





RESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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Our Overview of 2014-2015

June 1, 2015

Lead, **Support**, **Innovate**...these are some words to describe the 2014-2015 academic year in RISE.

We hope you will be inspired by the stories and data summarized in this year's annual report. Our students have once again demonstrated that 'Spartans Will' make a difference in the world, whether it be addressing the grand challenges of our time or our MSU community. RISE students are united in their passion to lead the way in a more sustainable future.

In pulling together this year's report it was difficult to choose among the many accomplishments of our students and teams. We encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the year so that you can experience first-hand the breadth of activities that RISE students are involved with. If you aren't already following us on Twitter or Facebook be sure to join us on social media. You may also wish to subscribe to our weekly newsletter "What's On the RISE," our news is sure to make you feel good.

Heather and I feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such amazing students on a daily basis.

Laurie Thorp, PhD

Director, RISE

Heather Shea Gasser

Assistant Director, RISE

RISE AT-A-GLANCE







1,415
Likes, Followers, and Connections on Twitter and Facebook









42 OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS

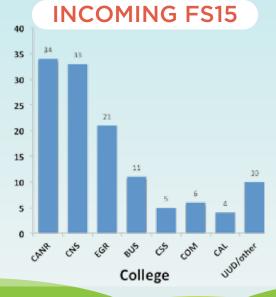


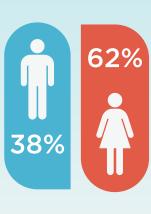
95 STUDENTS OUTSIDE RISE ADDED THE MINOR

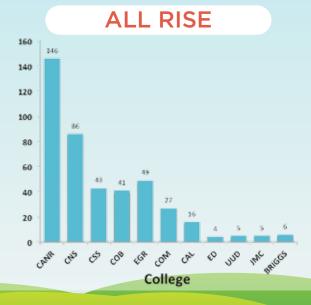
2.99 All MSU GPA

3.38 RISE GPA

FRESHMAN CUMMULATIVE







RISE Mission & Vision

Last summer we met with a group of active students in RISE in a half-day workshop to engage in initial strategic planning and visioning for RISE. Our intent was to leave the workshop with a specific mission statement and move toward identifying a list of core values for RISE. We constructed an interactive process that engaged the students who were present, but also connected with the entire student enrollment in RISE via Facebook.

After an iterative process, we landed upon the following mission statement:





RISE Core Values

The core values were identified via a personal values clarification exercise where RISE students could identify from a list of values up to 5 that resonated with them (or write their own). We compiled all of the student responses and narrowed the list further. We then wrote corresponding descriptive sentences for several values and sent that out for review again. Over 75 students participated in this process. The resulting 7 core values are listed below:

OUR CORE VALUES

Authenticity | RISE provides an atmosphere where all can be true to their personality, values, and spirit, regardless of the outside pressures to act otherwise. We recognize the path of personal development is grounded in living authentically, cultivating honesty with ourselves, taking responsibility for mistakes, and creating alignment with values and actions.

COMMUNITY | RISE is a living learning community of people who recognize our interdependence with each other and the biosphere. Healthy relationships are essential to human and planetary flourishing. We develop effective and caring teams in support of the larger community goals and learning outcomes.

Happiness | RISE creates opportunities to feel a sense of contentment about one's self, life, and place in the world. We recognize happiness as an essential outgrowth of a life well lived.

Innovation | RISE fosters a safe environment where innovation, creativity, and exploration occurs. Sometimes we fail, but this is seen as a part of a larger learning process.

Respect | RISE promotes access, advocacy, and support for ALL members of the community. We foster connection and openness among students from varying viewpoints and backgrounds while recognizing and addressing issues of inequity and oppression so all can engage, connect, and experience success.

Stewardship | RISE contributes to the well being of the people and planet through service. We cultivate a network of care and support for the planet, our community, and each other.

Wisdom | In RISE, we grow in understanding of ourselves, our life calling, and real purpose. We co-construct, think critically, and share knowledge and learning opportunities for the betterment of individuals, the community, and the world. With knowledge comes responsibility for ethical action.









RISE Learning Outcomes Assessment

We conducted a comprehensive assessment of the RISE learning outcomes during the 2014-2015 academic year. Our goals in completing the project were to understand the ways in which RISE students learn and develop through their participation in the RISE program. The specific RISE Learning Outcomes, developed in the fall of 2015, are as follows:

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After participating in the RISE Living-Learning Community, students will be able to:

- Form an Opinion: Articulate multiple perspectives about complex issues and formulate their own positions regarding these issues
- **Demonstrate Leadership**: Describe and demonstrate leadership practices through communication, group processes, projects, and skill-building activities
- Enact Social Change: Develop the knowledge, skills, and values to effectively participate in community action for social change
- Value Collaboration: Seek and value collaboration with others from diverse backgrounds and academic disciplines
- **Describe Strengths**: Describe personal strengths, skills, and interests and make meaningful academic, life, and career choices
- Engage in Sustainability Work: Learn about and apply concepts of sustainability to our campus and community by engaging in the discussions about the challenges

In order to assess the RISE LOs, we developed a survey that we implemented at the end of the fall 2014 and spring 2015 semesters. Survey questions were designed to answer three questions: 1) to what extent did students attribute their achieving of RISE Learning Outcomes to their participation in RISE? 2) where did they experience the learning and development. And 3) Can they give an example of each learning outcome. 82 surveys were collected and results were analyzed. Complete findings from this study are available upon request.

RISE and the T-shaped Professional

As we reflect on our accomplishments and students this year we would like to highlight how RISE supports the development of skills necessary for the T-shaped graduate. As a transdisciplinary living and learning community coupled with high-impact experiential learning, our students are crossing boundaries to understand complex systems such as sustainable urban food production. Here our students are wrestling with one of the grand challenges of our time not only from a biological/physical standpoint but also from a social/ethical perspective.

Leadership for Environmental Change

Minor in Environmental & Sustainability Studies

RISE BOUNDARY-CROSSING SKILLS

Sustainable Food Systems Entrepreneurship

Interdisciplinary Living Learning Community

In order to shape a future professional who is empathic and inclusive, our students are exploring their relationship with the natural world and each other experientially in contexts that matter. Our students are negotiating relationships and partnerships across knowledge silos and differing value stances. A community-focused conception of problem solving in which relationships with the natural world ground our moral obligations to human and nonhuman communities is foundational to the mission of RISE.

The learning that we have observed at the Bailey GREENhouse and Urban Farm is both an emotional and a cognitive experience. Further it includes ecological decision-making coupled with a

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources **Broad College of Business**

of Social Science College of Engineering

sense of responsibility to address real issues that impact the place they call home, in this case, the MSU campus. We want our students to truly reside as a community in this their campus home. They are learning to be caretakers of each other and of a particular place and our thesis is that these skills will grow to extend outward to larger contexts such as whole ecosystems, blighted urban communities, or struggling nations caring relationships near expanding to caring relationships far. We are educating for engaged global citizens but it first begins at home.

Bailey Bees

RISE students Alexis Hinson, Sierra Barfield, Joe Fox and Stephen Plont were awarded a \$5000 Be Spartan Green grant from the Office of Campus Sustainability to install a colony of honeybees on the Bailey green roof. This demonstration site is critically important due to the threatened status of honeybees worldwide. Since WWII, honeybees in the U.S. have been on the decline due to a vast change in agricultural practices including the elimination of cover crops, large-scale monoculture practices, as well as increased pesticide use.

30% of the world's food crops are pollinated by bees

25% of U.S. honeybee population has disappeared since 1990

As a leader in sustainable agriculture practices, it is important that Michigan State University takes steps to ensure the longevity of honeybee populations by providing safe habitats for honeybees to thrive, as well as provide education and outreach to students and faculty about the plight honeybees currently face. The Bailey GREENhouse and Urban Farm will provide a safe habitat for honeybees to live and

flourish on the Bailey Hall GREENroof. Michigan State University will benefit from increased opportunity for outreach, research, teaching experiences outside of the classroom.

The specific goals outlined in this project are for students to:

- Gain knowledge in urban apiculture practices
- · Gain project management, teamwork, and communication skills
- Build their entrepreneurial skills, risk management, marketing skills, supply chain skills
- Gain hands on experience managing bee colonies for successful honey production in the Midwest
- Educate their peers and Michigan residents on the importance of bees to sustain our food system and ecological health
- Develop an economically viable business model for replication in other urban settings (sale of honey, comb honey, and beeswax products)

In addition, this project provided our students with experience in creating large-scale institutional change. The Bee Team brought together multiple stakeholders with differing value stances, and over the course of the year negotiated a Memorandum of Agreement to articulate the responsibilities of all involved units. Included in the resulting partnership were representatives from Residential Education and Housing Services, University Physician's Office, RISE, Entomology and IPF. Working together with Dr. Meghan Milbrath (ENT, MI Pollinator Initiative) and Dr. Walter Pett (ENT), the Bailey Bee Team was created to provide training to Brody Residential Assistants, Intercultural Aids, custodial staff, and student staff. Additionally a registered student organization, the MSU Bee Club was formed.









RISE AOP Prep Workshop

New this year, all incoming first year students attended a full day workshop to provide guidance in preparation for their summer Academic Orientation Program (AOP). Heather and Laurie began conceptualizing this as a result of observing numerous students who enter MSU without adequately reflecting on their strengths, skills, and passion and how this maps onto the colleges and majors at MSU. We wanted to provide our students with the opportunity to take the first step towards self-authorship outside of the pressures of their parents and peer group.

Goals of this workshop were:

- 1. To prepare incoming RISE students for MSU Academic Orientation Program
 - a. What to expect at AOP
 - How to make the most of your AOP experience
 - Exploring and understanding MSU colleges
 - ii. Exploring and understanding MSU majors
 - iii. General education requirements, AP credit, Math placement
 - iv. Building a schedule do's and don'ts
- 2. To prepare RISE students to live in community
 - a. What is community?
 - b. RISE core values and mission
 - c. Meet your mentors-meet each other

On May 16th, 42 members of our FS15 RISE cohort came to Bailey Hall for an entire day of pre-AOP orientation, overview of colleges and

majors, skill assessment and small group advising with RISE peer mentors. Twelve RISE student staff and mentors help facilitate conversation and made presentations. Our new Assistant Community Director Lin Philpot was also able to attend and meet with the students. Lin completed a practicum in the RISE office this spring and helped plan the AOP Prep Workshop as part of her Student Affairs Administration program at MSU. All RISE staff agreed that the day was a huge success allowing for the cohort to come together and begin building community as well as increase their comfort level with AOP.

Student perceptions were assessed via a pre-test and a post-test. When asked, "I know what to expect at AOP," the mean pre-test score was 4.2 (1=Strongly Disagree, 10=Strongly Agree) and post-test mean was 8.7. When asked "I feel prepared for AOP", the mean pre-test score was 4.4 and the post-test mean was 8.1.











RISE Entrepreneurship

This year marked the start of an exciting new partnership with the Kellogg Center Hotel and Conference Center. The Bailey Tea Team launched their line of three organic herbal tea blends: Zingy, Exhale and Restore. The teas are entirely grown at the Bailey Greenhouse and Urban Farm. Students Jorhie Beadle (HRT), Sarah Snider (PKG), Tyler Vuillemot (GBM), Kelsey Allan (PSY), and Bethany Kogut (ED) worked to develop the blends with Kellogg Chefs, create packaging and marketing materials. The tea line will be featured in the hotel room coffee/tea services and served in the State Room.

Our newest partnership with Spartan Hospitality Group Banquet and Beverage Manager Nick Reitler involves growing a line of edible flowers to enhance the flavor and aesthetics of their beverage line. Currently Michael Klacking (HRT), Allison Stawara (HRT) and Tyler Vuillemot (GBM) are developing a line of edible flowers for SHG. Look for our beautiful lavender, sage, viola, borage, and hyssop flowers at the next Kellogg Center event you attend!

Our first year students were introduced to the resources available through MSU Spartan Innovations in NSC 192. As part of this class students wrote grants to improve the sustainability of MSU. New this year student team then created a "pitch" for their project and presented it Shark Tank style to Paul Jacques, Director of Spartan Innovations. As a result of this assignment five student teams were awarded start-up funds from Spartan Innovations to pursue their sustainability project. These projects included an innovative composting system, campus based resale shop, and bicycle taxi service.

We are also grateful for the support we received from Spartan Innovations to send two of our students to Start Up Lansing. Jorhie Beadle and Tyler Vuillemot learned how to write an effective business plan and networked with business start up professionals.











RISE HIGHLIGHTS RISE HIGHLIGHTS RISE HIGHLIGHT

#msuRISEcomposts

Each year RISE students adopt a legacy project to improve the ecological footprint of MSU. For the academic year 2014-15 our students sought to implement sustainable practices in the diversion of postconsumer



food waste specifically from student rooms in Bailey Hall. To kick off this project, University Endowed Professor of Chemical Engineering Dr. Ramani Narayan was invited to NSC 192 to lecture on the topics of zero waste, bio-based polymer science, and the compostable plastics his lab has developed. This lecture served also served as an introduction to an opportunity for RISE students to actively participate in a Zero Waste case study. By expressing interest in this case study and signing a contract allowing their waste data to be collected, students were given compost bins and compostable bin liners to use in their dorm rooms. Instructions showing what can be composted were distributed with the bins, and posted in the

residence hall. In an effort to increase participation and make composting a norm in Bailey Hall students adopted the #msuRISEcomposts utilizing the power of social media in their campaign. 82 students elected to participate in the project throughout the school year. Stephen Plont (GLG) and Abdullah Mohammed (EGR) were research team leaders and presented this work at the Michigan Green Chemistry Conference in March 2015. To date over 245 lbs of student post-consumer waste has been composted.

Marketing, Communications, & Outreach

Launch of BaileyUrbanFarm.org

The development and implementation of the Bailey GREENhouse and Urban Farm website and blog was completed in the fall of 2014. GREENhouse manager Allison Stawara and Assistant Director Heather Shea Gasser worked closely with other members of the BGHUF students to write and publish blog posts throughout the spring semester, highlighting student projects, cooking workshops and other news-worthy items. Views to date have exceeded 1,700.

MSU RISE Blog "Sustainable Stories"

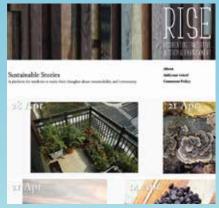
Designed as a platform for student voices, the RISE Blog "Sustainable Stories" launched in the fall of 2014 via wordpress: https://msuriseblog.wordpress.com. The student blog team was led by co-editors Madeline Judge (a third-year Professional Writing and Environmental and Sustainable Studies double major) and Sergio Martinez-Beltran, a second-year student in journalism. Several first-year students also engaged with the blog project, including Bethany Kogut, Stephanie Marceau, and Kristen Randall. Views to date are nearly 1000.

"What's On The RISE?" Weekly Newsletter

First published in the fall of 2013, the RISE weekly newsletter list now contains 372 subscribers. We utilize a online newsletter platform called "MailChimp" to send out our newsletter, which is a compendium of RISE announcements, job postings, involvement opportunities, and campus announcements. This year, the newsletter was compiled and distributed weekly by Madeline Judge and

Bethany Kogut.

RISE HIGHLIGHTS | RISE HIGHLIGHTS | R







RISE Community Workshops

Feeding the Future monthly workshops have been incorporated in the RISE program for three consecutive years to facilitate community development through food-focused activities and peer-to-peer learning. These activities provide opportunities for students to engage in hands-on learning, primarily focused on the value of

"As a consumable, shareable, and concrete cultural material, food is an essential component of the building and preservation of communities and group identities"

Purnell, D.F (January 2013). Community on the menu: Seven-courses to cultivate familial bonds, exchange social capital, and nourish community.

farm-to-fork sustainable agriculture. Utilizing produce and herbs grown by students in the Bailey GREENhouse & Urban Farm, students created menus and facilitated cooking workshops in the Bailey Hall community kitchen. Each workshop highlighted a different food genre and exposed students to the full cycle of the food they prepared. Emphasis was placed on community involvement within the Bailey Hall food system.

Funded by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Feeding the Future research grant, led by Maddie Judge (CSUS), Maria Cotter (FSC), and Leah Desposato (CSUS), was designed to measure change in students' knowledge, attitude, and self-reported sense of community through their involvement in educational, hands-on activities with a focus on sustainable food systems. Student involvement was tracked in the Bailey GREENhouse and Urban Farm, Bailey green roof, cooking work-

shops, and Bailey Tea Team. During the 2014-2015 academic year, the focus was to gauge students' sense of community and understanding of sustainable food systems. As part of this research project, the investigators are also developing a psychometric scale to measure how people value their food beyond its monetary worth. Our student researchers want to explore the possibility that engaging college students in community food systems may play a role in student's sense of belonging, and in turn increase student success at Michigan State University.





RISE Mentor Program

In last year's Annual Report, we described the features of our new mentoring program aimed at supporting first-year students' transition to MSU. The RISE Mentor program, now in its second year, experienced an increase in growth, participation, and structure this year. 15 MSU sophomores, listed on the last page of this report, served as RISE mentors this year. Mentors were selected from a pool of applicants via an interview process. Incoming students completed a selection survey to identify their top-three choices and RISE staff matched students with mentors, working to balance groups and match students with one of their top-three choices. As a result, each mentor was matched with approximately 4-6 incoming first-year RISE students. Mentors continued to provide a critically important network of support for first-year students. They connected with students as they completed several class assignments in the RISE first-year seminar (NSC 192). Mentors also worked closely with MAP-Works, meeting with students to discuss their reports, and documenting contacts and making referrals via the MAP-Works interface. Two students, Maddie Judge and Maria Cotter, worked closely with Heather to coordinate the program, train the mentors, and plan for next year. At the close of the spring 2015 semester, a new class of 15 RISE mentors had been selected at matched with next year's incoming RISE first-year cohort.

Darling, B., Kerr, J., Thorp, L., Chung, K. (2014). Engaged Learning and Peace Corps Service in Tanzania: An Autoethnography, Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement, Volume 18, Number 4

Goralnik, A., Thorp, L., Rozeboom, D., Thompson, P. (2014). Storytelling Morality: Ecofeminism, Agrarianism and Pigs in the Field. The Trumpeter, Volume 30, Number 1.

Goralnik, A., Thorp, L., Whyte, K., Ferkany, M., (2015). Philosophy in the Field: Care Ethics, Participatory Virtues and Sustainability, Resilience, Volume 1, Number 3.

Rozeboom, D.W. and Thorp, L. (2014). Ethical Issues of Pork Production, in Paul B. Thompson and David Kaplan (Eds.) The Encyclopedia of Agriculture and Food Ethics, Springer

Raven, M., Thorp, L., Judge, M. (2014) "Learning Runs through It: Bailey GREENhouse and Urban Farm" North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Annual Meeting, Bozeman, MT, June 2014.

Shea Gasser, H. (2014) "What's for Dinner?: The Complications and Consequences of Food on Campus" Association of College and University Housing Officers International Annual Meeting, Washington DC, June 2014.

Shea Gasser, H. (2015) "RISE to the Challenge: Fostering Student Success in an Interdisciplinary LLC with MAP-Works" MSU Data Summit, May 2015.

Thorp, L., and Shea Gasser, H. (2014) "LEEDing and Loving Where You Live: When Environmental Education is Not Enough" Association of College and University Housing Officers International Annual Meeting, Washington DC, June 2014.

Thorp, L., and Shea Gasser, H. (2015) "LEEDing and Loving Where You Live: When Environmental Education is Not Enough" American College Personnel Association, Tampa, FL. March 2015.





Since January of 2014, RISE Assistant Director, Heather Shea Gasser has served as the co-host of Student Affairs Live, a monthly online broadcast on the Higher Ed Live Network. Shea Gasser interviews esteemed panelists discussing a wide range of topics related to the field of Student Affairs. http://higheredlive.com

2014-2015 RISE GRADUATES Environmental Studies Specialization

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Jorhie Beadle-Horticulture
Taylor Bourns-Fisheries and Wildlife
Steven Brickel-Environmental Studies and Agriscience
Michelle Rich-Packaging
Katherine Sparks-Environmental Economics and Policy
Samantha Tank-Fisheries and Wildlife
Benjamin Vandyke-Crops and Soil Sciences

College of Natural Science

Alec Bonifer-Genomics and Molecular Genetics Justin Bopp-Zoology Kristin Baldwin-Geological Science Carson Castellani-Neuroscience Henry Whitenack-Environmental Geosciences

College of Social Science

Kevin Adams-Interdepartmental Studies in Social Science Clayton Batko-Anthropology Jamie Boelstler-Geography Brianna Gerondale-Geography Jessica Laub-Political Science Nick Tafelsky-Urban and Regional Planning

College of Communication Arts and Sciences

Stephanie Benson-Advertising
Alexander Diaz-Communication
Andrew Irwin-Communication
Ryan Smith-Communication
Marie Steinbock-Media and Information

College of Business

Montazar Alessa-Supply Chain Management Abdulla Almoudi-Urban and Regional Planning Katelyn Dindia-Accounting Rebecca Nagrant-Supply Chain Management Tyler Vuillemot-General Business Management

College of Engineering

Rachel Norman-Environmental Engineering Anna Strong-Civil Engineering



Johrie Beadle (Horticulture) shows off her Bailey Urban Farm & MSU RISE Mortar Board prior to graduation. Johrie was an indespensible part of our GREENteam.



Kevin Adams (Interdepartmental Studies in Social Science) will be deeply missed in RISE. His presence as a student assistant, tutor, and mentor has been critical to our success over the past four years.



Katelyn Dindia (Accounting) concluded her internship with the Bailey GREENhouse & Urban Farm by presenting a comprehensive accounting system.

In Recognition



Donald F. Koch and Barbara J. Sawyer-Koch Environmental Studies Spartan Scholarship

We are so grateful for the generous support of Donald Koch and Barbara Sawyer-Koch, pictured here with Dani Blumstein and Zhuli Stoyanova, two recipients of the Sawyer-Koch Environmental Studies Spartan Scholarship.

Thank You to our Student Teams

BAILEY GREENTEAM

Allison Stawara * Dani Blumstein Johrie Beadle Joe Fox Tyler Vuillemot Michael Klacking Bethany Kogut Kelsey Allan

RISE TUTORS Kevin Adams Abdullah Mohammed Stephen Plont Jesse Leversey Jesse Nagel Michael O'Keefe

SELECTION/ADVISING

Alexis Hinson Kevin Adams Anna Strong Sarah Snider

1st YEAR RISE RECRUITMENT TEAM

Alex Albers Sierra Barfield Michael Carroll Brandon Denler Sean Devlin Haley Ferer Degan Gembarowski Zachary Grover Madison Hardy Mirna Kaafarani Josh Knowll Bethany Kogut Alexis Kontorousis Joe Lang Hannah Macdonald Kristen Randall Abigail Reimel Natasha Sloniker Sydney Watson

Kaylee Zajac

2014-2015 RISE MENTORS

Johrie Beadle Dani Blumstein Hannah Brenner Emilie Cole Maria Cotter Jordyn Davis Leah Desposato Eamon Devlin Marielle Kouassi Alec Manaia Sergio Martínez-Beltrán Kaitlyn McCullough Leah McTigue Kwamina Otseidu Jalen Smith Zhuli Stoyanova Maddie Judge*

*indicates manager/coordinator

Find, Follow, Friend RISE



RISE WEBSITE!

http://rise.natsci.msu.edu



"What's On The RISE?" Weekly Newsletter subscribe: http://eepurl.com/FXZ69



@msuRISE - 641 followers



facebook.com/MichiganStateU.RISE - 395 "likes"



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KoA9dUqxdM

Our Partners

Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center The Kellogg Center State Room Culinary Services Spartan Innovations Residential Education and Housing Services Residential and Hospitality Services MSU Recycling and Surplus Office of Campus Sustainability Department of Community Sustainability Department of Entomology Michigan Pollinator Initiative Department of Horticulture MSU Student Organic Farm Center for Regional Food Systems