Abstract
The duration of this piece will focus on outlining the specific tasks I performed over the past year (2014-2015 UCSC Academic Year) at the Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA). It intends to give an overview of the project’s goals, measurement strategies,
accomplishments, stakeholders, and a general understanding of both tangible and intangible outcomes of the project.

**Introduction**

PICA’s sustainability-themed workshops for the 2015-16 academic year provided resources and opportunities for students and community members to engage in sustainability related activities. Workshop themes may include but are not limited to: environmental and social justice, health and wellness, food systems, gardening, propagation, composting, aquaponics, green building, and local, organic & seasonal cooking. These topics are in direct alignment with the content areas of Academics and Curriculum, Food System, Social and Environmental Justice, and Land HAbitat and Watershed in the 2014-15 Blueprint for a Sustainable Campus. Workshops provide students experiential opportunities in the area of sustainable living practices (Academics and Curriculum). Hosting workshops at PICA “increases student, faculty, and staff engagement on campus natural lands through[...]informal and formal learning” settings (Land, Habitat, and Watershed). Additionally through PICA’s closed loop agricultural system we promote healthy food systems that go beyond conventional farming techniques that are harmful for both people and the environment at large.

**Project Description**

Coordinate 6 hands-on workshops per academic year
Outreach at 9 collaborative events per year
2014-2015 year reach over 90 students through sustainable living workshops
2014-2015 year reach over 150 students through outreach events
Complete one grant and peer edit two additional grants.
Future goals are:

- Continue to keep PICA program running and make sure the program continues after I graduate
- Use skills gained from PICA and find occupation that allows me to use those skills
- Be an advocate for change when it comes to Food Systems in general.

Project objectives: Objectives are the items you intended to achieve during your project during this year. What were the steps to achieving your final goal?

Fall:

Two Completed Sustainability Workshops focused on Sustainable living practices, Social Justice, Food and Health, Gardening,
Outreach at 3 collaborative events: reach at least 20 students per event
PICA leadership Team- Learn to facilitate and take proper notes in order to lead a productive meeting and communicate with others

Winter:

Two Completed Sustainability Workshops focused on Sustainable living practices, Social Justice, Food and Health, Gardening,
Outreach at 3 collaborative events: reach at least 20 students per event
PICA leadership Team- Learn to facilitate and take proper notes in order to lead a productive meeting and communicate with others
Grant Writing for PICA Winter CSC Grant

PICA Student Garden Market Cart of Winter 2015

Placemaking Workshop Flyer Winter 2015

Spring:

Two Completed Sustainability Workshops focused on Sustainable living practices, Social Justice, Food and Health, Gardening,
Outreach at 2 collaborative events: reach at least 20 students per event
PICA leadership Team- Learn to facilitate and take proper notes in order to lead a productive meeting and communicate with others
Grant Writing for PICA Spring CSC Grant
PICA Alumni Lunch- Learn fundraising techniques
Project Impacts

There are many beneficial impacts when considering the scope of PICA’s workshops over the
past year. Students, Staff, Faculty, Community, and International guests were all given a chance to not only learn from advocates in the field of sustainability, but also share knowledge amongst themselves. The were able to learn sustainable living practices that ranged from community development, gardening, and cooking; all of which they could use to improve their own environmental impacts. The format of a “workshop” is the best option as it is less formal than a classroom setting and allows for equal power dynamic between facilitators and participants. A workshop is designed to allow for people to gather and discuss issues that concern a community. This group centered mentality creates a comfortable atmosphere where genuine conversation is possible between people.
Project Timeline

Each quarter I was assigned to create two workshops. From my mentor, Mira Michelle, I was able to create a plan with concrete tasks and milestones for each week of the quarter. I was not always able to follow this exact formula due to conflicts with my collaborative events, but when I did use it, my workshops ran smoothly.

- **Week 1**: Establish Date of 1st and 2nd Workshop, follow up with workshop facilitator
- **Week 2**: Establish location, create flyer, outreach
- **Week 3**: Continue outreach, flyering, listerves, start, RSVP, Look at budget, supply list, submit PO
- **Week 4**: Continue Outreach confirm attendees for workshop and final check in w/facilitator
- **Week 5**: Organize supplies, final shopping, hosting Workshop#1
- **Week 6**: Evaluate how Workshop#1 went, prepare for Workshop#2
- **Week 7**: Continue Outreach confirm attendees for workshop and final check in w/facilitator
- **Week 8**: Evaluate how Workshop#2 went, prepare for Workshop#3
- **Week 9**: Establish Date of 3rd and 4th Workshop, follow up with workshop facilitator
- **Week 10**: wrap up from quarter

Timeline form 2014-2015 CSC Grant Proposal

Stakeholders

The main stakeholder in my project was my mentor, Mira Michelle. Mira met with me once a week to discuss workshop progress and collaborative events as well. She trained me in grant writing, leadership skills, public speaking, and creative problem solving--this is only a small portion of what I learned from Mira, but if I expressed it all I am sure I would have no
other time other collaborative partners. My second most important mentor was my PSI advisor Melissa Ott. She gave me feedback on all work submitted for the PSI program and was very supportive throughout the year- she always seemed to have answers to my questions (and if she didn’t, she would most definitely find them out).

**FSWG**
Tim Galarneau
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**Workshop Facilitators**
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Sally Neas
Orin Martin
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Alex Vincent
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**Common Ground Center**
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Measurable Results

The measureable results range based on the various different goals I wanted to accomplish over the quarter. When it comes to workshops I created a document that shows how many people signed up and attended my workshops. Additionally I have evaluation forms from students that give a further understanding of the positives and improvables for each workshop. In terms of collaborative events PICA has a larger system to address how many students were reached per event and overall as well – these results are in the form of sign in sheets and an excel document. Once these are calculated they will be added to the larger PICA Event and Outreach document that accounts for the total number of people reached through all of PICA’s events.

Workshop tracking document image

References
http://www.blueprint.enviroslug.org/
http://pica.ucsc.edu/
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