

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

Striving to make the University of Amsterdam
a greener place



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01 INTRODUCTION

The UvA Green Office was established in 2016. Since then, the Green Office has continuously increased its output of policy recommendations and projects to accelerate the sustainable transition at the UvA, especially with respect to environmental sustainability.

The Green Office is a student-run platform integrated in the UvA's institutional structure. Together, five permanent team leaders and voluntary student members work under the supervision of one central staff member (bestuurstaf), Ewout Doorman, and in extension under the board of directors (College van Bestuur) (CvB) of the UvA.

The Green Office works together with Facility Services of UvA to solve operational challenges to sustainability at the UvA.

Except for operational management, the Green Office also works together with the different faculties and provides them with solicited advice and consultation with regards to research and education. Moreover, it is important to take into account the decentral structure of UvA. This structure exhorts the Green Office to find individual solutions for each faculty and each location.

Since the Green Office has been founded, the scope of development still remains concentrated on only certain faculties and locations in which most engagement or room for improvement was found.

However, the Green Office has been expanding to more and more faculties and locations over the past years.

In 2019, our scope expanded to the faculties of economics & business (FEB), social & behavioural sciences (FMG), law (FdR), humanities (FGw), and natural sciences (FNWI).

Furthermore, we hosted events and were drivers of policy change with regards to sustainable development in operational management at Roeterseiland Campus, Science Park and the University Quarter campus in the city center.



Satyam Kathpalia,
UvA Green Office General Manager

02 ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

ROLES

The UvA Green Office is based on the RootAbility Green Office model. The UvA Green Office has four levels in its organizational structure, each performing its own role in working on the united vision of making the university a more sustainable place.

Supervision

The supervisor, Ewout Doorman, is the link between the UvA Green Office and the University of Amsterdam. The supervisor supports the Green Office wherever needed and makes sure it performs optimally and sufficiently within the university.

Management

The manager, Sat Kathpalia, is responsible for all the actions of the members of the UvA Green Office and has to make sure everything goes according to plan. In order to achieve this, the manager determines the general strategy of the Green Office. In addition to this, the manager monitors the progress of the current projects and the work of the Portfolio Holders. The manager also decides on the expenses so that the allotted budget is used optimally.



Team leads

Team leaders are an essential part of the Green Office. Together, the five core members spend a considerable amount of time on devising the long-term strategy, and driving policy change at the UvA. In addition, they manage the Green Office members. They motivate members by organizing social events and provide opportunities to develop skills and knowledge, for example through workshops.

Members

The Green Office has members consisting of students. The members work on creating and implementing projects individually and in small teams. As the Green Office aims at increasing its impact, it encourages its members to take on projects themselves.

02 ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

TEAMS



The UvA Green Office consists of four different teams. Each team, which consists of one team leader and 5-10 voluntary members, has its own focus and addresses a different part of sustainability within the University of Amsterdam. One general manager oversees the four teams and constitutes the link to the central UvA staff and partners.

During the academic year 2019/2020, the role of the manager is fulfilled by Satyam Kathpalia (left), who is overseeing the work of the team leaders Feikje Visser (Campus), Leonard Furth (Community), Julia Dalibor (Communications), and Vincent Nahlbach (Research & Education).

02 ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

TEAMS



Campus

The Campus team leader aims to improve sustainability of the buildings and facilities of the university. This includes topics such as waste separation and reduction, catering and energy. In cooperation with Facility Services and other UvA parties, the sustainability at UvA's campuses is improved, and students are engaged in the progress.

Community

The Community team leader engages UvA staff and students in community building events and fostering awareness and sustainable behavior. This is done in coordination with external partners and with the other team leaders.

Research & Education

The Research & Education team leader promotes sustainability in research and education at the UvA. This means both engaging students and researchers, but also providing a platform for current initiatives. The team leader's activities include organizing symposia and Green Talks.

Communications

The Communications team leader is responsible for communicating the achievements and activities of the UvA Green Office, e.g. via the website, the blog or the monthly published newsletter. Also part of the job is the establishment of internal links between all teams.

03 OUR PROJECTS

3.1 CAMPUS

3.2 COMMUNITY

3.3 RESEARCH & EDUCATION

3.4 COMMUNICATIONS

3.5 OTHER



3.1 CAMPUS

The Campus team currently exists of 10 members. Together, we work on different projects to promote sustainability of the UvA campuses. In the first semester of the academic year 2019/2020, we worked on the following projects:

Pen recycling

In the academic year of 2016/2017, the Green Office installed four bins to collect pens for recycling. The pen recycling is still being run by the Green Office, in collaboration with Terracycle. This year, two changes have taken place. First, one of the bins has been relocated from Oudemanshuispoort to PC Hoofthuis, in order to reach more students. The other three bins can be found at REC Hall ABC, REC Hall E and at Sciencepark hall FNWI.



Second, the UvA Green Office now collaborates with Stichting Ubomi Obutscha Nederland for the collection of pens. By collaborating with Stichting Ubomi Obutscha Nederland, the number of batches required by Terracycle is met, and in addition we support the Stichting, since they receive some financial compensation for the pens we send to Terracycle.



Keep Your Cup Day

Together with Studuurzaam, we organized a 'Keep Your Cup Day'. The aim was to promote the use of reusable cups, in order to reduce the amount of single-use waste generated at the UvA. Students were able to get some free coffee or tea in their own reusable cup, or in a reusable cup which could be borrowed. At the stand, information about the problem of single use cups was provided. We also aimed to create awareness about waste. In addition to these efforts, we held a contest where one could win one of the UvA Green Office cups.

Alchemist Garden tour

As part of our green efforts, we organized a visit to the Alchemist Garden. The Alchemist Garden is a cafe which experiments with sustainability in the hospitality sector. They work on sustainability regarding the building, the served food and community building. During the tour, we learnt about the values and principles of the Alchemist Garden, and their views on sustainability.

Waste guide

How is your household waste supposed to be separated in Amsterdam? This is not always clear for students, especially not for international students. In order to help separate waste, and to promote waste separation in general, we produced a waste guide. This guide informs about the importance of waste separation, and explains how waste separation works in the municipality of Amsterdam. All the incoming international students of DUWO (150 students) received a copy of the waste guide in their welcome box. We aim to collaborate with multiple parties providing international student housing, so that the waste guide becomes part of the welcome information at multiple locations for international student housing. Furthermore, the waste guide will be promoted online via social media and our website, so that it is available for anyone who wants to know more about waste separation.

Renting system

Often when study or student associations organize events where food and/or beverages are provided, single-use products are used.

To promote the use of reusable products, the UvA Green Office set up a renting system for cutlery, cups, and plates. We purchased an inventory which can be borrowed by study or student associations. To make it an appealing offer, this will be free of charge. The system is currently being finalized and a pilot will start in the beginning of March. The renting system is mentioned in the Green Commitment (p. 23) as a way of reducing the waste produced for catering.



Let's talk about waste

At PC Hoofthuis we organized an event to inform students about the waste policy of the UvA and to promote the separation and reduction of waste. There were talks about waste separation at the UvA, circular fashion and food waste. Also, we investigated general waste bags of the campus, to see what is being thrown away at the university. Finally, students could make their own bees wrap, which is a sustainable alternative for plastic or silver foil.



Reusing household appliances

Every semester, students move in and out of housing facilities offered by partners of the UvA. Departing students often throw away their household appliances, although they would be of very good use for incoming students.

Therefore, the Green Office wants to promote the reuse of household appliances, by installing second-hand markets at housing facilities.

In the transition period between the first and second semester of the academic year 2019/2020, 3 pilots have taken place. One pilot was conducted by a Community team member, the other two by Resident Assistants of De Key.

For the first mentioned pilot, over 120 household items were collected in only a few days. The other pilots were less successful, since not many residents were moving over the winter.

The collaboration between the UvA Green Office, UvA International Student Housing and De Key will continue and larger scale pilot is planned during the moving period in summer.

E-waste recycling

Electronic waste is one of the fastest growing waste categories in the world. It is very harmful for the environment if it is not recycled properly. Therefore, the UvA Green Office is working on installing an E-waste recycling point at the UvA.

Here, students and staff can hand in their e-waste, so that it can be recycled. A pilot in collaboration with WeCycle is planned in the second semester of the academic year 2019/2020.

3.2 COMMUNITY

The Community team is about building a community at our university that is aware of and acts in accordance with sustainability. Central are events to foster sustainable behavior, and long-term projects to build bridges between sustainability-interested groups and institutions.

The team itself counts six members (from left to right: Hazel, Florian, Julia, Leo, Marilla, and Susanna is missing). Three goals guided the design and implementation of the team strategy in the first half-year.

First, it was aimed at increasing the engagement of and exchange with staff and students at community building events. Second, it was aimed to start conversations with and coordination across UvA domains, including professional services. Third, it was aimed to increase the collaboration with external partners, including other higher education institutions.

Together, these goals contribute to the overarching aim to build bridges between all actors, because we believe that the more people push for a sustainable agenda, the more successful our project will be.



Awareness Campaign

So far, we have reached agreements with CREA Café to give a discount when one is bringing their own cup. Other attempts to institute a university wide discount were not successful yet.

Hence, we began the year by raising awareness around the persisting overconsumption of single-use cups and cutlery.

The project developed from the idea to present an artwork made from single-use coffee cups during the week of sustainability from the 7th to the 11th of October. The two preceding weeks were used to gather cups around REC.

In total, around 3,000 cups were collected. The awareness campaign will continue throughout the second semester of the academic year.





Plastic Fishing Event

To explore the issue of water pollution in Amsterdam and help its alleviation, we rented a boat and spent four hours cleaning the canals of the city. We were surprised by the cleanness of the canals and will focus on clean-up tours around the campus in the second half of the year.

Professional Services & External Partners

In order to make the next introduction week more sustainable, we work together with the Intreeweek committee.

So far, the focus was on providing recommendations on how smarter purchases can be made with the same budget. One exemplary change is, that in 2020, vegetarian options will be set as default when ordering culinary services. In the second semester of the academic year, the participation in the duurzame introductie stunt (DIS) will be organized together.

Other joint projects were the establishment of Freshbag pickup points at the REC, and the ongoing collaboration with the sustainability project group of the University Library, focusing on implementing pilot projects to apply sustainability standards to the facility in the Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam.

T-Shirt Policy

Every year, 1,000 t-shirts are purchased for UvA events such as Bachelor days, Career days, and Master days. Together with SFSA, we worked on a policy proposal to transition from a single-use to a circular t-shirt use system. The final proposal contained a selection of producers and a washing service in Amsterdam, amounting to EUR 20,000 saved costs matching high sustainability standards within a five year time period.

3.3 R&E

Green Talks

On a regular basis, we are organizing guest lectures, where we invite inspiring speakers sharing their insights on a variety of topics linked to the environment and sustainability.

Our guest speakers come from a range of different organizations, reaching from NGOs to PhD students, who share their mission to tackle the important environmental issues of our times. These events are a great chance to learn about current concerns and possible solutions, aiming to educate the audience and possibly inspiring students and staff to support the speakers on their missions.

Popular guest speakers included Ed Winters, giving a talk about the hidden costs of our food choices, which attracted over 100 people.



For the upcoming semester, our Green Talks will be held on a monthly basis with an alternating focus on career talks and other interesting topics. This new format is starting in February with an event on women in sustainability related research at the UvA.

Workshops

In different workshops, we are welcoming people to show them how to be more sustainable in their daily lives.

Starting with an educational part on the tackled issues, the workshops also provide a hands-on DIY part teaching participants how to do things in practice. During the first semester, the first workshop about making sustainable self-care and household products was planned and is supposed to take place in February.



NOV
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Documentary Screening: Albatross

Public · Hosted by UvA Green Office

Documentary Screenings

Regularly, we are inviting our community to the screening of a documentary, chosen by our members due to the impact it had on them.

While providing new information about environmental issues, these screenings also provide a lively alternative to students' daily routine of lectures and readings. With powerful images from around the world, these visual journeys take the viewers to places directly impacted by environmental issues such as climate change or plastic pollution.

By showing these documentaries, providing raw images of harsh realities, we are hoping to raise awareness and to enable the viewers to build an emotional connection to these issues.

Thus, we aim to make the devastating consequences of human behavior, not only to us but to the whole planet and all of its species, more visible and tangible to our audience.

Research

The Green Office also provides a platform for students interested in doing sustainability related research.

Projects during this semester included finding a better alternative to the currently used disposable coffee cups, exploring sustainable options for socks and caps for the UvA merchandise shop and conducting a survey about students' ideas and opinions regarding the use of reusable coffee cups. The survey will be published in a number of faculty toilet papers in March.

3.4 COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications team started with three main aims into the news academic year:

First of all, it was planned to increase both student's and staff's awareness about the existence and the aims of the Green Office. Despite the growing numbers in terms of social media followers and attendees of events, it was acknowledged that a majority of UvA students and staff had still no knowledge about the existence of the Green Office.

Secondly, it was aimed to professionalize and to unify the overall Green Office communications strategy. While in the past semesters, multiple parties were involved in creating content and posts, it was aimed to uplift the communication onto a more integrated level.

Thirdly, the team aimed to strengthen the Green Office's links with both external and internal stakeholders, focusing on a strengthening of internal communication channels and flows in particular.

Social Media Strategy

In order to achieve both a more professionalized use of communication channels as well as an increase in the follower base, a new social media strategy was developed.

The strategy involved the creation of a voluntary position of a Green Office Social Media Manager as well as the definition of main aims and a main target group. Informing student about projects, future events and providing tips and tricks regarding the implementation of a green student life were identified as main aims for all future Instagram content, while the more formal provision of Green Office information was identified as the main aim for the Facebook content. The target group was defined as both UvA staff and students, followers interested in sustainability related subjects and citizens living in Amsterdam.

As a result of the changes, follower numbers have been growing exponentially in the last few months. While the Green Office started with a total of 1,284 Page Likes on Facebook and around 750 followers on Instagram after the summer, we are now counting 1,658 Page Likes on Facebook and 1,024 Instagram followers as part of our follower base.

Over the next few months, the Communications team aims to professionalize the management of both social media channels even more. The team is currently working on a social media tracking sheet, which will keep track of all social media related activities and the followers' responses to them.





Interview with the UvA web team

In November 2019, the UvA Green Office had the opportunity to give an interview to the UvA web team.

Next to advertising our events like workshops and lectures to both students and staff, we also had the chance to share our view on the importance of our work. As the UvA is currently lacking a dedicated sustainability department, it is even more important that the Green Office is supported in our efforts in uniting different parts of the university in order to make the UvA a greener place in the long run.

We were also able to share our efforts in integrating sustainability more into the educational curricula at the university. By reaching out to different faculties, we are working on implementing sustainability related courses in each curriculum at the university.

Achieving that would mean that thousands of young, highly educated students had the chance to at least once engage in active debate and thought about the importance of the climate change issue.

'Sustainability is so important that it's vital we make it fun too!'

While all of that is of crucial importance, we also shared our thoughts on the importance of a sustainable lifestyle, which includes parts that make it fun too. Instead of making people feel guilty about their choices, we stressed that a better way to achieve a green lifestyle is by showing green alternatives, which are both fun as well as sociable and do not feel like giving something up.

Read the whole interview [here](#).

Green Office Clothing Swap

On the first Saturday of December, the UvA Green Office Communications team hosted its first Green Office Clothing Swap, Christmas edition.



The concept was simple: Bring up to seven items, get tickets in exchange for them and spend these tickets on clothes which were brought by others

With over 150 participants, the event resulted in tables overflowing with tops, skirts and jeans, and racks bursting with jackets and dresses. The Christmas music was pumping over the speaker, and informational stalls from the sustainable HUNY premix brownie brand, the Amsterdam Vegan Student Association, and the Cece project provided information for everyone interested in learning a little more about other sustainable projects in Amsterdam.

At the end of the three-hours-event in CREAs Muzieksaal, the Green Office was thrilled to have seen such a staggering number of people renew their wardrobe without purchasing a single item.

We swept the floor and stacked away tables with big smiles, knowing that all of the swapped items were going to have their life extended by many more wears and could probably eventually be swapped again.

All non-swapped clothing items were donated to the Rataplan Kringloopwinkel and will hopefully be re-homed as well. As a result of the overwhelming response that we received, the Communications team decided to take on the organization of seasonal clothing swaps into their repertoire. The hosting of the next clothing swap (Spring Edition!) is planned in April 2020.



Members Dinner

In December, the Green Office hosted its first official Members Dinner of the new academic year 2019/20. Taking place on the 5th of December, approximately 20 members as well as the Green Office core team met up for a potluck dinner in the student hotel in Noord. This did not only give members the opportunity to connect outside of the daily Green Office routine, but also offered them the chance to find out what other teams had been up to.

With a small sketch the Communications team promoted their upcoming Clothing Swap and Community team leader Leo shared some insights about what his team had been up to starting from September. Overall, the Member's Dinner provided a nice opportunity to not only get to know the majority of students who are responsible for the rising success of the Green Office, but also to gain a better perspective into what people from other teams are working on.



In order to increase the bonding of members across their team borders and raise the mutual awareness about ongoing projects and initiatives, each team was asked to prepare a short and creative team presentation. While the Campus remodelled the waste event that they had just hosted, the other members were curious to find out the different categories which exist when it comes to waste separation. The research and education team shared their latest insights into the UvA's coffee cup consumption.

It also allowed the core team to say 'thank you' for all the hard voluntary work every member is putting into their projects. As a small gesture, each member received a small Sinterklaas gift. To keep up the opportunity to connect and learn from one another, it was agreed that regular Green Office Member Dinners should be held, as they offer an ideal opportunity, to not only get to know each other better, but also to give back to the members. The next official Green Office Members Dinner is planned in March 2020.

Newsletter

The monthly published Green Office newsletter provides stakeholders with updates about what the Green Office has been up to in the past four weeks after receiving the last edition. By sharing insights about the Green Offices' work, it does not only give an insight into past success stories and green developments at the UvA, but also informs about upcoming events and new vacancies at the UvA Green Office.

Since the beginning of the academic year in September, Communications team member and newsletter specialist Lena was able to publish a total of 5 newsletters which reached an average of 240 people each time.



Merchandise

At the end of 2019, the Communications team ordered their first set of original Green Office hoodies. The set of 30 hoodies arrived in the beginning of the new year.

With these hoodies, we want to be able to represent the Green Office both at official events and across the official social media channels. In addition, it is planned to give each member the opportunity to purchase a sweater for a reduced price.

The hoodies, which are produced by P&P Green Premium, which is a sustainable brand with location in the Netherlands, are of high quality and will be passed on to the next generation of Green Office teams at the end of this academic year. Until then, they will be worn at events, workshops, lectures and across all campuses with the aim to increase the overall awareness.

UvA Green Office Newsletter Nr.10

The Green Office has been working on making the UvA a more sustainable, more inclusive and diverse place. We are one of the four sustainable initiatives from the UvA, working specifically on projects regarding Campus, Community and Education.



Julia and Sat, both members of our core team, gave an interview which was published as the leading story in the latest UvA newsletter! They talk about their own background, sustainability at the UvA and the goals of the Green Office. You can find the article on the UvA website or simply by clicking the button below.

ARTICLE



We're hosting our first seasonal Clothing Swap event on the 7th of December! Are you in desperate need for your New Year's Eve dress or your next favourite Christmas sweater, but you also want to put an end to the Fast Fashion industry? Do you have clothes you no longer wear? This event is your solution. Find out about how it works and how you sign up on the Facebook page.

EVENT

3.5 OTHER

Climate Movement

Together with the HvA & VU Green Offices we organized the participation of university staff and students in the national climate action day in September, and one separately in November.

To get into the spirit and gather before, we invited staff and students to participate in the design of a poster for our collective representation at the national climate strike.

We believe that supporting climate action outside of the vicinity of the UvA contributes to achieving the goals set out above. Similarly, it involves staff and students in events happening on the local and national level.



For a fresh start into the year 2020, the year of climate action, we collaborated with Milieudefensie and Comité Schone Lucht in organizing a climate dive on January 1.

The events are conducive to establish important community linkages internally, among the Green Office teams, and with other Green Offices and other initiatives engaged in environmental sustainability.

National Day of Sustainability

On the 10th of October 2019, we celebrated the Day of Sustainability in the education sector. As the Green Office core team, we organized several activities around different campuses.

At Science Park, the Campus Team co-hosted an event to promote reusable cups, called the Keep Your Cup Day. It encouraged students to bring their own reusable cups instead of using single-use cups and throwing them away after only drinking from them once.

In combination with these efforts, the Community team installed an arts project at Roeterseiland. Two weeks prior to the event, the team collected used single-use coffee cups at REC and made them into an art object, which displayed the tremendous amounts of coffee cups students and staff go through every day.

It aimed to raise awareness of the non-recycling nature of these cups and to inform about the necessity to bring reusable cups instead.

Additionally, we hosted a sustainable food market in CREA. Everyone who was keen, was able to set up a stand and sell their own home-made sustainable food. There was a great selection of delicious foods! One could get many vegetarian and vegan foods, including brownies, grilled 'cheese' sandwiches, and wraps.

All activities during the Day of Sustainability were captured and shared on the official Instagram account of the UvA, where our Communications team did an Instagram take-over.



Warm Sweater Week



Warm Sweater Day is a national day when businesses, organizations, and schools come together in turning down their heating for a day to raise awareness about how we can stay warm over winter with more layers and less energy.

As the Warm Sweater Day initiative organized by Klimaatverbond Nederland gained momentum in recent years, the UvA decided to go one step further in 2020 by turning down the heat for not just a day, but an entire week:

“The whole point of Warm Sweater Day is for us to make as many of our staff and students as possible aware of the way we heat our buildings and homes and the effect this has on the climate. By extending the campaign to a week, we are hoping to reach more of our staff and students and to inspire them to follow our example”.

All UvA campuses were dialing down the thermostat from Monday 3 to Friday 7 February from 21 - 23 degrees to just 20 degrees Celsius. If everyone simply wears an extra layer, we are able to save six percent energy and CO2 for each degree that the thermostat is turned down.

The UvA hoped that by extending such an initiative and raising more awareness among students and staff, “maybe we will eventually be able to permanently reduce the temperature in our buildings by a couple of degrees”.

The UvA Green Office was proud to support our university in this week-long initiative and advertised the efforts throughout the Warm Sweater Week at the UvA.

Green Commitment

The core team of the UvA Green Office has collaborated on producing the Green Commitment for Institutional Bodies, Study and Student Organizations of or affiliated with the University of Amsterdam, or in short: the Green Commitment.

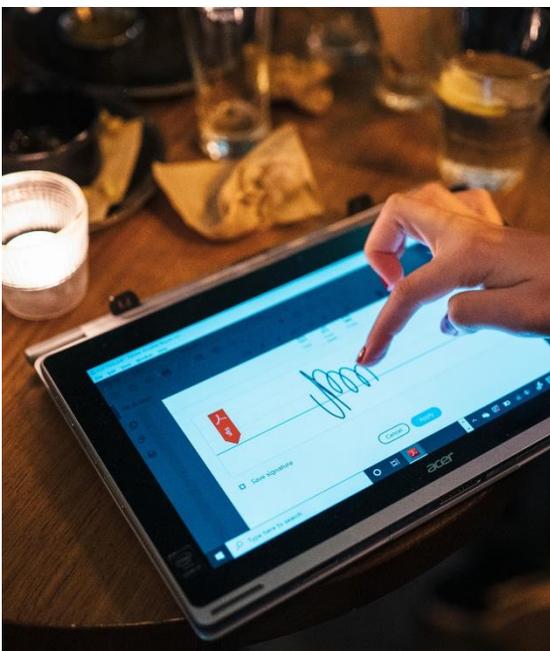
This document provides a set of practical guidelines to improve the sustainability of practices of UvA Bodies, which can be institutional bodies, study or student organizations. The Green Commitment is a declaration of intent, and can be signed by any organization intending to improve the sustainability of their practices.

The idea of the document is that, by promoting the sustainability of practices of UvA organizations, sustainability at the UvA in general is promoted, and awareness regarding sustainability is raised.



Several topics are covered by the Green Commitment, namely partnerships, catering, waste management, purchasing of products, travel policy and communication. Parties are for example encouraged to reduce their wastes, take sustainability into account when organizing travels, and communicate their sustainability ambitions. As UvA Green Office we will monitor the progress made, by requesting yearly updates. Also it is communicated that the UvA Green Office can always be consulted when questions arise or difficulties appear.

On the 13th of February the first parties to the Green Commitment signed. The signing of the Green Commitment was celebrated with some drinks with all the signing parties at the Green Commitment Signing Borrel at Bar Botanique in Oost.



04 COMING UP

4.1 CAMPUS

4.2 COMMUNITY

4.3 RESEARCH & EDUCATION

4.4 COMMUNICATIONS



4.1 CAMPUS



As the Campus team we are very proud at what we have been able to do so far. However, we are only halfway through the year, and are already looking forward to what more we can do! Some projects have already been planned, other projects are still to be set up. A selection of the projects that will happen in the second semester are:

Trash picking event

On the streets around the campuses, a lot of litter can be found. We will organize an event to clean the streets. This will have a positive impact on the neighbourhood surrounding the university, and will create waste awareness.

Waste event at Sciencepark

Similarly to the Let's Talk About Waste event organized at PC Hoofthuis, an event around the theme of waste separation and reduction is planned to take place in May at Sciencepark.

For this event, the UvA Green Office will collaborate with FSR FNWI.

Hitchhiking competition

Many students love travelling. However, travelling is not always very environmentally friendly. The UvA Green Office wants to promote sustainable travelling. One way of travelling sustainably, is by hitchhiking. Therefore, we will organize a hitchhiking weekend in June. We aim to inspire students to take sustainability into account when making plans for travelling.

SustainaBul

The SustainaBul is a sustainability ranking for institutions of higher education, set up by Studenten voor Morgen. The UvA will participate. The UvA Green Office helps with providing the information requested by Studenten voor Morgen.

4.2 COMMUNITY

Community Building

In the second half of the year, we will focus on community building events and long-term projects of the Green Office. Currently, we are working on a way to conduct a pilot Shared Cup System to re-introduce a sustainable alternative to single use cups: ceramic cups. This projects is being planned together with the University Library.

Awareness Campaign

Accompanying the shared cup system, we are working on a poster campaign directed at the UvA staff and students, addressing single use cutlery and cups. The aim is to be informative and achieve behavioral change.

Green Festival

Together with SFSA, we are organizing a festival for tree huggers and music lovers. A fair food market, house-plant exchange, and music are swirling in the pot of ideas. The planned date is the beginning of June.



Workshop on Sustainable Curricula

For the congress of social and behavioral science faculties in 2020, we will organize a workshop about how we can collectively integrate sustainability into our classrooms. The case of the workshop will be piedmont project of the Emory University (US) and the underlying vision is to make education at the UvA more sustainable in the long run.

Events

In collaboration with the BétaBreak, we are organizing a panel discussion on the topic of Facts and Fables about the Policy-Science Nexus. A policy advisor of the Gemeente Amsterdam, and environmental sustainability experts of the Vrije Universiteit and Wageningen University will be invited. In addition to this, we will start monthly excursions and gardening expeditions to the community garden Anna's Tuin en Ruigte, a partner of the UvA.

4.3 R&E

For the upcoming semester, the future plans for the Research & Education team are the successful continuation of our ongoing projects. We are planning to regularly host guest lectures, documentaries screenings and workshops and hope we can continuously increase the size of our audiences.

Faculty Sustainability Network

The idea of this project is to find staff at all faculties concerned with issues of sustainability to then form a university-wide network. This platform could then serve as a forum for discussion and contact point for anyone interested in collaborating in sustainable research and education.

Projects following the formation of the network could then, for example, link students to interested staff for the supervision of sustainability related research.



Furthermore, this network could serve as a platform for faculty internal discussions regarding the increase and improvement of sustainability related topics in the curricula.

Sustainability related research

Additionally, we are planning to continue and extend the research done and facilitated by the Green Office and to offer students a platform for projects they are interested in.

Like in the last year, we will again put together a course catalogue with an overview of all sustainability related courses at the UvA. To increase our impact on the current research and curricula, we are also looking for a new project leader to take on the challenge of building a network connecting researchers and staff within and across faculties to increase the exchange of ideas regarding sustainability in research and education.

Green Career Day

Furthermore, we are planning to host a green career day at the UvA, giving sustainable companies and interested students the chance to meet and to discuss future employment opportunities in sustainability related jobs or industries.

4.4 COMMUNICATIONS

Green Guide 3.0

In February, the Green Office Communications team will publish the third edition of its famous Green Guide.

The interactive guide will present a large range of green locations in Amsterdam. Based on what readers are after, they are able to find their favourite spot for food, drink, coffee, shopping, groceries, recycling and apps, as well as hubs to meet like-minded people and become active themselves.

By making use of a self developed system, each location appearing in the Green Guide is evaluated according to a set of categories. Among others, the locations are judged according to their offer of organic products, the focus on offering vegetarian or vegan options, or the implementation of sustainability or recycling programs.



COFFEE

BACK TO BLACK
Grachrengardel, Weteringstraat 48.

A cute little café, with its own roastery, selling fairly traded coffee and homemade cakes. If you're lucky you might meet Binkie, a cat that will steal your heart.

BOCCA COFFEE
Grachrengardel, Kerkestraat 96HS.

This spacious, cool cafe lets you pick your favorite locally roasted bean and doesn't make a secret of where it has been sourced. Milk alternatives like soy and oat milk are available. Additionally, Bocca Coffee participates in several socially and environmentally sustainable programs that affect the workers in the countries where coffee is grown.

Clothing Swap Spring Edition & Summer Edition

For the upcoming spring and summer months, the Communications team is excited to organize two more editions of the newly introduced Green Clothing Swaps. We hope that by attracting more and more keen clothing swappers that we will be able to raise awareness around the issue of fast fashion and will get an increasing number of students excited about the idea of not having to buy new for their new favourite piece of clothing.

Internal Team Bonding

Additionally to the events that aim at representing the UvA Green Offices efforts to the public, the Communications team also strives to improve the internal bonds of the Green Office. In order to achieve that, the 'Internal Communications project group will take on the task of organizing team internal events for all Green Office Members. The organization of future Member Dinners is part of the internal team bonding strategy as well.

Update Green Office Website

In order to make all the necessary information on our Green Office website even more accessible, it is also planned to put some thought into the recreation of the website. This process will take place in close collaboration with the other teams.

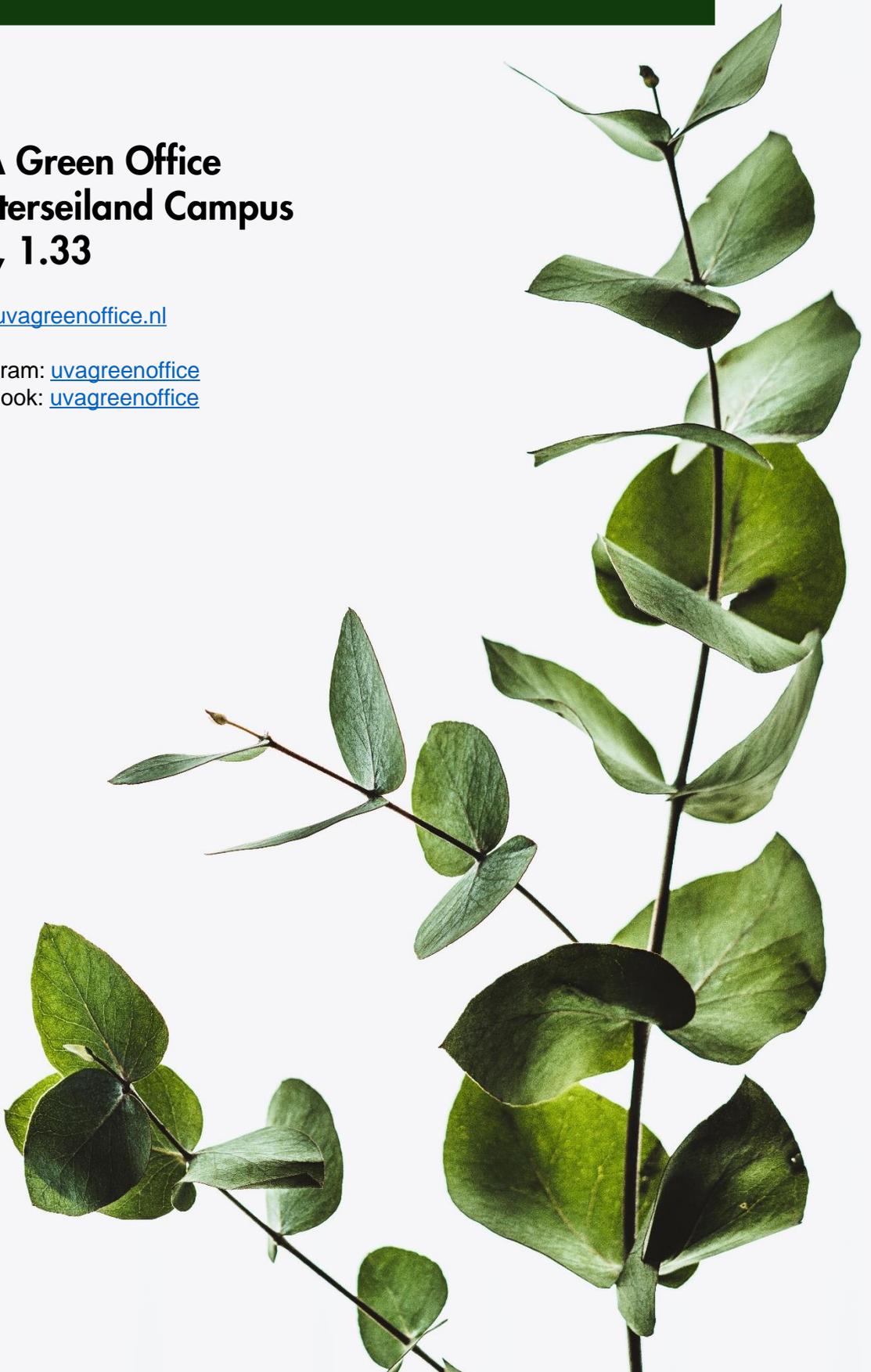
05 CONTACT US

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IMPRESSUM

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