Everybody’s business: at Gustavson & beyond

When we heard that UVic made The Princeton Review’s Green Rating Honor Roll we were delighted. But surprised? Not so much.

I mean, UVic’s print shop uses wheat-straw paper and Food Services sends cooking oil to be reused as biodiesel truck fuel. The scope of UVic’s sustainability programs is staggering.

On the academic front, Gustavson professors weave sustainability topics throughout their courses to help students prepare for careers that consider people, planet and profit. We include dedicated, required Business and Sustainability courses in both the Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Business Administration programs, but we go way past that. Undergraduate accounting courses get students talking about ethics in management decision making, for example. An MBA course on information technology describes sustainable procurement and the use of technology to reduce a company’s footprint. Applied managerial economics examines the effects of externalizing pollution costs. International financial management connects Master of Global Business students to the ethics of paying taxes and good corporate citizenship.

And because, as every manager knows, what gets measured gets managed, we track that content regularly.

So Gustavson was ready to help when the University of Victoria started to collect information for its submission to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). First we added our voice to the UVic committee defining sustainability. Then we sent along our database of course content. And you can bet we celebrated when AASHE awarded UVic a Gold STARS ranking!

So yes, we’re thrilled that The Princeton Review recognizes UVic’s amazing achievements. To celebrate, we’re pouring Fair Trade organic coffee into our reusable cups and proposing a toast: here’s to what we’ve done so far…and asking “What can we do next?”

Join our mailing list. Leave our mailing list. Ask a question. Share a great idea.

Thanks!

Sustainability @ your library from Business Librarian Corey Davis

Berkeley professor Dara O’Rourke blew the whistle on Nike’s dodgy labour practices in the 90s, and now he’s back. His 2012 book, Shopping for Good, is a quick, informative read that asks whether consumers can create fair and sustainable supply chains by shopping selectively. Along with O’Rourke’s scholarly opinion are arguments from eight experts on the connections between personal concerns and consumer activism.

World Humanitarian Day

On Tuesday, August 19, say “I was here” by doing something good for someone else. Here are just a few examples of the many, many Gustavson folks who make us all proud: Angela Adamson sows seeds, Derek Juno and Andrew Hall feed people, Tim Morris scales up food security....

Easiest course prep. Ever.

Whether you teach human resources, strategy, international business, accounting, finance, or even statistics, this PRME blog post “Ten Ways to Bring Anti-Corruption Discussions into the Classroom” is loaded with great ideas and resources.

Need a feel-good to wrap up the week?

Grab a hanky and watch Halifax kids reduce the dragons to tears AND wring $40,000 out of them.