In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Sustainability Solutions (MSUS)

Paige Price

Will present her Master’s Culminating Experience Project

Gumantar Coffee Guide

Abstract

The community of Gumantar in Lombok, Indonesia, one of the poorest regions of the island, is home to a large number of coffee farmers. Due primarily to production quality, these farmers struggle to earning a sufficient wage. While trying to provide for their families, the local environment often suffers. The persistent poverty has resulted in lower education levels, health care barriers, and decreased well-being. In an effort to empower the farmers and promote sustainable development, I have created a best practice guide that looks at five coffee production factors. The local farmers have specifically requested case supported, science-based information regarding these factors. The factors include farming techniques, drying practices, coffee specific small business skills, financial literacy, and coffee certification requirements. Access to information regarding these topics is intended to help reduce poverty, increase accessibility to quality education, and support local economic development, environmental health, and community health and well-being.

Wednesday, April 29, 2020
1:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting (link provided to registrants)

Faculty, students, and the general public are invited.
USA Triathlon: A Race Towards Sustainability

Abstract

The staging of sport events occurs over a fixed duration of time, requiring an influx of resources and human involvement. This situation can result in environmental issues such as excess greenhouse gas emissions and waste generation. Furthermore, economic outcomes are not always equally shared amongst local host communities, and unequal access to participation can manifest in unforeseen ways from the event organizer’s perspective. Sports organizations are recognizing the potential for operation related negative impacts, yet most efforts to mitigate these adverse outcomes lack theoretical grounding and holistic approaches aligned with principles of sustainability.

USA Triathlon (USAT) is not exempt from the challenges faced in sustainable event management. With 400,000 plus members, USAT is the largest multisport organization in the world. Through managing five owned events and sanctioning over 4,300 races on an annual basis, the combined potential for a negative footprint is significant. To temper the potential impacts of USAT events, this project focused on an overarching sustainable event strategy to equip management, operations, and race directors with a suite of resources to manage and mitigate the overall sustainability footprint of events toward desired outcomes that adhere to principles of sustainability.

The USA Triathlon Guidebook to Sustainability has been created to cultivate organizational awareness and understanding of sustainability while ultimately providing a strategy for sustainable event management. The guidebook, approved by USA Triathlon will be made available to all USAT employees and race directors to serve as an implementation tool and resource guide to improve the sustainability of triathlon events throughout the United States.
Wednesday, April 29, 2020
1:30 p.m.
Zoom Meeting (link provided to registrants)

Faculty, students, and the general public are invited.
Abstract

In universities, such as Arizona State, students are becoming homeless at an alarming rate. These homeless ASU students are often invisible, as seen through the lack of information on who they are and what resources the university has developed to help them. Typically, students arrive at university campuses with most of the resources required for them to pursue a degree. However, several economic factors such as unemployment or financial instability can impact these resources which influence student’s ability to stay enrolled in classes. This feature is reflected in the well understood meme of the starving student. Despite this paradigm, the fact remains that students under this stress are attending classes, under financial stress to do so, while being unable to meet their basic needs. These intertwined elements result in ASU students becoming exposed to cyclical needs and insecurities including homelessness.

Therefore, the team decided to develop a project called Sun Devils Together which addresses the needs of ASU’s students facing homelessness, increases the accessibility of available resources, reduces the silo effect that occurs due to lack of communication between different departments and increases faculty, staff, and student awareness regarding the issue. In order to achieve this, the team has collaborated with the Assistant Dean of Students to produce a training module for ASU faculty, professional staff, and students. The team is contributing information to the creation of a new website that will have all the resources available to students in one place. In addition, the team will create a coded pamphlet with a map of resources that will be given out to different departments around campus that students may potentially reach out to for help while informing those departments regarding the existence of other departments that work towards the same cause.
Wednesday, April 29, 2020
1:50 pm

Zoom Meeting (link provided to registrants)

Faculty, students, and the general public are invited.
When Kaffrine, Senegal faces the threat of a locust plague, farmers tend to struggle
to determine what actions should take place and when to prevent a plague. Farmers’
inability to identify the early threats of a locust plague is a primary issue that has
affected communities in Kaffrine for millennia.

The project focuses on the creation of 300 pest identification booklets that provide
five villages in Kaffrine the proper education to prevent locust plagues from forming. I
partnered with the Global Locust Initiative (GLI) to help construct these booklets that
improve early detection awareness that is at the root of locust plagues. Outcomes of
this project include improved well-being of the farming community, increased millet
yields, and enhanced global food system sustainability. As locusts are a migratory pest,
providing stakeholders a guide to reference helps them identify the early signs of a
locust plague. It also has a larger impact by helping reduce negative externalities, such
as impacts on the functionality of Senegal’s ecosystems, the welfare of social systems,
and the peoples’ economic opportunities.

Wednesday, April 29, 2020
2:30 p.m.
Zoom Meeting (link provided to registrants)

Faculty, students, and the general public are invited.