

JUNE 2023

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# NEWSLETTER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Read about UC Merced's latest sustainability initiatives, research and news:

"Ryals' Teaching, Research and Service Earns Her Presidential Chair in Climate Change" Read more: <https://bit.ly/UCMRyals>

"Research Week Highlights Solutions to Urgent Environmental Issues" Read more: <https://bit.ly/ResearchWeekUCM>

"California Wants to Cover Its Canals With Solar Panels" Read more: <https://bit.ly/UCMsolar>

"Campus Grad Slam Champion Wows with Talk About Recycling CO2" Read More: <https://bit.ly/GrandSlamUCM>

"Major wind power project to boost clean energy use across every UC campus" Read more: <https://bit.ly/windpowerUCM>

## GET INVOLVED

- Planning an event with catered food? Make it a "No Food Left Behind" event by opting in on the CaterTrax or America to Go form. More details here: <http://bit.ly/nflbucm>
- Want to be an "Ask Me Anything" Guest? Nominate yourself (or others) here: <https://bit.ly/amanomination>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Ask Me Anything Featuring Steve Buchmann on Tuesday, 6/20 at 3 pm PT  
Register here: <https://bit.ly/amasteve>

Ask Me Anything Featuring Roya Azizi on Monday, 7/10 at 3 pm PT  
Register here: <https://bit.ly/amaroya>

Ask Me Anything Featuring Dr. Breezy Jackson on Monday, 8/7 at 3 pm PT  
Register here: <https://bit.ly/amabreezy>

Ask Me Anything Featuring Lily Herd on Monday, 9/11 at 3 pm PT  
Register here: <https://bit.ly/amalily>

**Ask Me Anything Featuring Steve Buchmann**

Tuesday, June 20th  
3-4 PM PT

Register at  
<https://bit.ly/amasteve>  
(Note- Link is case sensitive)



This virtual event is free and open to the public.

Can't attend, but have a question for them?  
Email [emeyer4@ucmerced.edu](mailto:emeyer4@ucmerced.edu) the question.

Biography: Stephen Buchmann, a pollination ecologist specializing in bees, is the author of the new book, *What a Bee Knows: Exploring the Thoughts, Memories, and Personalities of Bees* (Island Press, 2023). This book is a lively journey into a bee's mind reminds us that the world is more complex than our senses can tell us.

Use code WEBINAR for 30% off the book from  
<https://islandpress.org/books/what-bee-knows>

 SUSTAINABILITY



SUSTAINABILITY

<https://sustainability.ucmerced.edu>



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## SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to our Sustainability Champions from this quarter:

### March

Matt Perez was nominated as a Sustainable Food Advocate.

### April

Dr. Roger Bales was nominated as a Sustainable Water and Climate Advocate.

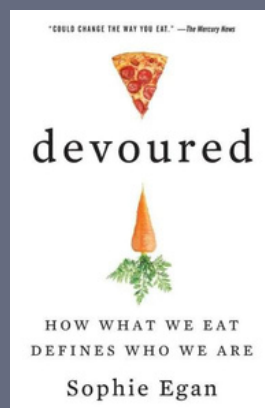
### May

Anelman Brar was nominated as a Climate Advocate.

Nominate someone as a Sustainability Champion:  
<https://bit.ly/SustainableChamp>

## READING CORNER

This quarter's book recommendation is "Devoured: How What We Eat Defines Who We Are" by Sophie Egan. Send sustainability related book recommendations to [emeyer4@ucmerced.edu](mailto:emeyer4@ucmerced.edu).



## SUSTAINABILITY JOKES

- How can you tell the ocean is friendly? — It waves.
- Why did the sun go to school? — To get brighter.
- What's the difference between weather and climate? — You can't weather a tree, but you can climate.
- Why don't you pay for dead batteries? — They're free of charge.
- Why are recycle bins optimistic? — Because they're full of cans.

Source: <https://confidencemeetsparenting.com/funny-earth-day-jokes/>



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## 5 QUESTIONS WITH HOPE HAUPTMAN

### 1.) Tell us about your work and how it relates to sustainability.

As part of my research, I am testing the use of almond agricultural waste to remove the agricultural contaminant 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (TCP) from groundwater. Currently, coconut and coal-based carbon are used to treat TCP, but these carbon feedstocks have to be imported and coal is a non-renewable fossil fuel. Therefore, using locally sourced carbon like almond shells may be a more sustainable option for the long-term removal of TCP from groundwater supplies. Additionally, I am exploring the effectiveness of pitcher-based point-of-use treatments in treating TCP, which could be a more sustainable and affordable option for households instead of buying plastic water bottles for their domestic needs.

### 2.) What are three tips to live more sustainably?

1. Ride a bike whenever you can 2. Eat less/no animal products 3. Buy less

### 3.) What does sustainability mean to you?

I personally prefer the United Nations' definition of sustainability, which is to meet the current needs without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. I appreciate the broadness of this definition and the fact that it takes the well-being of future generations into account.

### 4.) Sustainability hero/role model?

Wangari Maathai

### 5.) Recent book, podcast or article you have loved?

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver