Tennessee Higher Education Initiative

Brook Powell
Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices

Tennessee Higher Education Institutions (TN HEI)

According to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, there are 317 Higher Education Institutions in Tennessee.

This serves over **300,000** students.

Many schools have multiple campus locations, but are only counted as one school: For example **Roane State Community College** is counted as one community college but has **9 campus locations**.

With the Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect Programs and growing population, the number of students to attend Tennessee Higher Education Institutions is steadily increasing.

Higher Education Initiative Programs

1. Higher Education Institutions Sustainability Network
2. Tennessee College / Underserved Community Partnership Program (TN CUPP)
3. Campus Food Pantry Program
4. Campus Sustainability Improvements Program

Sustainability Network

Seventy percent of TN Higher Education Institutions responded in a survey that TDEC would be most helpful by developing and facilitating a Sustainability Network.

Learn from Each Other

No need to reinvent the wheel

- ✓ Hosted webinar January 2019 to announce the framework and development of a Steering Committee
- ✓ Registration open to join network and now taking applications for Steering Committee
- ❑ Work with Steering Committee to build out useful resources for TN HEIs

Sustainability Portal at UT Knoxville

Preston Jacobsen
Sustainability Manager

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

TN HEI Sustainability Network

Benefits

A collective voice across the UT System and Board of Regents institutions

Opportunity to leverage grant/external funding avenues

A sounding board for sustainability personnel and their counterparts

Cultural/stigma issues

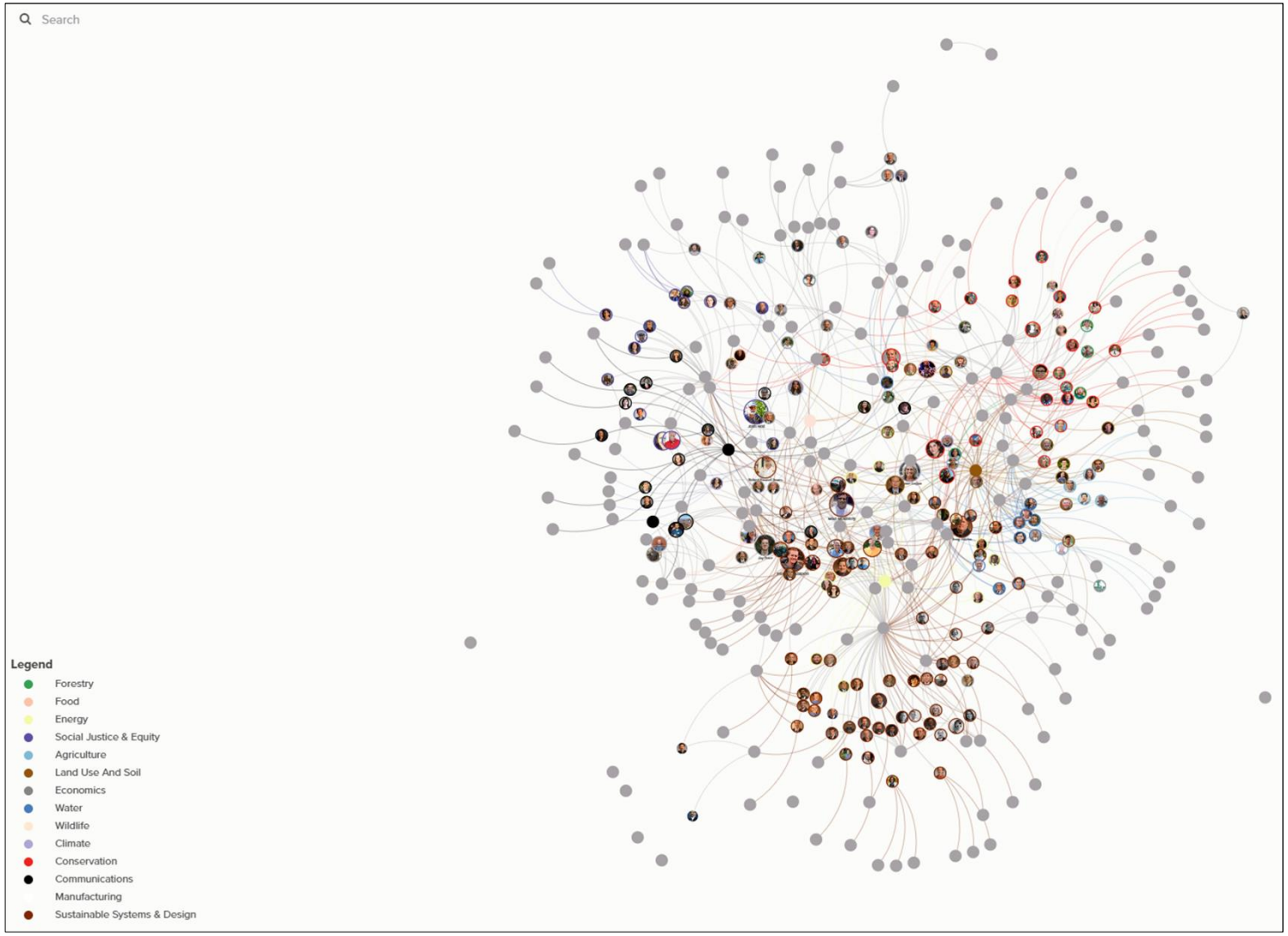
Emerging technology discussions

UTK

- Carbon Neutrality goal of 2061
- Green Fee: $820,000/FY
- 28,321 students
- 600 acres
- #1 Purchaser of Green Power in Academia
- STARS Silver Rating

Sustainability Portal

- Work of Relationship Matrix
- Identifies faculty/staff tied to areas of work/research
- Populations: ORNL & UTK
  - Next phase will include city/county residents
- Portal Link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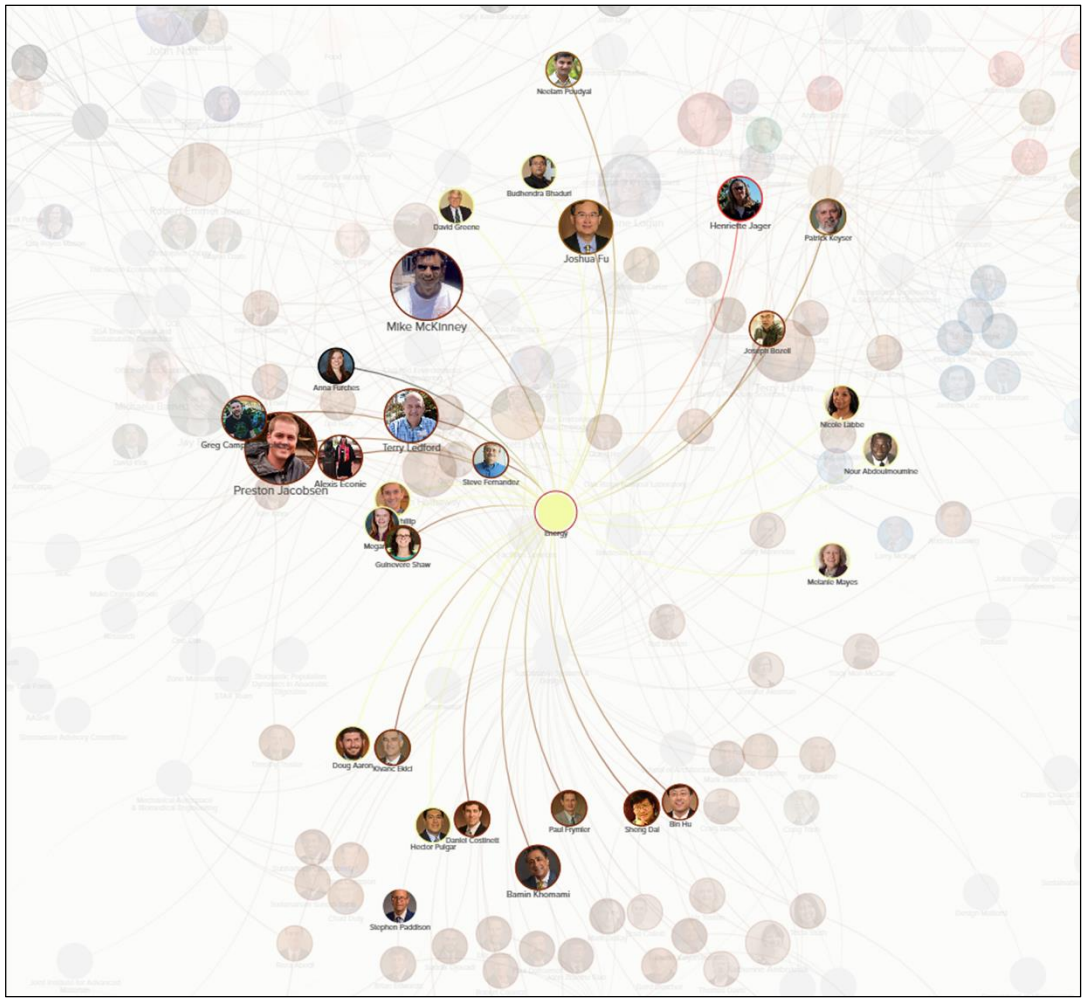
Economics
Water
Wildlife
Climate
Conservation
Communications
Manufacturing
Sustainable Systems & Design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Preston Jacobsen
Alexis Econie
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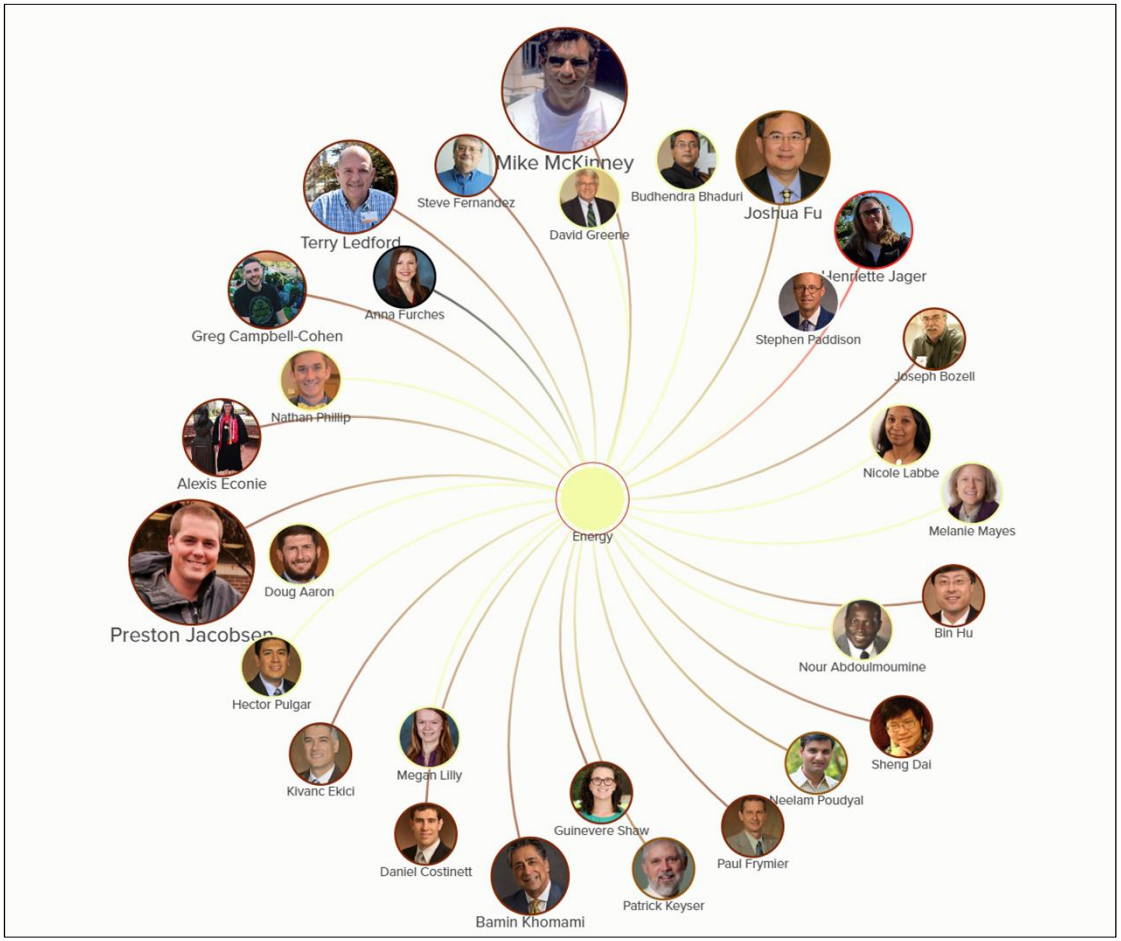
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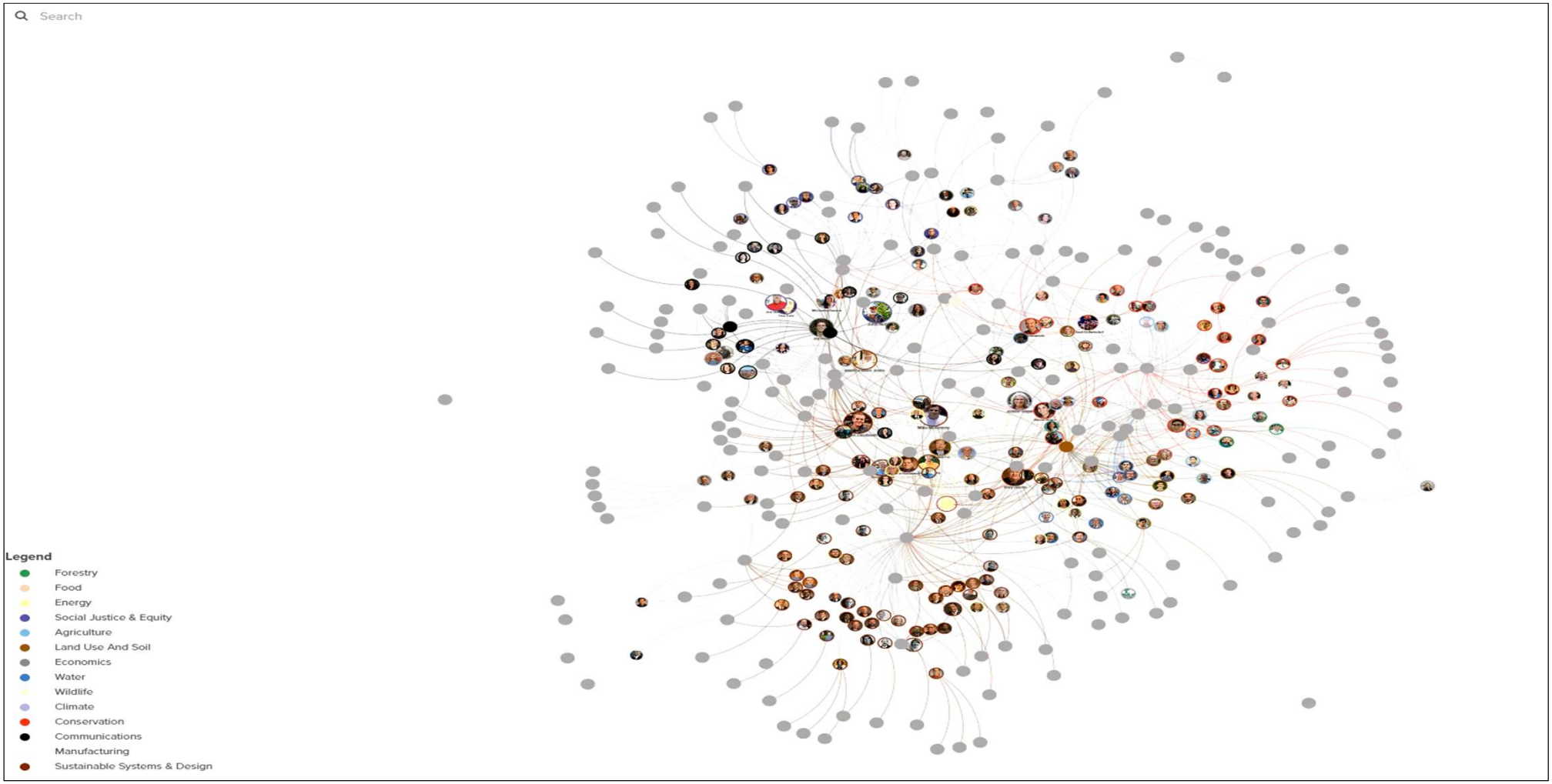
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

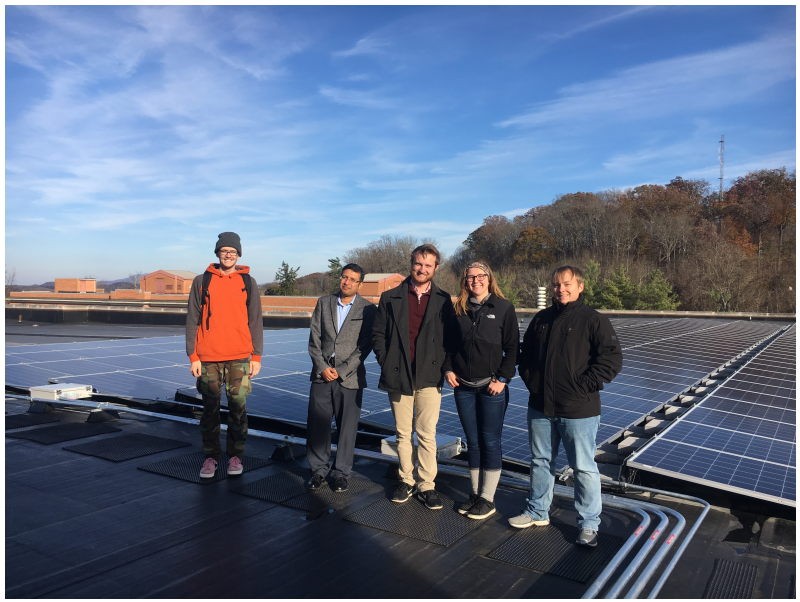
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

GETTING STUDENTS INVOLVED IN SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

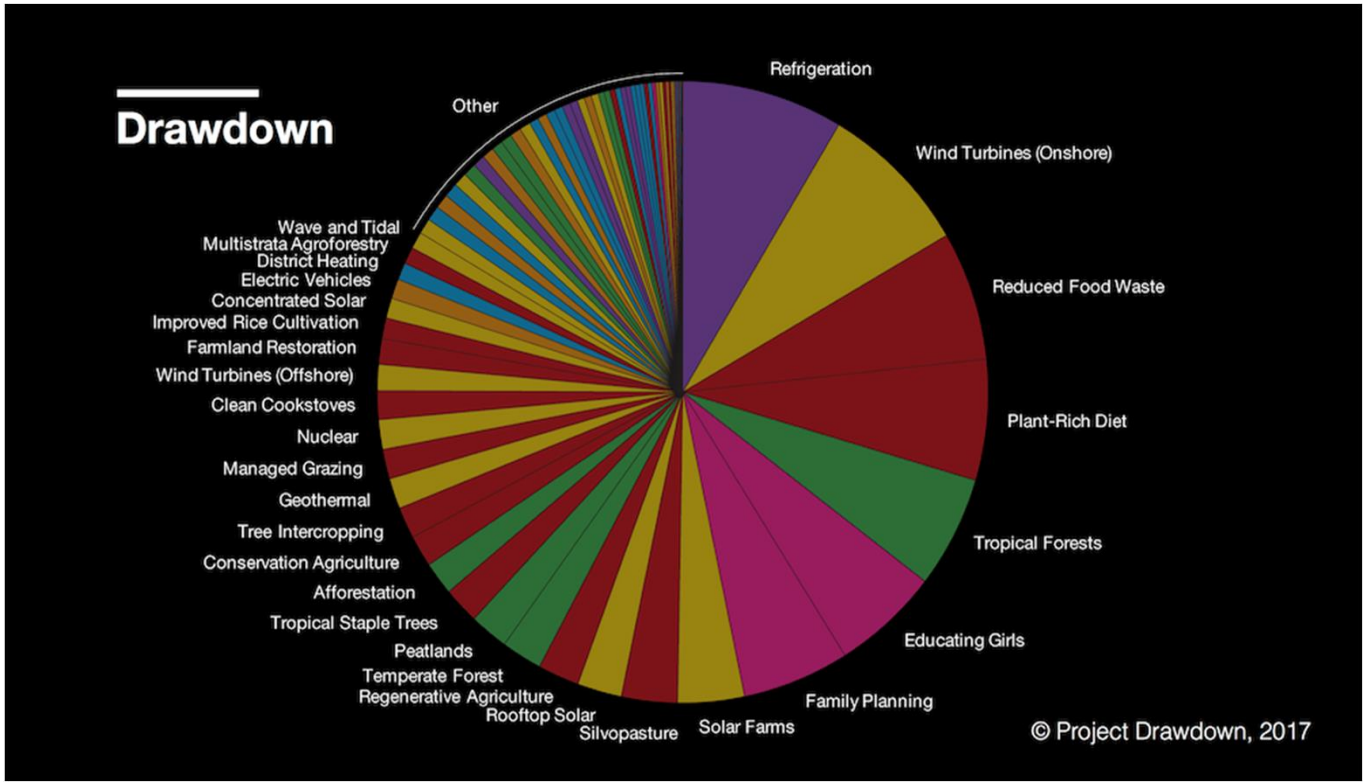
Project Drawdown and Climate Change Solutions
March 19, 2019

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FEE

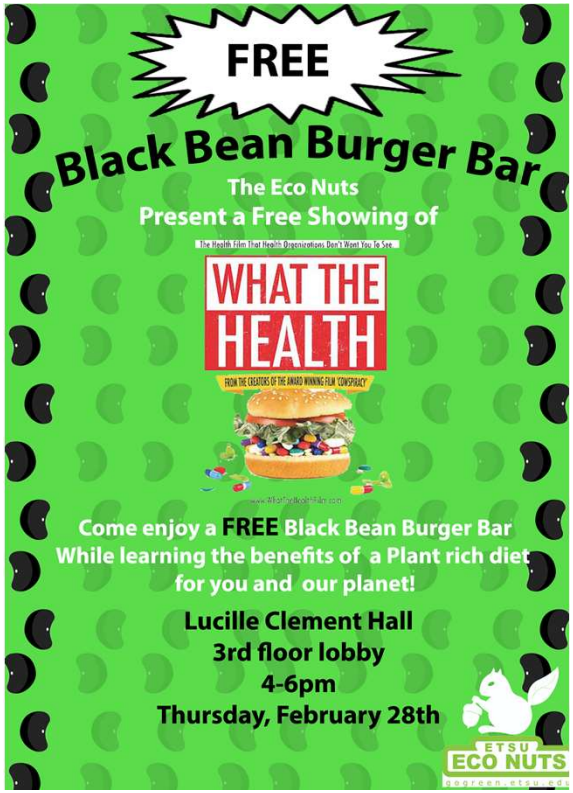
- Established in 2009 by Student Government
- $7 per semester
- Student majority committee makes funding decisions
- Provides department funding for campus outreach efforts



Project Drawdown

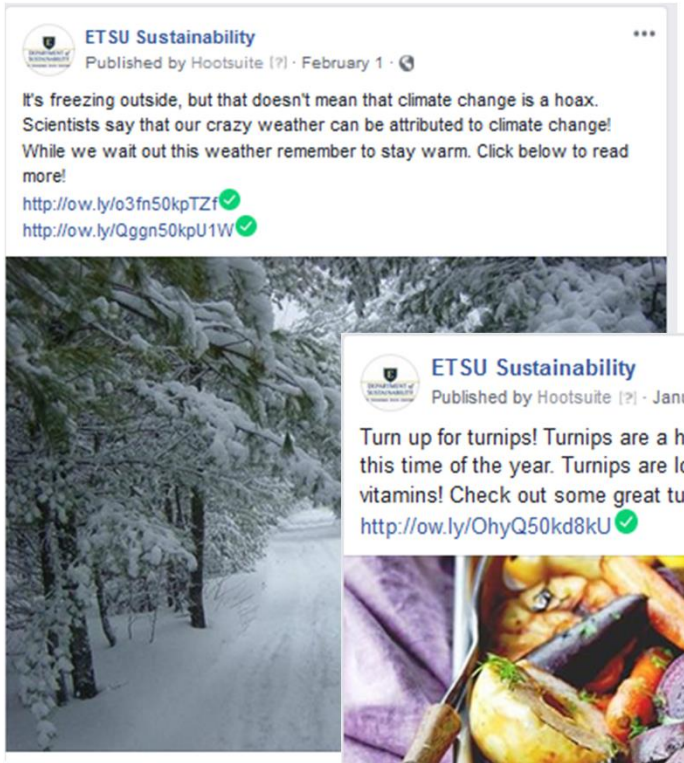


Resident Hall Events



Campus Events

Social Media



Community Outreach

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Kathleen Moore, MPA, CEFP
Director of Sustainability
Email: moore@etsu.edu
Phone: 423-439-7766

Campus Sustainability Improvements Program

TDEC is exploring long-term funding opportunities to support campus sustainability improvements.

Tennessee TECH

Importance of Interdepartmental Collaboration

DeLayne Miller, P.E., P.E.M.
Sustainability Manager

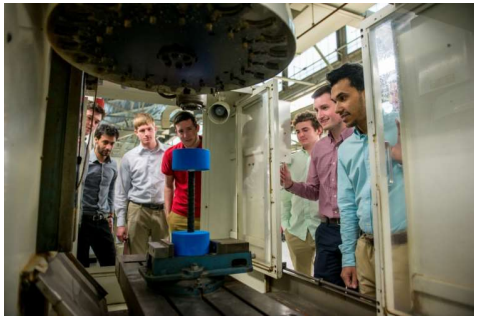
Why collaboration?

- Universities prepare young people for life
  - “Career Ready”

Tennessee TECH

Why collaboration?

- Universities prepare young people for life
- Simulate “real-world” experiences



Tennessee TECH

Why collaboration?

- Universities prepare young people for life
- Simulate “real-world” experiences
- Projects involve components of different specialty areas

Tennessee TECH

Why collaboration?

- Universities prepare young people for life
- Simulate “real-world” experiences
- Projects involve components of different specialty areas
- Everybody loves to be part of a “TEAM”

Tennessee TECH

Being part of a TEAM!

- Common goals / shared vision
- Learn to communicate
- Build relationships
- Learn to value others
- Making a difference

Tennessee TECH

Know your TEAM

- Prepare ahead
- What are they interested in?
- What are their departmental goals?

Tennessee TECH

Suggestions for success:

- Set goals together
- Meet regularly
- Define responsibilities
- Make project timeline
- Communicate
- Include each team member

Tennessee TECH

Encouraging cross-discipline collaboration at TN Tech:

Athletics & School of Human Ecology

- Refuel Station for athletes providing healthy homemade foods in a way that reduces waste

Service Learning Center - School of Agriculture - Sociology Department

- Garden for the TTU Food Pantry

Intramural Sports, Civil Engineering & Campus Community

- Outdoor area at intramural fieldhouse includes pervious pavement, rain gardens to absorb runoff, berms for interest and seating, fire pit and social areas, and two volleyball courts

Dining Services & VegTTU

- Promotion of healthy eating and sustainable practices on campus

Tennessee TECH

Encouraging cross-discipline collaboration at TN Tech:

College of Engineering (Mechanical) & Campus Recycling

- Two solar-powered vehicles

College of Engineering (Mech./Chem./MET) & iMakerSpace

- Project Regrind to recycle plastic water bottles into 3D printing filament

iCube & Communications and Marketing

- Interactive campus map with sustainability highlights

Fitness Center – Campus Recreation – Capital Projects

- Pool filtration system

Tennessee TECH

Encouraging cross-discipline collaboration at TN Tech:

Agriculture / Engineering / Dining Services / Grounds

- Composting program
  - Farm waste
  - Food waste
  - Yard waste

Tennessee TECH

TN Tech in the Community

Center for Rural Innovation
TENNESSEE TECH

Industrial Assessment Center
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Tennessee Tech University
Food Pantry
To Give. To Receive.

IMAGINE + INSPIRE + INNOVATE
iCUBE

iCUBE

IMAGINE

+

INSPIRE

+

INNOVATE

CLIENTS

Industrial Assessment Center
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

A National program sponsored by the
U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office.

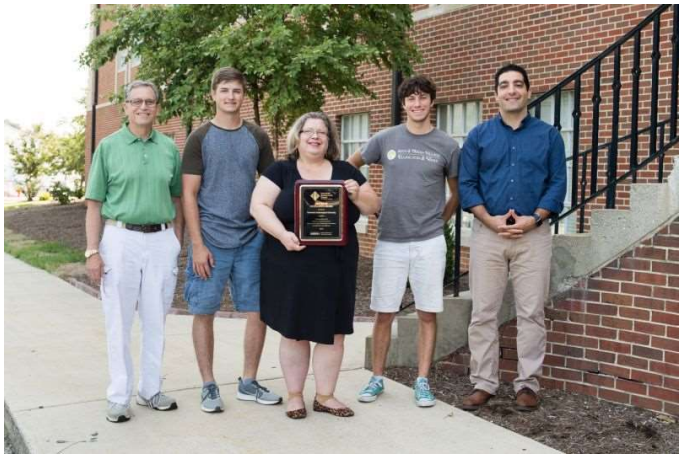
IACs are located at 28 universities across the country.

The mission of the Tennessee 3-Star Industrial Assessment Center is the promotion of industrial energy efficiency in manufacturing through:

1. Conducting no-cost on-site energy efficiency assessments

2. Graduating engineering students with professional skill sets and a solid background in energy and resource efficiency

Tennessee Tech's IAC Awarded
U.S. Department of Energy's
2018 Center of the Year!



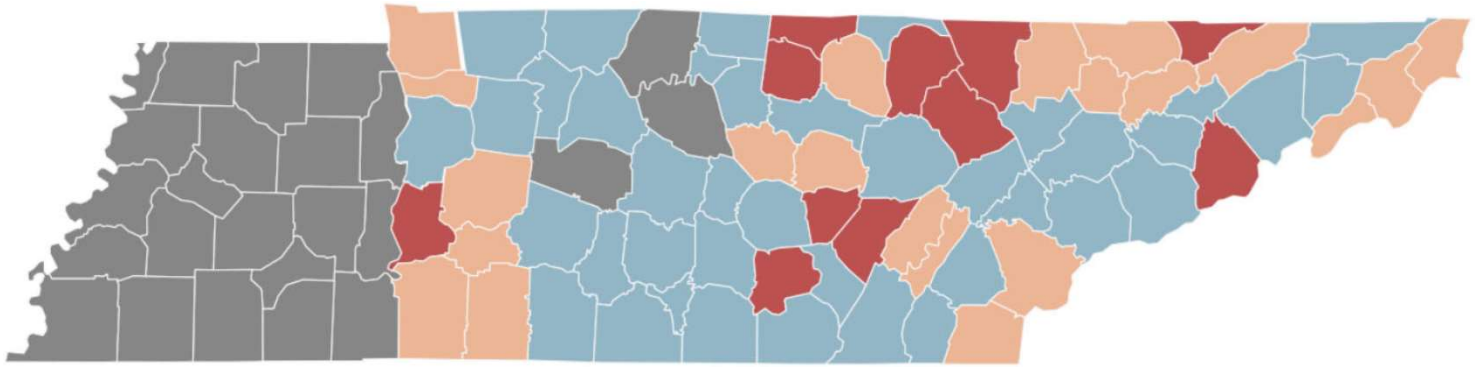
Center for Rural Innovation

TENNESSEE TECH

- Entrepreneur Support
- Student Internship Opportunities
- Pop-up, informational classes on various topics such as Branding, Best Practices for Applying for Grants, Effective Communication, etc.
- Grant-writing Assistance
- Research opportunities for faculty and community members

TCRI Service Areas

The TCRI serves 71 rural counties in the middle-East region of Tennessee.



TCRi

Tennessee Tech University
Food Pantry
To Give. To Receive.

An initiative of the University Service Center:
A Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement

Serving the Nation's Students
College & University
FOODBANK
Alliance

The **TTU Food Pantry** was established as a resource for Tennessee Tech University students and employees in November 2012.

Our Mission:
Raise awareness of hidden hunger on college campuses across the nation and establish and sustain a network for food acquisition, storage and distribution at TTU to alleviate hunger among our campus community.

Provides food for K-12 students in Jackson County, TN who may have minimal access to food over the weekend.

TTU BACKPACK PROJECT

TN College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (TN CUPP)

Gainesboro – Jackson County

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Tennessee TECH

Tennessee College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (TN CUPP)

Higher Education Institution

Community

Examples of Qualifying Projects

- Design of nature trails, rain gardens, rubber porous walkways, and/or outdoor spaces
- Restoring historic landmark(s) owned by the municipality
- Restoring or establishing new wetlands
- Design and/or implementation of alternative fuel projects
- Energy assessments to identify municipality opportunities for resource conservation
- Water and/or wastewater treatment plant assessments to identify opportunities for resource conservation
- Work study for future potential water and wastewater treatment plant operators
- Waste assessments to identify opportunities for increased diversion of materials from the landfill
- Research and development for rubber modified asphalt projects
- Planning and design of State Revolving Fund program qualifying projects

TN CUPP Community Criteria

Must have one or more of the following

- Located within one of Tennessee's distressed counties
- Community population less than 10,000
- Median income 50% below state average for the last five years
- Home values declining over the last five years
- Unemployment 50% higher than the state average over the last five years
- Lack of access to fresh food (food desert)
- Persistent public health issues specific to the environmental quality of the city or community
- Heavy industrial or other activities that involve toxic substances and/or waste and located in or near the community
- 20% of the population living in poverty over the last 30 years
- 20% of the population comprised of children and adults of retirement age of 65 or older

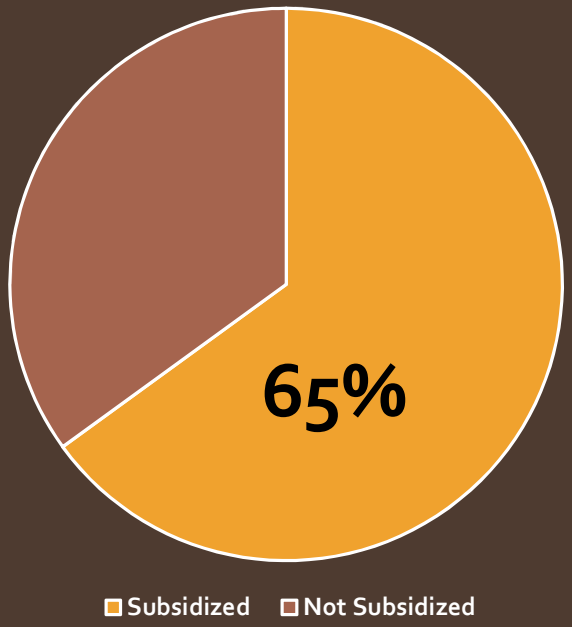
I'M HUNGRY

Presented By: Holly Hanson

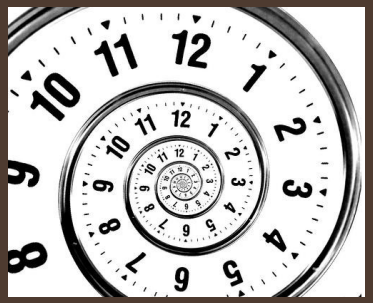
Director, Cumberland County Campus RSCC
Director, Cumberland Business Incubator

BACKGROUND

Students pre-K-12



Vending machines only



Crossville First
United Methodist Church

Meals on Wheels

2016/2017
2017/2018

4-6
students/semester

BACKGROUND – SERVING EVEN MORE…

Baptist Churches

2017-2018
2018-2019

125 Students/ visit

THE STARS BEGAN TO ALIGN - 2018

Audit of United Fund support of Second Harvest

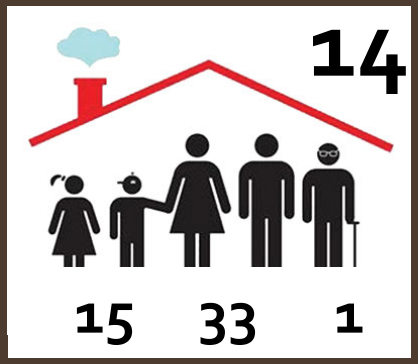
PILOT

Partnership with existing food pantry
Additional funding to food pantry for RSCC location

TN Tech Rural Innovation Conference
June 2018
>>> Brook Powell !!! <<<

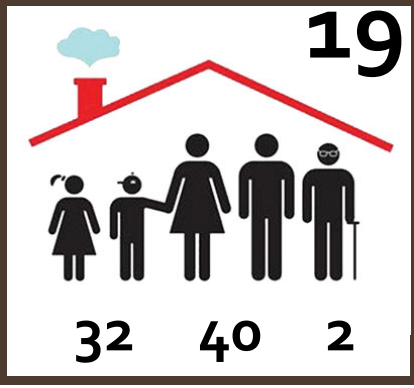
Shelving!
Refrigerator!
Freezer!

OUR FIRST LOCATION – FALL 2018



Total Individuals 49

OUR NEW LOCATION – SPRING 2019 (PARTIAL)



Total Individuals 74

FOOD PANTRY SURVEY FEEDBACK

FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS

STUDENT ISSUES

HOLLY HANSON
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931-456-9880

Roane State
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Campus Food Pantry Program

Food Waste and Food Insecurity

- 40% of food is wasted
- 22% of students at two-year institutions and 18% of students at four-year institutions said they skipped meals or cut meal size because they didn't have enough money for food for at least three consecutive days.

Campus Food Pantry Program requires that a portion of food offered to students be from a source of food that otherwise would have been landfilled.

Brook Powell

Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices

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