Connecting Sustainability, Student Engagement, and Workforce Development

AACC SEED Webinar
October 2014
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Submitting Questions

- To submit a question, type the question in the **text field** and press your **Enter/Return** key.
  - Please enter the name to whom the question is directed.

- Your name and your question will appear on your screen, indicating successful submission.

- Questions are directly transmitted to presenters—no other participants will see your questions.

Jerry Gonzalez: Gary, where can I find today's PPT?
In the chat room, please type your name, the name of your organization, your location, and the number of people attending with you today.
Building a Nation of Learners by Advancing America's Community Colleges
Green Genome 2014 Overall Winner: Greenfield Community College (MA)

“Overall” category represents all four DNA strands—a comprehensive approach to green transformation.
Today’s Agenda

- GCC Overview
- Breaking Down Internal Credit/Non-Credit Silos
- Student Engagement
- Partnership Development/Internships
- Q&A
Franklin & Hampshire Counties predominately rural
Genuine Cooperation between Division of Continuing Education-Workforce Development and credit-bearing Academic Departments
Genuine Cooperation between Regional Employment Board (Workforce Investment Board) and Greenfield Community College
Value and Internalize Community Input
The Entire Campus is a Sustainability Laboratory
SAGE-
The Sustainable Agriculture And Green Energy Education Center
Where Science, Civic Responsibility, & Workforce Development Meet
Creating a Campus Wide Culture of Sustainability
Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Program @Greenfield Community College

Greenfield Community College

About GCC  Admission  Paying for college  Academics  Credit-free workshops  Library  Contact

Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency

Degree & certificate programs and non-credit classes in green building at GCC

 GCC RE/EE Program Commended by White House Energy Report

Solar Progress Report: Advancing Toward a Clean Energy Future recognizes GCC and five other community colleges

Contact us
Questions about our classes or programs? Please get in touch!
Teresa Jones, Program Coordinator
Christine Copeland, Program Assistant
Hotline: (413) 775-1472
Email: renewable@gcc.mass.edu

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Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency

Courses for credit or credit-free

Industry certifications

Employment

Entrepreneurship

4-year transfer
Skills-based learning is crucial

- In-class labs
- Field trip sites
- Job shadows
- Internships
Workforce & Academic Credentials Stack Up

A.A. Degree with RE/EE Option (62-63 cr.)

RE/EE Certificate (29 cr.)

Course sequences

Industry exams
Workforce Credentials

- IREC accredited course sequences
  - Solar PV
    - NABCEP Basic Knowledge Exam
  - Energy Auditing
    - BPI Building Analyst written exam

* Interstate Renewable Energy Council
Program pathways

Solar: PV & thermal

Policy
Zero-Energy Buildings design & construction

Ecosystems & Sustainable Landscape
Energy auditing & retrofit
Stacks into Liberal Arts degree

- 29-credit certificate – many pathways
  - Green building
  - Energy auditing
  - Solar
  - Policy/management
  - Sustainable landscapes
    Ecosystems/Agriculture
- 62-credit Associate’s degree
The Farm and Food Systems initiative at Greenfield Community College provides students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the ecological, economic, political, and social systems as they relate to food and farming. Additionally, students learn hands-on skills through internships and applied courses such as Permaculture Design, Beekeeping, Four Season Farming, Organic Gardening, Food
We prepare our students to be whole-systems thinkers who understand how the global food system operates and the benefits of a resilient local food economy.
Permaculture and regenerative design is another trademark of Farm and Food Systems.

Students read the landscape and create backyard, urban, and homestead designs that contribute to self-sufficiency while restoring ecosystem health.
Through community-engaged service learning projects, internships, and hands-on agriculture classes that go beyond the walls of the classroom, students apply their skills to make real contributions to the world around them.
Farm and Food Systems’ interdisciplinary curriculum draws from courses in:

- ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
- SCIENCE
- AGRICULTURE
- BUSINESS
Farm & Food Systems
Workforce Success Stories:

Joshua Freund: organic garden Coordinator at Franklin County House of Corrections

Shannon Dry: employee of Real Pickles, an artisan fermentation cooperative

Jon Shina: member-owner and staff at Greenfield’s Market, a natural foods co-op
Pathways to Success:
Engaging Partners
Pathways to Success: Engaging Partners

- Know your region’s green job opportunities
- Know what skills & knowledge people need
- Integrate theory & hands-on applied learning
- Help build demand for green products/services
IREC: Interstate Renewable Energy Council

Clean Energy Workforce Education Conference
Trends and Best Practices for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

NABCEP
Raising Standards. Promoting Confidence.
Practitioners teach courses

Credit & credit-free students
Students learn on campus
Key community partners

- Regional Employment Board
- RE/EE businesses
- Non-profits
- High Schools
- Engaged citizens
Partnerships bring resources

- $371,883 Workforce Development Trust Fund
- $50,000 MA Technology Collaborative
- $60,000 USDOE Solar Instructor Training Network
- $29,000 USDOL Mass. Community College Workforce Development Transformation Agenda
Forecast jobs & guide curriculum
Develop & teach courses
Host site visits
Share technical space

Franklin County Technical School Site
Clean Energy Instruction Center
Mentor & hire interns
How GCC contributes...

20 RE/EE technical courses
Helping businesses grow

Grant-supported courses for employees
GCC program is workforce fund eligible:
- Section 30
- Trades Asst.
- WIA
Interns become excellent employees
Support business networks

Monthly green professionals meeting
Sponsor community events
Raise public awareness & interest
Northeast Solar

12 GCC graduates employed

Solarize Amherst
Developing a Professional Network: Engaging Students
Students learn hands-on skills through applied courses

- **AGR 111: FOUR SEASON FARMING**
  - March 7-March 31

- **EVS 152: ORGANIC GARDENING**
  - April 10-April 22

- **AGR 110: BEEKEEPING**
  - April 17-May 12
PERMACULTURE STUDENT FORUM:
the creation of the GCC Permaculture Garden
PHASE I: LIVING LABORATORY
APPROVED SUMMER 2012
PHASE I DESIGN CONCEPT: COMMUNITY COMMONS

- Experiential education
- Propagate and share plant stock
- Nursery management and gardening skills
- Beauty and tranquility on campus
Curricular Integration Across Campus

Spring Semesters
• Permaculture Design
• Introductory Horticulture
• Organic Gardening
• Ecology
• Issues in Sustainability

Fall Semesters
• Soil Science
• Botany
• Intro to Environmental Science
• Sustainable Landscape Design
• Intro to Food Systems
Phase II: Micro-Orchard
Approved Spring 2014

Phase III: Edible Landscaping


STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN THE GARDEN
REDUNDANCY = RESILIENCY

• Permaculture Club
• Garden Interns
• Permaculture Courses
• Science Department Work Study
• Service Learning Class Projects
• Student Volunteers
COMMUNITY PLANTING DAY

Come join the Permaculture Club at GCC and help to install the new 'Living Laboratory' Permaculture Garden! Bring your work gloves and gardening clothes and join the party.

PERMACULTURE GARDEN
Friday May 3rd 2013
Noon-3pm
1 COLLEGE DRIVE GREENFIELD
MEETING @ NEW GREENHOUSE ON SOUTH SIDE OF CAMPUS
SPONSORED BY THE GCC PERMACULTURE CLUB

Building a Garden, a Community, Soil & Connection
YOUR SALAD TODAY FEATURES
LETTUCE FROM OUR GCC GARDEN! OTHER GREENS
Internships: Engaging Students & Community Partners

Welcome!

Whether you are recently out of high school or already have significant work history and training, sharpening your career skills can be part of your educational experience at Greenfield Community College. We are committed to helping you get a great education AND to giving you the tools and resources you need to prepare for work in your field of study. An internship is an opportunity to combine your academic learning with work experience and then to reflect on and share that learning with faculty and fellow students.

This website will help you get started on an internship if you are a student, will inform you of GCC’s process for internships if you are a business or a host site, and will aid you in the logistics of mentoring an intern if you are a faculty member.

For more information

Interested in learning more about internship opportunities available through GCC’s Workforce Transformations grant? Are you an employer who would like to be matched with a GCC intern in one of our targeted program areas? Please get in touch!

Christine Copeland
Workforce Transformations Grant Internship Coordinator
(413) 775-1472
copelandc@gcc.mass.edu

For students
For host companies
Find an internship
Find an intern

Meet our interns
Internships have great value all around.
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For students

Find an internship

For host companies

Find an intern

Meet our interns

Junio Anthes-Moody

This project is supported by the Massachusetts Community Colleges & Workforce Development Transformation Agenda, which is 100% funded through a $20 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration TAACGCT. Grant Agreement # TC-22605-11-60-A-25.
www.gcc.mass.edu/sage
Thank you:

American Association of Community Colleges
President Robert Pura
GCC Green Campus Committee
GCC Facilities & Plant Operations Staff
Garry Longe - Educational Technology Center

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