Growing the leaders of tomorrow with the environmental challenges of today

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Galbreath Wildlands Preserve – 3,670 acres
Fairfield Osborn Preserve – 450 acres
Los Guillicos Preserve – 40 acres

Center for Environmental Inquiry
Sonoma State University
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Rohnert Park, CA 94928

www.sonoma.edu/cei

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Photography: Jim Coleman,
Peter Gordon, Center staff

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Today, we face the biggest environmental challenges in history. Sonoma State is tackling that challenge head on by training a new generation of leaders – leaders who learn their craft by working in their communities on environmental solutions.

This year at the Center, over 900 students investigated real-world environmental challenges – a 22% increase over last year. These experiences were made possible by partnerships between 47 faculty and 52 community partners. And we laid the foundation for future growth with new overnight facilities and community educational programs.

Join us in taking a bold new approach to creating a positive future. With the enthusiastic support of our new president, Judy Sakaki, we are working hard to reach all students on campus.

We couldn’t achieve these results without the support of our corporate partners, donors and community. Please consider a donation this year to make a real difference in growing a sustainable future.

“Dr. Claudia Luke
Center Director

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“Dr. Judy Sakaki
President, SSU

“Dr. Lisa Vollendorf
Provost, SSU

“The Center provides unparalleled opportunities for our students to develop skills and knowledge about sustainability and the environment.”

“Dr. Lynn Stauffer
Dean of Science and Technology, SSU

“Supporting the Center means our students will grow. The Center brings the resources, information, and logistic support our faculty needs to get students working on pressing environmental issues.”

The Center’s Land Management interns worked with partners on restoration projects across Sonoma County.
## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Students learn better

### 2017 Student Engagement
- 1,460 Students outdoors
- 906 Students on projects
- 105 Projects

### 105 Projects
The Center collaborates with and supports faculty from schools across campus to get students working on environmental projects.

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**Geography students studied how remote sensing can be used to estimate the amount of carbon stored in oak woodlands at the Osborn Preserve.**
FROM OUR STUDENTS

Rafael Diaz  
Engineering Science  
Visicon Tech  

“The image-processing work helped me land the job. Thank you for teaching and guiding me through the internship.”

Ana Torres  
Environmental Studies  
California Fish and Wildlife  

“The program gave me a new perspective on science and helped steer me toward my future career.”

Garrett Shipway  
Naturalist & Student Land Steward  

“I gained valuable problem solving, management and resource prioritization skills that give me a competitive edge in my career as a marine biologist.”

Makayla Freed  
Naturalist & Student Land Steward  

“The Center’s internship programs have opened more doors for me on a professional and personal level than I had ever thought possible.”

Students certified in the Center’s Naturalist Training Program led educational tours for over 900 3rd graders.
A TRAINED WORKFORCE

Graduates have desirable real-world skills

"With the Center, we are providing students the opportunity to work on cutting edge technologies."

Dr. Farid Farahmand
Professor Engineering Science

"Working with the Center as an educator, I am able to help students learn the things they can't learn in the classroom."

Dr. Nathan Rank
Professor Biology

Participating Faculty The Center supports faculty to give their students valuable skills and experience working with partners.

Anthropology: Thomas Whitley
Art: Nathan Haenlein, Mads Lynnerup, Greg Stimac
Biology: Lisa Bentley, Mike Cohen, Hall Cushman, Nick Geist, Derek Girman, Fran Keller, Melina Kozanitas, Nathan Rank, Tamas Torok
Chemistry: Mark Perri
Communications: Emily Acosta Lewis
Engineering Science: Farid Farahmand, Gurman Gill
Environmental Studies and Planning: Jeff Baldwin, Caroline Christian, Jacquelyn Guilford, Heidi Herrmann, Mike Moore, Wendy St. John, Kama Wong
Extended Education: Alejandra Warden
Geography: Matt Clark, Michelle Goman
Geology: Owen Anfinson, Nicole Myers
History: Kathleen Noonan
Hutchins Liberal Arts: Russ Scarola
International Education: Roberta Hodges
Math & Statistics: Grace Brown, Martha Shott
Philosophy: Gillian Parker, John Sullins
Political Science: Emily Ray
Physics and Astronomy: Jeremy Qualls, Scott Severson
Psychology: Scott Eberle
Sociology: Wendy Brown
Theatre Arts & Dance: Scott Horstein
University Studies: Bruce Peterson
Women & Gender Studies: Laurel Holmstrom-Keyes
Other Universities: Ross Meentemeyer, Charles Mitchell, David Rizzo

2017 Partnerships
- 49 Faculty
- 52 Organizations
- 26 Disciplines

Engineering and philosophy students develop automated vehicles that collect environmental data.
FROM OUR PARTNERS

Students helped professionals solve the environmental challenges they are facing.

Partnering Organizations  The Center helps to maintain long-term partnerships with community partners

AeroTestra, Americorps NCCC, Annadel State Park, Analytical Sciences, Anderson Valley Unified School District, Anderson Valley Land Trust, Animal Control Mendocino County, Bellevue Elementary, Boonville Garden and Elder Home, Brook Haven Elementary, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources, California Lichen Society, City of Rohnert Park, Cloverdale High School, Conservation Corps


Keenan Foster
Principal Environmental Specialist
Sonoma County Water Agency

“Students are coming out of Sonoma State with a skill set that is above and beyond the skill sets we are seeing coming out of other schools.”

Dr. Victoria Wojcik
Research Director
Pollinator Partnership

“We have been able to teach SSU students specialized skills needed to understand the complexities of vegetation management and pollinator response.”

Eric Brown
Electric Transmission & Distribution Manager
Sacramento Municipal Utility District

“We are thrilled to partner with the Center to train the environmental industry leaders of tomorrow.”
A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Communities benefit from participation

Dr. George Lee
Mendocino County
Community Member

“Our high school students are motivated to pursue college by working with SSU students.”

Dr. Jake Mackenzie
Mayor
City of Rohnert Park

“We are excited to be working with CEI to increase ties between SSU and the City of Rohnert Park. Collaborations such as this not only benefit students but also can help foster truly collaborative solutions to local environmental challenges.”

2017 Community Participants
- 961 K-12 students
- 665 Program participants
- 251 Volunteers
- 125 Workshops and retreats

Plein-air class at the Galbreath Preserve was one of five community classes offered this year by the Center’s Curiosity Corps Program.
THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers make an impact

Sean Headrick
Principal
AeroTestra

“Volunteering AeroTestra’s expertise and technological capability allows us to engage the curiosity and passion of students as we all work together to shape our future.”

Peter Gordon
Mendocino County
Community Member

“We created a valuable citizen-science project that tracks mammal movements with wildlife cameras at the Galbreath Preserve.”

Clockwise: Volunteers hosted dignitaries, built a new campground, led elementary school tours, and controlled invasive species.

2017 Volunteers  Thank you to our volunteers who made Center programs a success.

Campus: Juli Brode, Annemarie Brown, Vic Liptak, Tania Montes
THANK YOU DONORS

Donors invest in the next generation of leaders

2017 Donors Thank you to our donors for funding Center programs!

*Legacy or planned gift or endowment

**Visionaries $500,000 & above**
Fred & Jean Galbreath*, Bob & Sue Johnson*, Marthe & Stephen Norwick*, William & Joan Roth

**Benefactors $20,000 - $499,999**
Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Ana Roth, Jessica Roth, Maggie Roth, Georgette Skellenger*, Daphne Smith*, Terri & David Yost

**Pioneers $5,000 - $19,999**
Jim & Linda Kuhns, Dan & Robbie Rhodes, Jean Schulz

**Explorers $1,000 - $4,999**

**Guides $25 - $999**

"I support the Center to raise student awareness of their connections with the land, sea, and air, and give them the skills to care for such irreparable resources."

Dr. Bob Johnson
Donor

"Steve Norwick was dedicated to environmental education and preparing students for careers in water resources management. The Norwick family is proud to provide research scholarships to Sonoma State students in his memory."

Marthe Norwick
Donor
Founding member of the Steve Norwick Memorial Fund

Touring the proposed field station site at the Galbreath Preserve: Center Director Claudia Luke with donor, Bob Johnson, and SSU President Judy Sakaki
Center Staff

Dr. Claudia Luke
Director
WATERS Lead

Dr. Chris Halle
Nature!Tech Lead

Suzanne DeCoursey
Education Manager

Anne Reeves
Director of Communications

Margot Rawlins
Galbreath Preserve Program Coordinator

Kerry Wininger
Osborn Preserve Program Coordinator

Student Employees
Terris Becker, Sebastian Carranza, Makayla Freed, Caitlin Harvey, Manuel Hernandez, Brian Meyer, Kyle Peel, Jacob Probst, Garrett Shipway, Ryan Yu

SSU Advisory Committee
Julie Barnes, Annemarie Brown, Caroline Christian, Michelle Covington, Christopher Dinno, Ben Ford, Paula Hammett, Bob Johnson, Will McCauley, Kristi McWilliams, Adrian Praetzelis, Nathan Rank, Robbie Rhodes, Lynn Stauffer, Terri Yost

Curiosity Corps Ed Program
Alice Bonner, Johanna Cummings, Jill Hannum, Laurie Marshall, Jessica McCready, Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven, Jon D. Steenhoven

Center at a Glance

Sixty-one percent of Center revenues are from donors and partner grants and contracts. These funds go directly toward the support of programs, lands and facilities.

2017 Summary
- 1,840 Students
- 47 Faculty
- 52 Partners
- 26 Disciplines
- 619 Community members