

2012 Awards and Rankings

A. Awards

UC Riverside recognized as a local and regional sustainability leader

On Oct. 25th, 2012 UC Riverside earned two awards recognizing the university as a sustainability leader in its community. Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful, a community program sponsored by the city of Riverside, awarded their “Outstanding Waste Management Award” to the campus. The Southern California Corporate Growth Partners and the Minority Business Development Agency Business Center named UCR as their “Green Organization of the Year.” Both these awards demonstrate the important role that UC Riverside plays in modeling sustainability for the local and regional community.

[UC Irvine Honored for Sustainable Facilities Management](#)

UC Irvine received APPA's (formerly the Association of Physical Plant Administrators) inaugural Sustainability Award for Public Institutions, based on seven criteria: maintenance and operations, planning and construction, energy and utilities, educational curriculum and research, leadership and administration, sustainability indicators, and sustainability innovations. The university was recognized for its energy management and Smart Labs programs.

[UC Merced LRDP wins AIA Top 10 Award for sustainable architecture](#)



The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and its Committee on the Environment (COTE) included UC Merced in their top ten list of sustainable architecture and green design solutions that protect and enhance the environment. The projects were honored at the AIA 2012 National Convention and Design Exposition in Washington, D.C.

Multi-function open space, such as the South Bowl shown left, is included in the Merced campus' LRDP to manage and reduce stormwater.

[UC San Francisco, UC Davis and UCLA Medical Centers win awards from Practice Greenhealth](#)

The organization Practice Greenhealth honored the UC San Francisco, UC Davis, and UCLA Medical Centers with the 2012 Partner for Change award. The award recognizes health care facilities with established environmental programs that continuously improve and expand upon these programs. UC San Francisco was further honored “with Distinction”, given to health care facilities that show leadership in the local community or healthcare sector and have achieved improvements in mercury elimination, waste reduction, and source reduction programs above and beyond the Partner for Change basic criteria.

[UC San Diego Receives Tree Campus USA Recognition](#)

The Arbor Day Foundation recognized UC San Diego with the Tree Campus USA award for taking exemplary care of their campus forest in 2011. "When a college or university takes care of its campus forest, their local communities benefit from cleaner air, decreased usage in energy and added beauty. It's also important to teach students how important it is to take care of our urban forests", said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation.

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[UC Santa Barbara's compost pilot project received award from Office of Student Life](#)



UC Santa Barbara's Compost Pilot Project (CPP) earned the "Best Group Project Award" from the Office of Student Life. The CPP incorporates composting into the campus recycling infrastructure in hopes of fostering a complete food-to-food cycle. The CPP, formed through a grant to The Green Initiative Fund, involved 6 distributed test compost bins, audits of collected compost, and intensive student outreach to educate the campus about switching to compost.

Colin and Philip, co-founders of the CPP Coalition.

[UCLA's Court of Sciences Student Center honored for environmental design](#)

UCLA's Court of Sciences Student Center received the AIA - San Diego chapter 2012 Environment Award, recognizing the beauty of sustainable architecture that integrates buildings with the physical and cultural environment. Projects competing for this award were evaluated against ten criteria, including factors such as land use and site ecology, light and air, energy flows & energy future, bioclimatic design, materials and construction.

[UC Berkeley's Climate Action Partnership honored with a clean air award from Breathe California,](#)

Breathe California, the oldest volunteer health organization in California, recognized UC Berkeley's CalCAP initiative for significantly reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and demonstrating climate leadership through student activism, broad organizational partnerships, climate action planning and financial commitment toward reducing climate change. Berkeley was one of seven institutions, businesses and individuals to win 2012 Clean Air Awards. The Cal Climate Action Partnership, formed in 2006, is a collaboration of faculty, administration, staff and students working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on campus. Its initial work led Chancellor Robert Birgeneau to commit the campus to reducing emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2014.

[UC Davis wins U.S. EPA's Game Day Challenge with 94% diversion rate](#)

The University of California-Davis was named the diversion rate champion for the second year in a row during the U.S. EPA's 2011 Game Day Challenge. Last fall, UC Davis and 74 other colleges and universities, along with their 2.7 million fans, diverted more than 500,000 pounds of waste at college football games, according to a news release. UC Davis, which was the first to initiate a zero waste goal in 2007 at its stadium, had a nearly 94% diversion rate.

[UC San Francisco Recognized as one of the Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters](#)

UC San Francisco achieved a gold level for the 2012 annual list of The Bay Area's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM, which spotlights employers that are committed to reducing traffic and air pollution and improving quality of life for commuters. One hundred and thirty-nine Bay Area organizations, representing more than 240,000 employees, offer their employees key commuting benefits such as employer provided transit passes, vanpool subsidies, bike commuter facilities, onsite day care, and telework programs.

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[UC Irvine's employee transportation coordinator, Ramon Zavala, recognized for his efforts to model sustainable transportation](#)

Ramon Zavala with his favorite mode of transportation.



In recognition of his efforts helping people make smart commuter choices, Ramon Zavala, employee transportation coordinator at UC Irvine, won a 2011 Parking Professional Merit Award from the California Public Parking Association and this summer was named one of the top “40 Under 40” transportation demand management professionals by the Association for Commuter Transportation. Ramon has lived in Southern California all his life and never owned a car or a driver’s license. He rides his bicycle to work every day. When he joined the Transportation & Distribution Services department, Zavala began a blog chronicling his adventures in full-time bicycle

commuting, called “Bike UCI – Commuting, Advocacy, Education: The Story of an Upstart UCI Bike Commuter and Advocate. He draws on his experience from never having owned a car to help others switch to alternative methods of commuting.

[UC Riverside Students Win International Environmental Design Competition](#)

UC Riverside’s Bourns College of Engineering student team won the 2012 Intel Environmental Innovation Award for their reusable storm drain oil filter design. Constructed from 100 percent recycled materials, "Sustain-a-Drain" is placed into storm drains to filter the oil carried in stormwater run-off. The students plan to patent their design and permanently install filters on campus.

[UC Merced Student Wins Brower Youth Award](#)

Earth Island Institute honored UC Merced student, Martin Figueroa, with the Brower Youth Award for leadership in water conservation and energy efficiency. Figueroa coordinated last year's residence hall competition for most water savings. The competition used new water-monitoring technology to track progress and identify leaks in campus water lines. The competition saved more than 14 percent of normal water usage.

[UC San Diego named Energy Champion by San Diego Gas and Electric](#)

UC San Diego received the San Diego Gas and Electric 2012 Energy Champion Award in Higher Education. Projects included switching ventilation systems from constant air volume to variable air volume, upgrading to more efficient lighting across campus, a 2.8 megawatt molten-carbonate fuel cell, and concentrated solar photovoltaic demonstration.

[UC Berkeley Recognized as a Real Food Pioneer](#)

Real Food Challenge awarded UC Berkeley with a Pioneer Award for piloting their calculator to measure percent of budget spent on sustainable food procurement. The Challenge leverages the power of youth and universities to create a healthy, fair and green food system. Their primary campaign is to shift \$1 billion of existing university food budgets away from industrial farms and junk food and towards local/community-based, fair, ecologically sound and humane food sources by 2020.

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[UCLA's Extensions class on sustainability earns best of "Best of LA" title](#)



Nurit Katz, UCLA's chief sustainability officer, is the instructor for Principles of Sustainability I. This core class of UCLA Extension's Global Sustainability Certificate Program was listed as one of Los Angeles's best classes by LA Weekly. "A perfect blend of theory, empirical evidence, sobering conclusions, and inspiring optimism, this course pushes beyond the boundaries of 'going green' and forces students to reconsider some of their most fundamental beliefs about humanity's role in the world" said one student.

Nurit Katz, instructor of "Best of LA" class, Principles of Sustainability I

[UC Berkeley Student Receives Sustainability Leadership Award from AASHE](#)

Kelly Doyle, a recent UC Berkeley graduate, received the Student Research on Campus Sustainability Award from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) for her senior thesis titled, "Converting University Spending to Greenhouse Gas Emissions: A Supply Chain Carbon Footprint Analysis of UC Berkeley". This study calculates a supply chain carbon footprint for UC Berkeley based on procurement expenses in fiscal year 2009, recommends reductions in supply chain greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, identifies future study opportunities, and develops a reproducible tool for UC Berkeley to facilitate annual GHG emissions reporting.

[UC Merced becomes International Green Industry Hall of Fame Inductee](#)

UC Merced was inducted into the International Green Industry Hall of Fame (IGIHOF) in 2012. The IGIHOF is a non-profit organization headquartered in Fresno, California. IGIHOF preserves the rich history of individuals and organizations around the globe making significant contributions towards ecological sustainability. The stories and technologies from inductees are celebrated at the annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony and then cataloged and housed on the web for future generations.

[UC San Diego recognized as leader in local community for waste reduction program](#)

UC San Diego received the "Director's Recycling Award" from the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department, recognizing successful and innovative waste reduction programs that significantly contribute to diverting waste from the area's landfills. These efforts have resulted in the increased lifespan of the Miramar landfill, now extended from 2012 to at least 2022.

Li Ka Shing Center at UC Berkeley receives "Going Beyond Award" from the Institute for Sustainable Laboratories

The Li Ka Shing Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences at UC Berkeley received a "Going Beyond Award" from the Institute for Sustainable Laboratories. The award recognizes sustainability excellence in laboratory and other high-tech facilities by considering shared resources, infrastructure and services, neighboring communities, and increasing use of energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable designs, systems and products.

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B. Rankings and Ratings

[UC Santa Barbara achieves STARS Gold rating](#)

In May 2012, UCSB earned a Gold rating in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS).

[Eight UC campuses named to *Princeton Review's* green colleges list](#)

Eight UC campuses have won accolades from the *Princeton Review's* green campus guide for being environmentally responsible: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, UCLA, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz. UC Santa Cruz was one of 16 U.S. colleges to receive the highest rating of 99 and was named to the guide's Green College Honor Roll. Now in its third year, the free guide salutes the nation's most environmentally responsible "green colleges." The *Princeton Review* partners with the U.S. Green Building Council to survey college administrators about sustainability-related policies, practices and programs.

[Sierra magazine ranks UC Davis and UC Irvine among the Top 10 Greenest Colleges in America](#)

UC Davis ranked first in Sierra magazine's "Top 10 Coolest Schools" in America for 2012, recognizing campus commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability. Irvine also made the top-ten in ninth place. The complete list of rankings includes UCSD at No. 17, UCB at No. 20, UCM at No. 25, and UCR at No. 58.

[UC Davis and UC San Diego make it onto *Newsweek's* 2011 Greenest Colleges List](#)

UC Davis (11th), and UC San Diego, (13th), were among 25 campuses listed on *Newsweek's* 2011 Greenest Colleges List, capturing schools doing the most to address climate change and other environmental impacts, and working to reduce their ecological footprint. The ranking was based on a combination of the campus's performance in Sierra Club's "Coolest Schools" competition, the Sustainable Endowment Institute's "Sustainability Report Card", and College Prowler's "Greenest Campus" rating.

[UC San Diego recognize for green fleet operations](#)



UC San Diego ranked fourteenth by the 100 Best Fleets Program, a fleet industry program recognizing high performing fleet operations in North America. The 100 Best Fleets award, now in its seventh year, identifies and encourages continuous improvement in the use of green technology in the fleet industry.

The first one-hundred percent biodiesel shuttle at the University runs between the San Diego campus and the Hillcrest Medical Center.

[UC Davis and UC Santa Barbara ranked second- and third-most bike-friendly campus across America](#)

UC Davis (2nd) and UC Santa Barbara (3rd) were ranked high nationally as 'most bike-friendly campus' by the League of American Bicyclists. UC Berkeley received an honorable mention. At Davis, 45 percent of students,

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faculty, and staff have a bike on campus each day, and the campus offers a number of resources including bike classes, DIY bike repair and maintenance, summer bike storage, commuter showers and lockers, and maps and directions created just for campus bikers. UCSB supports their legion of bikers with secure bike racks and lockers, free showers and clothes lockers and several bicycle roundabouts, 10 miles of Class I bicycle paths, and freely distributed bike maps.

[University of Indonesia ranks UC Berkeley and UCLA two of the top ten greenest universities in the world](#)

The University of Indonesia named UC Berkeley (6th) and UCLA (7th) in their 2011 Green Metric ranking. The Green Metric ranked 178 universities worldwide on sustainability accomplishments in areas of infrastructure, energy and climate change, waste, water, and transportation. This is the only ranking system that compares universities from all countries, both developed and developing, on their sustainability efforts.

[UC campuses claim 4 of the top 10 spots on Most Vegan Friendly Colleges list](#)

In 2012, UC Santa Cruz ranked as the nation's number one "Most Vegan-Friendly College" by Peta2, an animal rights activist group. UC Berkeley ranked ninth, UC Los Angeles ranked fifth, and UC Irvine ranked third. The contest was based on tens of thousands of student votes and an independent assessment of the quality and quantity of vegan dining options available on campus.