

VP Sustainability Initiatives sponsors poster session and student competition

By JoAnne Race April 2015

The Office of Vice President for Sustainability Initiatives sponsored a poster session for students across many disciplines to present their sustainable projects and ideas during Earth Week. Student work from workshops, courses and academic research included fields such as food studies, architecture, and engineering. Finalists from the Campus Project Design Competition presented their ideas for a sustainability venture they would like to see implemented on campus. Submitted proposals were intended to raise awareness and educate the campus community through examples that solve environmental challenges. Topics included a resource share program 'CuseLight', sustainable food production through aquaponics, and renewable wind energy. Co-winners for the competition included proposals for an SU aquaponics lab by Dan Olken, industrial design, Afnan Ahmed, biotechnology, Alex Selden, environmental engineering, and Jessica Culver, interior design and a wind turbine by Lukas Vogt, sustainable energy management. The projects were extremely well researched and presented. Members from the Office of Vice President for Sustainability Initiatives will investigate the option of creating pilot projects for each.

"Earth Day means caring about everyone else and the world more than caring about ourselves. Highlighting projects that lead to a more sustainable future are what [that] is all about." said Alex Selden, a senior environmental engineering major.

Other posters at the session earned awards as well. 'Flower-Cuse' by Michaela Wozniak, Architecture, and Coleen Carney, Arts and Sciences, won Most Creative Project. 'Flame-Assisted Fuel Cell Furnace Combined Heating and micro-Power' by Ryan Milcarek, Breezy Knight, Kang Wang, and Dr. Jeongmin Ahn, Engineering, won High Impact Idea.