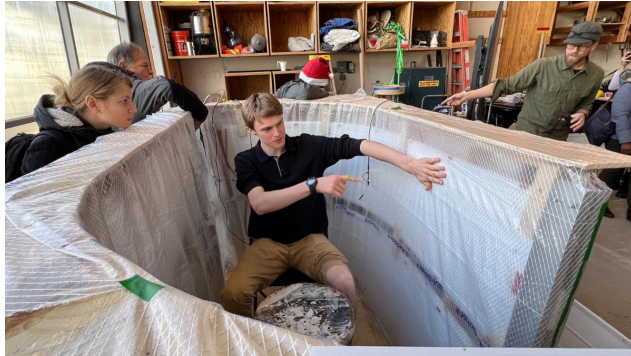




In the News



For this class final, bring a wrench

Many classes culminate in a final exam or paper involving late nights spent cramming material or stressing over word counts.

But one Princeton course did things a little differently. In *Designing Sustainable Systems*, students supplemented readings and lectures with power tools and plumbing equipment.

[Professor Forrest] Meggers asked students to explore what buildings might be like in “the new normal,” reflecting both a post-pandemic world and the challenges of climate change.

Students discussed the shortcomings of buildings’ heating and cooling systems, which have limited ability to circulate fresh air, and considered ways to build structures that could provide users with plenty of air while keeping temperatures comfortable.

They also learned how to account for the carbon pollution embedded in a building project, from sourcing and transporting materials to construction and upkeep, and how builders can optimize heating and cooling using sensors that collect and share real-time data

The groups collaborated to build a two-person outdoor study space that used heat pumps to both heat and cool its users. Engineering, architecture, humanities, and social sciences students worked side-by-side to design and build the structure with an eye to human comfort, access to fresh air, and a low carbon footprint...[Read the full story](#)

Recent Events

The New Green Tour: A walk through Princeton's changing energy & building landscape

On January 18th, a group of twenty-five Princeton staff, faculty, and students joined Dr. Shana Weber, Director of the Office of Sustainability, Ted Borer, Director of Princeton's Cogeneration Energy Plant, Bill Broadhurst, Manager of Campus Energy, and Professor Forrest Meggers on a walk across campus for a comprehensive tour of Princeton University's energy systems.



What followed was a fascinating discussion of the history of Princeton energy; from 18th century wood-burning policies set forth in the university's founding charter to present day construction on one of the

largest geexchange projects ever launched on a college campus.

Participants were brought into the 'belly of the beast,' a control room located in the MacMillan Building where much of the campus' energy allocation decisions are made by an AI-enhanced system managed by a small team of experts in the Facilities Department.

Finally, the group was led to a construction site outside of Frist Campus Center for a presentation by Professor Forrest Meggers on how the ongoing installation of geexchange wells will transform our energy systems at Princeton, and our ability to meet our sustainability goals, for decades to come.



S.C.R.A.P. Lab



S.C.R.A.P. Lab featured in "Black Gold" Composting Tour during 2023 Wintersession

Earlier this month, Gina Talt, Food Systems Project Specialist in the Office of Sustainability, hosted fifteen Princeton students, staff, and faculty in a "Black Gold" Composting Tour.

The tour was an opportunity for participants to learn about the complexities of collecting food scraps from the Princeton campus and processing them into valuable compost. In some of the busiest months, the S.C.R.A.P. Lab processes as many as 12,000 pounds of food scraps, diverting waste from landfills and contributing to Princeton University's [Sustainability Action Plan](#).

Interested in receiving compost support for an upcoming event? Contact Gina Talt at gtalt@princeton.edu.

Job Opportunities

The S.C.R.A.P. Lab is hiring!

Pays \$15/hr, 2-10 hrs per week

Princeton's campus composting project (the S.C.R.A.P. Lab) is seeking a student to assist the daily operations of the Sustainable Composting Research at Princeton which features a composting system that converts campus food scraps into a nutrient-rich soil amendment for University grounds.

Job Responsibilities

- Assisting with weighing and recording food waste data
- Operating equipment to load totes of food scraps and wood shavings into the system

- Off-loading finished compost
- Cleaning duties

Qualifications

- Ability and willingness to engage in physical labor
- No other skills or knowledge are necessary; you will be supervised during the assigned tasks by a University staff member and will receive the necessary equipment and safety and operational training needed for the position.

Apply on **JobX** (5033)

Questions? Please email Gina Talt, gtalt@princeton.edu

Rocky Mountain Sustainability and Science Network (RMSSN)

The RMSSN Academy is two-week science and sustainability program that travels to Rocky Mountain, Grand Teton, and Yellowstone National Parks. Students gain experience with natural and cultural resources in and around the parks with research focus on topics such as pollinators, mammals, human interactions, and more! will work to address regional sustainability issues by developing leaders who possess multidisciplinary skills, demonstrate scientific literacy, and embrace key principles of sustainability.



RMSSN Website: <https://rmssn.wordpress.com>

APPLY HERE

Office of Sustainability

sustain@princeton.edu

Did someone forward you this newsletter?

Subscribe now!

Stay Connected!



Join our other mailing lists!

Office of Sustainability | MacMillan Annex West, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544

[Unsubscribe sustain@princeton.edu](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by sustain@princeton.edu powered by



Try email marketing for free today!