



# **AGENDA**

## **BONNER WEBINAR**

### **ON TEACHING SOCIAL ACTION**

**13 December 2019**

#### **WELCOME**

#### **UPDATES & DISCUSSION**

- **Update: How did your student campaigns go this semester?**
  - *Discussion: What were the lessons learned from this semester's teaching of social action?*
- **Update: Creating a Field Guide for Teaching Social Action**
  - *Discussion: How do we bring more faculty and staff into the work, and support them?*
- **Other Updates/Discussion Topics?**

**Next Webinar: Friday, January 17th at 3:30 pm EST**

# **Dr. Miriam Shakow's student campaign's**

## **ANT 246: Climate Change and Society:**

**1) CONJ Composting** - is trying to get a biodigester and composting program started. The President of the college has expressed strong support for the project and the VP for administration is co-writing a \$300K+ state DEP grant with the students (and me). The President said to one of the students when they bumped into each other at a campus theatre performance that she would make sure composting happened even if TCNJ doesn't get the grant. So, fingers crossed but it looks good!

**2) People for Plants** - Sustainable grounds campaign group, doing pretty well. Got bogged down a bit in figuring out which data they needed. They have met several times with the enthusiastic VP for administration, who has been trying to help them get meetings with the campus administrators who have data. I am quite certain that the policies they want (including phase out of roundup and other nasty herbicides and fertilizers, landscape plan that uses mostly or all native plants, more education of the campus), will happen eventually, but the better organized they are, the faster it can happen. They are on track to get a resolution passed by the brand-new campus Environmental Sustainability Council on Dec 4, in which case it will go up the campus Governance bureaucratic chain to the Committee on Strategic Priorities and Planning, from whence it could get approved by the Cabinet of VPs and the president.

**3) CarbonFreeTCNJ** - Demanding the President's and her VP Cabinet's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2040. The students have been super-active. Seem to be on track to getting resolutions passed by the Environmental Sustainability Council and Student Government; A Sustainability Fund created through the campus development office (no funds allocated yet).

They have also requested a meeting with VP for Student Affairs to allocate a percentage of student activities fees to a sustainability or climate action fund; requested a meeting with the VP of Finance to brainstorm and pressure to budget for climate action. maybe will complete a memo to present to Faculty and Staff Senates for them to sign on. As part of this work, they have researched energy transition possibilities as well as plans for tree planting campaign, transportation plan, and carbon offset plan (such as for flights taken on college business). Meanwhile, the VP for Administration is, on his own initiative, looking into financing to build a 60-70 acre solar array that would cover a significant chunk of the campus electricity. So, they have a lot of irons in the fire. This is the group with more than 400 signatures.

# **Dr. Scott Myers-Lipton's student campaigns** SOCI 164: Social Action course.

**1) Student Homeless Alliance (SHA)** presented an action plan to deal with the student homeless crisis at SJSU, and met three times with the Provost, VP of Student Affairs, Chief of Staff of the President, and the Associated Student president. They had a series of good meetings that concluded last week with a meeting with the President, and they are in the early stages of following up on the recommendations the President has endorsed. Information will be shared publicly at the beginning of next semester.

## **2) Students Advocating for Education**

**Resources (SAFER):** Students met with the Chief Diversity officer, the Chair of the Committee trying to create an Asian American Pacific Island Student Success Center, and an Academic Vice President who on the org chart cites about the aforementioned Chair. The students have concluded that the University is going to do it, and that with student energy, it will happen in one year rather than 3 years.

## **3) Parents Advocating for Resources Every Student Needs (PARENTS):**

Students met with Vice President of Student Affairs, and the Dean of the Library, and there is a willingness to create a coop where parents can drop off their kids for 1 and 1/2 to 3 hours and be supervised in a safe location by other parents. The Dean has offered a space in the library for this parent coop. Students are meeting with the VP of Student Affairs for final approval, which will be made positively if the question of liability is solved.

## **4) College Awareness Network (CAN):**

Students meet with the Director of Admission, who is willing to house the 3-5th grade campus tour project in her office. However, the Director informed the students that it has to be done in a way that does not overburden her staff, as they are overwhelmed trying to get marginalized kids from the east Side of San Jose to apply to SJSU. CAN has gathered letters from local principals in support of their campaign, as well as testimonials from students who are currently at SJSU from the east side, to be given to the VP, who they hope to meet with next week.

## **5) Students for the Fair Election Initiative:**

Students are working with a large coalition of community organizations to pass a ballot measure to move the Mayor's election to the Presidential cycle rather than an

off-year cycle, which will increase voter turnout among people of color and working class folks. The students gave classroom presentations.

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VIEW EDIT

## ☆ Social Action Faculty Guide

last edited by Robert Hackett 0 minutes ago

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*\*Draft in Process\**

### CHANGE! A Field Guide to Teaching Social Action

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- Recruiting Students to the Class
- Social Action Campaign Requirements
- Building Campus Allies
- Working with Community Partners
- Making a Syllabus
- Grading
- Mid Semester Reflection
- Questions to Consider
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#### Teaching the Class

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#### Related Topics

- Ending the Campaigns
- Sharing Your Story
- Collecting feedback from the students
- Further Goals for Social Action on Campus
- After the Semester Ends
- Careers and Graduate Schools to Inspire Students to Continue Action
- Weaknesses as a Professor
- Meeting with the Campus Dean or President Stories
- Concerns from Community Partners
- Stories of Campus Social Justice Minors or Pathways
- Main Areas of Competency for Community Change Studies

#### Resources

- [Guides](#)
- [Campus Examples](#)
- [Documents to Download](#)

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