



CUES

CENTER FOR URBAN ECOLOGY
AND SUSTAINABILITY

BUTLER UNIVERSITY

Research
Educate
Partner
Empower

A Year of

RISING IMPACT

The CUES now reports to the Provost, a move to strategically facilitate campus-wide, cross-disciplinary collaborations in sustainability & urban ecology.

Annual Report* 2021-2022

*This is an interactive document with imbedded links.

Phil Lambert, expert consultant for the farm's bee hives, leads an Earth Day workshop.



1. The Farm at Butler

- The Farm at Butler began selling 100% of produce to Butler's dining services provider, Bon Appetit, continued to sell spring plant starts, and hosted an Earth Day event with a food demo, bee workshop, and farm tour.

2. Research and Scholarship

CUES staff and affiliated faculty collaborated on 7 different research projects spanning urban ecology, biology, and education. Projects include:

- Indy Wildlife Watch: Monitoring urban wildlife & drivers of habitat use
- Soil health at Indy urban farms
- Impacts of Covid-19 and U.S. civil unrest on student wellbeing & attitudes
- Pollination rates on urban farms compared to naturalized ecosystems
- Bird window collisions on Butler's campus
- DEI Procurement (see #4)
- Impacts of farm-situated place-based experiential learning on student learning (see #7)



10 Publications



11 Presentations

3. Campus Sustainability

Butler achieved a silver rating from the American Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Besides the new Green Grad and Green Office programs, successes since 2018 include:

- Campus sustainability survey
- Open access to research
- Diversity and affordability
- Undergraduate programs
- Biodiversity monitoring
- Bee Campus certification



4. DEI Procurement

3 of the 31 CUES interns for 2021-2022 completed an analysis of DEI procurement and made recommendations to campus leadership for the development of inclusive and equitable procurement policies that support minority- and women-owned businesses.



DEI procurement interns, Cameron Ellison, Braxton Martorano, and Nicole Keller. Supervised by CUES Assistant Director, Jamie Valentine.

5. Green Grad

Our new Green Grad program recognizes student champions dedicated to sustainability at Butler University and beyond. To earn a green cord, students must complete a series of sustainability-related academic activities.



Cambria Khayat, Bridget Costello, and Christine Slover were the first students to be recognized by the Green Grad program, May 2022.



17 students working on a green cord

6. Green Office

Two units joined the Green Office program in its inaugural year: The President's Office and the Center for Academic Technology. Participating offices commit to incorporating sustainable practices for energy efficiency, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and employee wellness to support a more sustainable and resilient Butler community.



The Center for Academic Technology celebrates their Green Office recognition.

7. Farm Curriculum

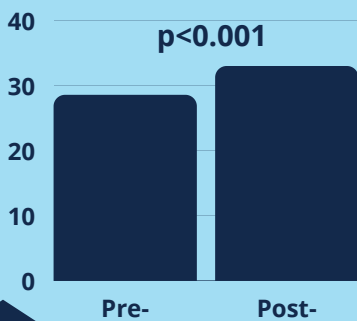
Since 2016, the CUES has used nearly \$1M in funds from the National Science Foundation to work with faculty from every College on campus to develop & implement cross-disciplinary, farm-situated, place-based experiential learning (PBEL) modules in courses. A partnership with IUPUI researchers from the STEM Education Innovation and Research Institute (SEIRI) enables us to research the impacts of this approach to faculty support and student learning outcomes.

DONATE

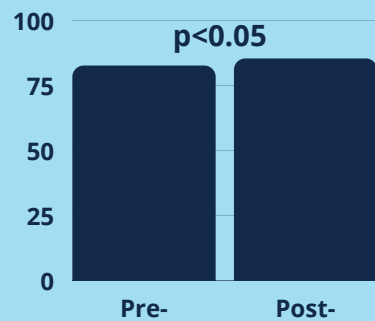


OUR WORK RELIES ON GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM OUR SUPPORTERS. PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING TO OUR PROGRAMS.

PLACE ATTACHMENT



PLACE MEANING



Our curriculum significantly increased student attachment to the farm and the sustainability meanings students ascribed to the farm, pre- to post-implementation. Further, 55.4% of the variability in student civic mindedness is explained by place attachment, course, & sustainability place meaning (Sorge et al. 2022, J of Sust Ed).