

2014-2015 FY Sustainability Rankings, Ratings, and Awards

I. RANKINGS & RATINGS

- [UC Davis places 4th internationally in World University Ranking](#)
At 4th place, UC Davis was the highest placed U.S. institution in the 2014 edition of the annual international Universitas Indonesia GreenMetric World University Ranking.
- [Sierra Club's Cool Schools List](#)
For the second year in a row, UC Irvine was named the #1 "Coolest School" by Sierra magazine. Sierra highlighted the campus' 83% diversion rate, clean energy sources, and efforts to reduce car emissions through train rebates, bus-pass discounts, and free shuttles. UC Davis placed 2nd and UC San Diego moved from #17 to #7.
- [UC San Diego Top Institution in United States and fourth worldwide for Environmental and Earth Sciences](#) by the journal Nature.
- UC San Diego ranked the 2014-2015 Individual Conference Champion of [the EPA College & University Green Power Challenge](#).
- [UC Santa Barbara named Greenest Public University in the US](#) by Online Schools Center.
- [UC Santa Barbara ranked #3 in Princeton Review's Top 50 Green Colleges](#) and No. 1 among public universities. UC Irvine was ranked #16.
- UC Santa Cruz was acknowledged by Cal-EPA through the [Governor's Environmental & Economic Leadership Award](#) for partnering with students, the Engineering Department, and the City of Santa Cruz on the first eco-district [Green Wharf](#).
- UC Santa Cruz was highlighted in the [2015 AASHE STARS Annual Review](#) as a top performer in campus water conservation initiatives.
- UC ranked 1st in Asset Owner's Disclosure Project's 2015 [Global Universities Index](#) and 25th in their [Global Climate 500 Index](#).

II. AWARDS & RECOGNITION

A. Climate and Energy

- The Negawatt Team from UC Berkeley won an award in Analysis Excellence for their design *The Seranno House* in the [2015 Race to Zero Student Design Competition](#).
- UCLA was honored by Socal Gas as their [2015 Solar Champion](#) for installing solar water heating on eight residence halls. The installations provide roughly half of the hot water for UCLA's 11,600 on-campus residents and reduce carbon emissions by saving on natural gas use. On some sunny days, the systems need no natural gas.
- UC Merced was a finalist for the [2015 Climate Leadership Awards](#). This award recognizes innovative and advanced leadership in sustainability, climate change mitigation and resilience at college and university campuses that participate in Second Nature's Climate Commitments.
- UC Riverside Senior Design Team for NOx-Out, an attachment for lawnmowers and leaf blowers that reduces NOx emissions and noise levels, won first place in the Eco Innovators / Spring Green Expo Award competition sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The NOx-Out Team received another first place by winning the top prize in the [Oderbrecht Award for Sustainable Development](#).
- UC Berkeley won the 2014 APPA Effective & Innovative Practices Award for its project ["Providing Financial Incentives to Promote Energy Conservation by Building Occupants."](#)

B. Green Buildings and Landscape

- In May, the U.S. Department of Energy recognized UC Irvine at a White House event for having reduced energy use by 26% against a baseline established in 2008, years ahead of UCI's Better Buildings Challenge commitment to improve campus energy efficiency by 20% by the program's 2020 goal.
- UC Merced was recognized by the US Green Building Council, Central California chapter for the "Most Outstanding Green Building Innovator Award for Owner with Most LEED Buildings" in April 2015.

C. Waste

- UC Berkeley "successfully defended its title in Recyclemania, the national collegiate basketball game waste-diversion competition. In its third consecutive win of the game-day challenge, Berkeley achieved its best showing yet, with 96 percent of waste being diverted from landfill¹." UC Berkeley also came in first place for the 2015 Inaugural Green Sports Alliance Pac-12 Zero Waste Challenge.
- UC Santa Cruz Dining Services were [recognized](#) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its outstanding [waste reduction accomplishments](#).

C. Water

- UC Riverside Engineers won first place in the [Reshape 15 Wearable Technology Competition](#) for their water cleaning bikini.
- UC San Francisco won a 2015 APPA Effective & Innovative Practices Award for its project "[Promoting Water Conservation in Research Laboratories.](#)"

D. Food

- UC Berkeley earned an extra distinction of being in the Top 3 Cool Schools for sustainable food by the Sierra Club Cool Schools program. Berkeley's Executive Director of Dining Shawn LaPean offered that "Cal Dining is grateful to be on a campus that is so forward thinking in terms of sustainable programs and we pledge to continue our efforts towards more healthy, sustainable and plant forward menus and services in the years to come."
- UC Berkeley also won the grand prize of the Loyal E. Horton award for Residential Dining, Special Event at the [NACUFS \(National Association of College and University Food Service\)](#) annual conference. [Here](#) is an article about the event last year.
- UC Riverside's R'Garden Manager, Fortino Morales, received two awards for his outstanding leadership in connecting sustainability, community agriculture and education. The Riverside Land Conservancy presented Mr. Morales with the Environmental Leadership Award and Assembly Member Jose Medina recognized Mr. Morales' contributions with the CA Legislator Assembly's Young Environmentalist Award.

E. Healthcare

- In May 2015, UC San Francisco Medical Center was recognized at [Practice GreenHealth's](#) Clean Med conference with its highest honor, the [Top 25 Environmental Excellence Award](#) and three [Circles of Excellence Awards](#) in categories of Climate, Green Building and Leadership. These awards recognized the leadership of clinical and operations staff in reducing waste, energy, and water as well as reducing the use of toxic cleaners, increasing the adoption of sustainable food and the construction of LEED certified medical center buildings.
- UCSF Medical Center and UCSF Benioff's Children's Hospital San Francisco named one of ["HealthCare's Most Wired"](#) for 2015 by the American Hospital Association.
- UCSF Medical Center named [Innovator of the Year](#) for its Smart Choice Smart U Initiative by the National Restaurant Association.

¹ Excerpt from NewsCenter, "[Bears are No. 1 \(again\) in national game-day recycling contest](#)," April 15, 2015.

- UCLA's Ronald Reagan Medical Center received the Circles of Excellence - Food award, one of Practice Greenhealth's newest honors. Both medical centers received the Partner for Change award for the fifth year in a row.

F. Transportation

- The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) awarded UCLA Transportation the state's top environmental honor for its track record of accomplishments in planning, promoting and providing sustainable transportation programs to the campus community. UCLA was the only university to receive the state environmental award in 2014. UCLA's sustainable transportation efforts have helped the campus save 103,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide a year.
- UC San Diego Awarded the top "Platinum" level Diamond Award for commuter transportation programs by San Diego Association of Governments' iCommute Program.
- UC San Francisco recognized as one of the Bay Area's Best Workplace Commuter Gold Award by National Center for Transit Research and the US EPA.
- Six UC campuses continue to be listed as [Bicycle Friendly Universities](#) by the League of American Bicyclists. This year, UCLA moved up to Silver and UC Irvine moved up to Gold..