the landscape for all Davis residents.

## **UCD StoryCorps library- Tobacco, Sustainability and Stories**

Project Leaders:

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Jen Burton- SHCS Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Health Educator

- To increase awareness of the local, national and global needs for tobacco control and sustainable development through campus community engagement.
- To apply a social-ecological perspective toward a local policy- UC Davis Smoke & Tobacco Free Policy.
- To utilize experimental learning opportunities that can provide a much

broader context into individual and population change locally, nationally and globally.

- To create a platform for student engagement that builds a culture of health and sustainability locally at UC Davis.
- To keep the conversation going about UC Davis' new Smoke & Tobacco Free Policy in parallel with post 2015 development agendas and sustainability movements through the power of personal and collective stories.

**PROJECT RESULT:** (open to student, faculty or community innovation)

- 1) Modeled after StoryCorps, the end result of this Action Research Team project will be an archive or "library" of stories and interviews around tobacco and sustainability.
- 2) We would like the team to identify opportunities to keep the story archive "alive" - to share the archive with wider audiences to maintain campus participation and engagement, and to further collect resources related to tobacco and sustainable development.

The impact of tobacco is far reaching around the globe - socially, environmentally, and economically. It is estimated worldwide that more than one billion people are using tobacco- "the only consumer product that kills roughly 50% of its users when used as intended" (Action on Smoke & Health). The health impacts of tobacco use are widely known and acknowledged; additionally tobacco is recognized in many countries today as a major preventable cause of disease and death and as the second leading health risk factor globally (Action on Smoke & Health).

Despite its overwhelming impact on human health, tobacco is not just a health issue. The social and environmental impacts of the tobacco industry are as alarming as the health impacts. A 1999 study estimated that 4.5 trillion non-biodegradable filter-tipped cigarettes are disposed of annually (Novotny & Zhao, 1999). A 2011 article examining "social responsibility" in the tobacco industry found that tobacco companies were claiming to use "green supply chains" while continuing to utilize child labor and practice deforestation in developing countries (Otanez & Glantz, 2011). Tobacco farming contributes to 4% of annual global deforestation and in Malawi alone it is estimated that 80,000 children work in tobacco fields (Palitza, 2011). Furthermore, in developing countries, the smoking rate amongst women is increasing, putting more women who use tobacco at risk for gender-specific health conditions such as female-specific cancers, especially cervical cancer, irregular menstruation, earlier menopause, and complications and health risks with pregnancy (Mackay & Amos, 2003). Since women in developing countries have access to fewer resources, such as health education, but generally have primary child-rearing responsibilities, the effects of women's smoking impacts not just the woman's health but her children and families as well (Mackay & Amos, 2003). Consequently, it is

difficult to find an individual, community, country, or nation that does not have a story to tell about the devastating social-ecological consequences of tobacco. Therefore, it is essential to raise awareness around local, national, and global tobacco use, especially to further holistic sustainable development. The Action Research Team project sets out to examine the inextricable relationship between tobacco and sustainable development using the power of story for sustainable change.

According to the ASH organization, "Tobacco use impedes the three main pillars of sustainable development, including environmental sustainability, economic development, and social inclusion" (Action on Smoke & Health). This project aims to increase awareness and education of tobacco issues by examining and collecting stories related to each of the three sustainability spheres. Through the use of stories we intend to connect, engage, educate, entertain and call attention to tobacco's impact on sustainable development. It is our goal to provide an experiential learning opportunity for the UC Davis campus community using the power of stories. Storytelling for social change is a well-documented method of addressing issues around the world. Brazilian educator, Paulo Freire believed that storytelling cultivates personal and social empowerment. Story helps us make sense of our world, and more importantly, story has the power to transform the world we live in (Kennet, 2013). "Storytelling is public education that has the power to change societies" (<http://www.good.is>) and help build a more sustainable community. By creating a library of stories and interviews, be it personal experiences with tobacco use or perspectives from development economists, it is our hope that the UC Davis campus community will gain a better understanding of the broader impact of tobacco on sustainability. Furthermore, we believe the story archive will continue to engage students, faculty, and staff in issues related to tobacco and sustainability long after spring quarter ends.

## Food Waste Recovery

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Did you know that **40% of all food in the U.S. get wasted**, while 49 million Americans don't know where their next meal will come from?

Next quarter, learn about the paradox of **food waste** and **hunger** in Davis, work in an exciting collaborative team to form solutions, and gain **2 units** while doing it!

You will learn first-hand about food waste in Davis through field trips, waste audits, and

talks, and ultimately collaborate with each other to create a plan for expanding food recovery on campus! Absolutely no experience necessary - just an open mind and willingness to learn