ADVISORY BOARD

The advisory board provides professional guidance to the director on the performance of the institute—informing curricula, programs, goals, and objectives.

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Sustainability Specialist

Kevin Erickson
Urban Agriculture Coordinator

Rachel Leamon, MA
Executive Assistant

Eniko Racz, MBA
Business Manager

David J. Treering, MS
Geographic Information Systems Specialist and Communications Manager

147

THE NUMBER OF SEMESTER-LONG STUDENT INTERNSHIPS WITHIN LOYOLA’S INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY THIS YEAR

IES FACULTY AND STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Nancy C. Tuchman, PhD
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Associate Director of IES, Director of Loyola Core Curriculum

Christopher G. Peterson, PhD
Academic Program Director, Professor of Aquatic Ecology

Aaron N. Durnbaugh, MS
Director of Sustainability

STAFF MEMBERS

Kaitlin Brose, MBA
Sustainability Specialist

Kevin Erickson
Urban Agriculture Coordinator

Rachel Leamon, MA
Executive Assistant

Eniko Racz, MBA
Business Manager

David J. Treering, MS
Geographic Information Systems Specialist and Communications Manager

FACULTY

Laura Brentner, PhD
Instructor, Bio-based Technologies

V. Bala Chaudhary, PhD
Lecturer, Soil Ecology

JoBeth D’Agostino, PhD
Associate Professor and Associate Provost for Curriculum Development

Ray Dybziniski, PhD
Assistant Professor, Applied Plant Biology

Kelly Garbach, PhD
Assistant Professor, Sustainable Agriculture

Tham C. Hoang, PhD
Assistant Professor, Environmental Toxicology

Ping Jing, PhD
Assistant Professor, Atmosphere and Climate Science

Reuben P. Keller, PhD
Assistant Professor, Invasive Species Ecology

Robert Lammers-Campbell, PhD
Senior Lecturer, Plant Biology, and Director of Academic Programs and Ecological Restoration at Loyola’s Retreat and Ecology Campus (LUREC)

Nancy Landrum, PhD
Professor, Sustainable Business Management

Shane Lishawa, MS
Research Associate, Invasive Species Ecology

Rev. Stephen Mitten, S.J., MS
Advanced Lecturer, Conservation Ecology, Spiritual Director

Brian Ohsowski, PhD
Lecturer, Restoration Ecology

Tania M. Schusler, PhD
Advanced Lecturer, Human Dimensions of Conservation, STEP Coordinator

PART-TIME FACULTY

Ryan Anderson, MA
Instructor, Ecological Economics

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Instructor, Plant Ecology

Richard DiMaio, MS
Instructor, Weather and Climate

Yao Kouadio, PhD
Instructor, Geographic Information Systems

Kelly Ksiuzek, PhD
Instructor, Plant Biology

Alison Paul, MS
Instructor, Environmental Education

Mike Ricketts, MS
Instructor, Ecology

Jeff Smith, JD
Instructor, Environmental Law
At IES, the knowledge, skills, and experience our students gain are manifest in the change our students are making at Loyola, in Chicago, and around the world. Whether it’s testing soil contaminants, developing the chemistry of an alternative fuel source, or growing food for our farmers market, our students are becoming the responsible stewards our planet needs. We strive to keep them abreast of the most crucial environmental issues through initiatives like our annual Climate Change Conference, Solutions to Environmental Problems (STEP) classes, six majors, three dual-degree programs, three minors, and many internships. Our aim is to not only teach them environmental science but also ensure that they will continue to carefully care for our planet beyond their four years at Loyola.

“The first semester of college I took STEP: Water so that I could start conducting research and learn more about the water scarcity issues challenging us today, but little did I know the doors that class would open for me. I began conducting research in the Biodiesel Lab as a part of the class and was granted the incredible opportunity to contribute to an EPA grant. This grant, the EPA’s People, Planet, and Prosperity grant for Sustainable Technology, allowed me to travel to Washington, DC, to present my team’s research, something I had never done before.”

—AMBER WHITE (BS ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE)
SUSTAINABILITY BY THE NUMBERS
CAMPUS WASTE REDUCTION

- **56.4%** Recycling rate for Lake Shore Campus
- **161.1 TONS** of organic waste composted
- **94% (First Place)** Landfill waste diversion rate in RecycleMania game day basketball competition

STUDENT URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

- **2,700 LBS.** Annual produce harvest
- **531 LBS.** Annual produce donation
- **62** Total varieties grown

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT

- **266** Student Majors
- **44** Student Minors

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

- **Three-Star Award Winner**
- **Sustainable Purchasing Award** from the Green Electronics Council
- **10** Campus buildings with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification
Loyola University Chicago and the International Jesuit Ecology Project launched a free, digital environmental science textbook

Loyola University Chicago and the International Jesuit Ecology Project (IJEP) launched Healing Earth, a free, digital environmental science textbook, in January. Available online, the textbook is intended for high school seniors, university freshmen, and adult and independent learners worldwide.

The text takes a global approach to environmental issues through Ignatian pedagogy—a method that challenges students to see scientifically, evaluate ethically, reflect spiritually, and act effectively. Over 90 scholars from Jesuit institutions across the world contributed to the project, which is already being utilized by educators in more than 40 cross-curricular classrooms including biology, theology, social science, fine arts, and public health.

“Students want to learn more than the science behind our environmental problems, and Jesuit schools want them to reflect on the complicated social issues these problems create,” said Bill Anderson, a science teacher and early-adopter of Healing Earth from St. Louis University High School. “Students want to be engaged with the world around them; they want their minds, hearts, and spirits challenged; and they want to be mobilized. Healing Earth encourages students to be agents of change, and it has been an incredible addition to my classroom.”

To view and use the text, visit www.healingearth.ijep.net. To learn more about the project and collaboration, visit LUC.edu/ijep.
Climate Change Conference focused on economic challenges and solutions

**Loyola’s third annual** Climate Change Conference on March 17–19, 2016, united over 600 students, scholars, professionals, and committed citizens with a common goal: addressing the economic challenges driving climate change. Hosted by the Institute of Environmental Sustainability and the Gannon Center for Women and Leadership, this year’s three-day conference focused on international policy, the implications of switching to a green economy, and how capitalism has accelerated the climate crisis.

Opening the conference on Thursday was keynote speaker Naomi Klein (*pictured top right*), activist and author of the critically acclaimed book *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate*. Klein’s discussion of “Ecological Economics” reminded the audience that our current economic system often interferes with climate action. She argued that capitalism, free trade, and NAFTA are accelerating greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. With over 600 individuals attending, Klein’s speech drew the largest attendance out of all previous conference keynote speakers to date.

Discussion continued with a series of panels throughout Friday, with topics ranging from climate justice to climate policy. Panelists included industry professionals, scholars, and policy-makers from around the world. The conference also incorporated creative expressions of environmentalism, featuring artwork by Alisa Singer of Environmental Graphiti, and a dance and choral performance by the Department of Fine and Performing Arts.

On the third day of the conference, Zach Waickman, Biodiesel Lab manager in IES, hosted a Collegiate Biodiesel Workshop for more than 40 participants. This group of faculty, staff, and students from six different universities spent the day sharing best practices, strategy, and research ideas related to student-run biodiesel projects on college campuses. Small-scale biodiesel production presents a complex set of challenges, including the use of that fuel in University vehicles.

Be sure to save the date for Loyola’s fourth annual Climate Change Conference, March 16–18, 2017. Next year’s conference will feature keynote speaker and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, and will focus on food, water, and poverty and how they are impacted by climate change.

To see the artwork presented at the conference, view panel presentations, or obtain a complete list of speakers, visit [LUC.edu/climatechange](http://LUC.edu/climatechange) and click on the 2016 Conference in the lefthand navigation.
Our newest faculty member, Assistant Professor of Applied Plant Biology Ray Dybzinski, asks some very big questions. Questions like: Why are there so many plant species? How do plant traits affect climate change?

"I’m really interested in understanding the causes and consequences of biological diversity, and plants are a fascinating way to explore this," Dybzinski said. Since plants are the conduit by which energy enters the ecosystem, they exist at the base of the food pyramid and ultimately control the features of the ecosystem. Dybzinski explained further, "We know why there might be a lot of animal biodiversity, because animals have special adaptations based on their diet; but plants are all using the same resources in very similar ways."

Dybzinski’s previous research on prairie vegetation illuminated some of the issues that come into play with plant biodiversity. "If you have a super competitive grass species in a nitrogen- or water-limited ecosystem, you’d think it would deplete those resources and dominate the ecosystem; but typically it doesn’t in natural systems," he said. "So why? Is it because of natural enemies like pathogenic microbes? Is it a limitation of other resources?"

In order to answer these questions, Dybzinski has to draw on a broad range of skills from various ecological disciplines, including community ecology (how organisms interact), plant physiology (how plants work), ecosystem ecology (the study of biogeochemical cycles in the ecosystem), and evolutionary theory. Since arriving at Loyola, he has started to apply this broad and deep skill set to questions in sustainable agriculture, where the same forces that operate in wild communities work to the benefit or detriment of farmers. But he also wants to take his research a step further and explore what biodiversity (or the loss of) does to ecosystem processes.

This interest in biodiversity and ecosystem processes led to Dybzinski’s post-doctoral and ongoing research regarding plant traits and climate change. Currently, he’s creating mathematical models of forests which serve as the major drivers for offsetting carbon in our atmosphere. "Carbon dioxide uptake is how plants capture energy in our atmosphere, so if you can think of ways that would affect how they take in or release carbon, that will affect climate change," Dybzinski points out. “The question I’m interested in answering is: as carbon dioxide levels increase in the atmosphere due to human actions, will trees allocate more carbon to wood?" And, so far, the answer is yes.
Students taught by jointly appointed IES and Quinlan School of Business Professor Nancy Landrum quickly learn her credo: The goal of business is to serve society in an ethical way. Landrum came to this conclusion early in her career when she was a clinical therapist practicing psychology and was promoted to management. "Being trained as a clinician did not qualify me to run a business," comments Landrum. "Initially, I wanted to learn about how to run a business so I could teach valuable business skills to nonprofits; but then I realized that I would make more of an impact in the classroom teaching our future business leaders more ethical and sustainable ways to run their businesses."

What does a sustainable business look like? It turns out there’s a whole mindset that goes beyond how businesses discard their waste or utilize earth-friendly materials, and it’s inspired by the cycles of nature. "One of the more recent developments in sustainable business management is to mimic nature in the way we operate our companies," Landrum explains. In fact, nature is a big inspiration for the practices found in a circular economy. "If you study the water or nitrogen cycle, you’ll find that every output is utilized and often becomes an input for the next stage of the cycle." Businesses are now applying this idea to their supply chains and increasing their revenue streams in the process. Those businesses that best practice a circular economy ask questions like: How can we take our waste and make it into a revenue stream? How can we develop a zero-waste process? Landrum’s current research has expanded on this theme to look at models of resilience in ecology and apply those lessons to business management.

As one of Loyola’s few joint appointments, Landrum has been asked to work on the curriculum and research collaborations that will bridge IES and Quinlan. So far, she’s made great strides. In fall 2016, Quinlan will launch a sustainable business management minor, which is made up of six classes, including Ecological Economics and her own Sustainable Business Management course. She’s also been working on three graduate-level programs that are currently under review at Quinlan: an MS in sustainability management, a sustainability management track within the MBA program, and a sustainability management certificate. While these programs are under review, she’s turning her attention to developing an undergraduate major in sustainability management.

“This joint appointment has been an eye-opener for me,” Landrum said. "With the Urban Agriculture Program and the Biodiesel Lab, I’m seeing sustainable business in action. It’s great to see that in IES there are businesses that utilize everything very purposefully.”

"My first class in IES really gave me a great overview of the majors and confirmed that I’d made the right choice."

—ALEX TISHER
(BS ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND BA ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY)
STUDENT PROFILE

Dani Abboud: From chemistry novice to Biodiesel Lab intern

IES junior Dani Abboud (Environmental Science major, pictured above) never really felt comfortable with science. “I didn’t think I was good at science,” she said. “I hadn’t taken biology or chemistry, and my sophomore year I was feeling kind of awash in the department, because I didn’t know what I wanted to do.” One thing Abboud knew for sure was that she needed a job. “I went online and applied for all the IES internships—the sustainability internships, the urban agriculture internships, the Biodiesel Lab internships. I figured I’d at least get some interview experience out of it.”

Once Abboud met with Biodiesel Lab Manager Zach Waickman, she felt more at ease. Waickman doesn’t expect his students to come in with an understanding of biodiesel fuel production or a comprehensive knowledge of chemistry. Rather he’s looking for students who work hard and are interested in learning science through practice and hands-on experience. “Zach taught me that so much of science is hands-on experience, practice, and learning how to analyze the data and ask the right questions in the first place,” said Abboud. With that realization, her confidence in her scientific capabilities grew. “I learned 100 percent of what I’m doing by working and reading the literature. And I know I can explain complex scientific subjects about biodiesel production to anyone who walks into our lab.”

In fact, Abboud’s role in the lab goes beyond explaining these processes. She’s helping Waickman train new lab interns in the production process as well as conducting research on how to purify one of the byproducts, so they can use more of it in soap production. “Right now, we only use a fraction of the byproduct glycerin that we pull from the process. So I’m working to see if we can clean it, make it nicer, and give it a wider variety of uses.” Currently, the glycerin left over from the biodiesel fuel production is used to create BioSoap (hand soap found in most of Loyola’s bathrooms). “The soap is such a cool way to reuse the glycerin, and the fact that this was an idea developed by a previous IES student is amazing. I love that we are doing these kinds of things in IES.”
I received both practical internship experience and hands-on restoration experience with the help of IES. It was great to intern with the Environmental Law and Policy Center and receive hands-on class experience through my conservation and restoration ecology classes.”

—ALEXANDRA BACZYNSKI (BS ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE)
Kevin Erickson grows the Urban Agriculture Program from the ground up

Urban Agriculture Coordinator Kevin Erickson starts his day by biking to work at IES. His days are busy as he collaborates on sustainable agriculture projects with Rogers Park community partners or assists with student projects in Loyola’s Ecodome. During the summer, he’s even busier as he helps his students harvest and sell the produce grown on the four garden sites he oversees at Loyola’s very own farmers market.

Since IES opened in 2013, Erickson has overseen the Urban Agriculture Program as it has more than doubled the growing space of Winthrop Garden, expanded the Mertz and Quinlan rooftop gardens, established two bee colonies, and implemented two aquaponics systems for growing fish and produce. Many of these projects have been accomplished with the help of students. “My philosophy is to always engage the individual, find what interests them, and connect that to what we are doing. They make me better at my job, and they make it fun to be at work,” said Erickson.

The 3,100-square-foot Loyola Ecodome has also allowed the Urban Agriculture Program to be successful year round. “In addition to different student projects, a lot of the seasonal plants get started in the green house, and so do the farmers market plants,” Erickson said. Currently, the Ecodome provides basil to Felice’s Kitchen three times a week. In 2015, Lake Shore Campus gardens and the Ecodome produced 2,700 pounds of produce. Erickson is determined to increase production in years to come. “We may not see urban agriculture; it may be hidden from us in really small spaces or even private property,” he said, “but we’re finding more and more that it is very much present and making a big impact.”

Under Erickson’s guidance, the Urban Agriculture Program has progressed quickly, but Erickson still has bigger goals for the program. He’s determined to increase food production and donations and to better educate the community. “My vision for the future would be more production from our urban spaces, thus increasing our ability to put healthy food into our community,” he said.
Savannah Webb: From outdoor garden novice to manager

Savannah Webb (food systems and sustainable agriculture major, pictured right) knew she wanted to work outside with her hands, but she wasn’t sure how she could fit that into an environmental science degree. “Early on, I took Professor Peterson’s Plants and Civilization class and realized there’s a whole sustainable food movement out there that I can be a part of,” said Webb. She had no idea that in a year’s time she’d be planning the Urban Agriculture Program’s crops for the outdoor gardens as the outdoor garden manager.

“Last winter, I sat down with the other outdoor garden manager, Maggie Nykaza, and we compared our numbers for the year,” commented Webb. “We wanted to make sure we were growing the right amount of food for the stall at the Loyola Farmers Market. For these farmers markets, it’s all about knowing your audience.”

When Savannah isn’t tending vegetables for Loyola, she is volunteering at the Refugee Farm in Albany Park—another opportunity afforded to her by IES. The Refugee Farm provides community gardening space for displaced farmers from Burma and Bhutan. It’s an opportunity that Urban Agriculture Coordinator Kevin Erickson pointed her towards. “The farm has been a great experience,” said Webb.

Webb’s internship and volunteer activities mean she’s had to be constantly learning. “I didn’t know anything about gardening before I had this job,” she said. “But the crazy thing is that it’s not that difficult. You just have to know what time of the year is best for each plant. It’s really just the actual work of sitting down and saying, “I’m going to plant this garden. What’s the best way to do that?”

“The Urban Agriculture Program gives students an opportunity to be part of the entire process of operations, including crop planning, maintaining the gardens and greenhouse, harvesting and selling the produce. I’ve learned so much from Kevin. He emphasized things like attitude, flexibility, and team work—things that apply to life beyond urban agriculture.”

—MAGGIE NYKAZA (BS ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE)
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

AWARDS AND HONORS

2016 IES AWARD RECIPIENTS
Each year, IES honors outstanding student achievement and celebrates graduating seniors at our annual awards ceremony.

Aldo Leopold Award .................................................. Amber M. White
for Outstanding Achievement
The recipient of this award has demonstrated excellence both academically (≥ 3.20 GPA required) and in service/action toward the greater good.

Rachel Carson Award for Academic Excellence .......... Lauren E. Standal
This award goes to the IES graduating seniors who earned the highest GPA.

James E. Hansen Award ............................................ Lauren E. Standal
for Outstanding Performance in an IES Internship
This award recognizes the outstanding performance of one IES graduating senior in an internal IES internship.

Wangaria Muta Maathai Award ............................. Monique Sosnowski
for Outstanding Service
This award recognizes one IES graduating senior who distinguished himself or herself through service to others.

Berta Isabel Cáceres Flores Award ......................... Magdalena B. Nykaza
This award goes to the IES graduating senior who distinguished himself or herself through exceptional leadership.

E. O. Wilson Award ................................................ Graciela Olmedo
for Outstanding Performance in Independent Research
This award recognizes the outstanding performance of one IES graduating senior in faculty-mentored research.

Loyola University Chicago ......................... Magdalena B. Nykaza
President’s Medallion
This award is given annually to Loyola’s most outstanding students—typically one from each school—who excel not only in the classroom but also in the world and are dedicated to helping those around them.

FELLOWSHIPS

CARBON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Jorge Janar • Maxwell Moore • Leann Ngo • Suraj Sheth
The Carbon Fellowship program offers a full two-year interdisciplinary research opportunity for undergraduate students majoring in science or math. Students must have a junior standing when they enter the program and work closely with faculty mentors. Recipients are awarded $7,500 per year.

IES UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Victoria Calteaux • Samantha Keyport
The focus of the program is for students to conduct interdisciplinary research on issues related to unsustainable natural resource uses in the greater Chicago region. Recipients are awarded $2,000.

SCHOLARSHIPS

IES LUREC SCHOLARSHIP
Patrick Canniff • Melissa Hernandez
Cody Kauss • Angelo Kelvakis • Lian Lucansky
John McCabe • Anna McVey • Samantha Panock
Alexander Papaioannou • Jenn Biak Hnem Par
NicoI Spehn • Rosemary Stresino • Timothy Stotz
Recipients were awarded up to $2,830 to fully or partially cover summer tuition, fees, and lodging at our ecology campus in Woodstock, Illinois.

2015–16 GRADUATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Environmental Science
Bridget Armanini
Alexandra Baczynski
Noga Barpal
Hunter Braciszewski
Patrick Canniff
Kelsey Czajkowski
Caillen Dillon
Ryan Donald
Chad Dorger
Rachel Houle
Abby Jahn
Britanny Jocius
Mark Kopec
Alex Loepke
Luigi Loizzo
Jason Moon
Thomas Nalepka
Magdalena Nykaza
Graciela Olmedo
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Milica Radianovic
Ivan Raffucci
Jessica Realzola
Kristin Rodriguez
Laura Roncal
Mital Shah
Taylor Sowonik
Lauren Standal
Alexandra Tisher
Tyson West
Amber White

Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture
Aaron Heisohn
Ashley Hosmer
Brandon Kik

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Amelia Belmonte
Graham Busler
Matthew Evans
Hannah Helminiak
Gabrielle Intagliata
Dominika Kraskiewicz
Chung Mak
Meghan Pazik
Ayesha Sheikh
Monique Sosnowski
Joseph Stratiff
Michael Vazquez
Caitlynn Wiegman
Michael Wu

Environmental Policy
Alexandra Tisher
NEW GRANTS

$750,927
IN NEW GRANT FUNDING

9 NEW GRANTS 7 FACULTY AND STAFF GRANT RECIPIENTS 8 FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

18 NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS 17 PUBLICATION SITES 51 COLLABORATORS 259 PAGES OF SCHOLARLY TEXT

For a full list of all active grants, visit the IES Grants and Funding page: LUC.edu/sustainability/research/grantsfunding

For a full list of all publications, visit the IES Publications page: LUC.edu/sustainability/research/publications

“Loyola guides its students to live in service to others. As a conservationist, I broaden my reach by defining ‘others’ as not only those people we can serve but also the people, creatures, flora, and all beings without a voice.”

— MONIQUE SOSNOWSKI (BA ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES)
IES AT LUREC

RESTORATION WORK DAYS
On the second Saturday of every month, volunteers work to reverse the years of human impact on our environment. Volunteers get the chance to clear and burn brush, monitor surface and groundwater flow, and collect and distribute seeds of native plant species.

SUMMER COURSES
Students can spend three weeks at LUREC in May or August to receive course credit. Past courses have given students the opportunity to participate in an archaeological dig, bird tagging and identification, and prairie and wetland restorations.

SPECIAL COURSE OFFERINGS HAVE INCLUDED:
- ANTH 399: Fieldwork in Anthropology
- BIOL 111: General Biology I Lab
- BIOL 266: Ecology Lab
- ENVS 269/BIOL 395: Field Ornithology
- ENVS 286: Principles of Ecology Lab
- ENVS 330/331: Restoration Ecology/Lab
- ENVS 398/BIOL 395: Early Summer Flora
- ENVS 399: Sustainable Agriculture
- MPBH 495: Environmental Health: Mosquitoes and Ticks

Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus (LUREC) allows students to study nature in nature

Loyola purchased LUREC in summer 2010. This 98-acre facility between Woodstock and Crystal Lake, IL, was initially St. Joseph’s Seminary and then the Resurrection Retreat Center. The building can house 189 guests overnight and includes meeting rooms, a large lecture hall, an instructional kitchen, and two wet labs. The University uses much of this space to host ministry retreats and team-building activities, and the Institute of Environmental Sustainability holds summer-session and J-Term ecology and biology classes there as well.

Ecologically, LUREC is diverse. It sits atop the Woodstock Moraine geologic formation. The backyard slopes steeply down to a wetland (calcareous fen). There’s a pond that was dug in the late 1950s that will soon be decommissioned. Invasive buckthorn shrubs have been removed from 20 acres of fen, and classes and interns are in the process of restoring it. The wetland is part of a larger basin that includes Parker Fen, an Illinois Nature Preserve. The degraded oak-hickory woodland on LUREC connects with an ecologically valuable remnant woodland on neighboring properties surrounding the entire basin.

“My favorite place at Loyola is LUREC. When I participated in restoration days or worked on the farm, I always felt a strong sense of purpose, of physically doing something to restore an ecosystem. It felt like being a doctor to the land.”

—MEGHAN PAZIK (BA’16, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES)
Loyola Environmental Testing Laboratory connects IES to the community

IES recently hired Analytical Chemist Zhenwei Zhu, PhD, (pictured above) to begin development of an analytical chemistry lab called the Loyola Environmental Testing Laboratory (LETL). The lab analyzes contaminants in soil, water, and plant samples in the greater Chicago area, as well as trains students in analytical chemistry. The laboratory operates as a business that offers analytical testing services to Loyola faculty and staff researchers, as well as external clients such as real estate developers, urban agriculture growers, and local consulting entities for landscaping, composting, and waste management.

The general public interested in knowing water and soil nutrients and contaminants, soil classification and properties, compost characterization, and water quality for both drinking water and wastewater will be able to have samples analyzed once the lab is accredited.

Zhu worked as a senior chemist at Kuo Testing Labs in Othello, Washington, where he performed chemical analysis on soil, water, plant tissue, and fertilizer samples. Zhu received his doctorate in environmental engineering at the University of Tennessee after studying in Denmark and China.
IES DONORS

Thank you to all of our donors. Through your generous support, we are able to provide internships, fellowships, scholarships, and general academic support to the students of the Institute of Environmental Sustainability. All of the students quoted in this annual report have been directly supported by your donations*.

$1,000,000+
- Michael and Nydia Searle

$100,000–999,999
- Dorothy (MUND ’62) and Michael Carbon, MD (BS ’62)
- Judith and Richard Duchossois

$10,000–99,999
- The Alvin H. Baum Family Fund

$5,000–9,999
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- Kathleen (BS ’64) and Thomas Maling
- Alexandra Martinez (BA ’12)

$1–999
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- Linda and Kenneth Mesean
- Sandra (BBA ’85) and Juan Mir Jr. (BBA ’82)
- Patti Nanna
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- Monique Ridosh
- Richard Rill (MA ’10)
- Elisa Ringholm (BS ’08)
- Annette (BS ’66) and Daniel Rubino
- Paulette Schaeffer
- Gary Schinler (BBA ’71)
- Peter Schlecht
- Eileen (BA ’70, MEd ’74) and Robert Schuetz Jr.
- Tania Schusler
- Timothy Seed (BS ’13)
- Maureen and Richard Semyck (BA ’65, MA ’81)
- Rebecca Siebenaler (BS ’14)
- Linda and Carl Sievert (PhD ’85)
- JoBeth D’Agostino, PhD and Harry Silverstein
- Philip Simensen
- Jeanine Solinski (BS ’01, BA ’01)
- Valerie and Kenneth Spale (BSc ’55)
- Cheryl Spinnlein (BA ’75)
- Sabrina Stroud
- Elizabeth (MBA ’86) and David Swanson (MBA ’87)
- Judith and Theodore Thornton
- Brian Trump
- Patricia and Dale Vecchio (BS ’75)
- Regina (BA ’66) and Robert Ward (BS ’65)
- Paul Wilson (BS ’77, DDS ’82)
- Robert Yacobellis
- Christine (BG ’02) and Brad Zielke

† Deceased

“I hope that through my actions as a sustainability intern and an IES student, I was able to contribute a small part to the amazing community that makes up IES and Loyola. I have been inspired and challenged to set the world on fire, and I am determined to do so.”
—LAUREN STANDAL (BS ’16, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE)