



RISE

RESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE ON THE STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT





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Our Overview of 2015-2016

May 19, 2016

This was the year of **resilience** and **purpose**.

Increasingly we are seeing our students demonstrate their ability to persist and work through challenging situations ranging from interpersonal to large-scale social problems. Utilizing RISE community resources students are learning to form coalitions, seek help, speak up, organize and bounce back.

Additionally, as we continue to intervene earlier in our advising and mentoring of our first-year students, we are observing students finding their purpose sooner and with less churn. We credit our peer mentors and the depth of their commitment to first-year student success. The sense of community support and monthly student success programming provides important regular touch points for our first-year cohort.

We hope you are inspired by their stories of persistence, perseverance and change.

Laurie Thorp
Laurie Thorp, PhD

Director, RISE

Heather Shea Gasser

Heather Shea Gasser

Assistant Director, RISE

RISE

BY THE NUMBERS

120

ADMITTED

STUDENTS FOR THE RISE CLASS OF 2020

200

RISE RESIDENTS

OVER 200 STUDENTS ACROSS ALL CLASSES LIVE IN BAILEY HALL

247

LBS OF COMPOST

IN-ROOM COMPOSTING DIVERTED 247 LBS OF FOOD WASTE FROM THE LANDFILL

30,000



HONEYBEES

RESIDING ON OUR GREEN ROOF

67

DIFFERENT MAJORS

DIVERSITY OF MAJORS PARTICIPATING IN RISE

7

COLLEGES

AFFILIATED WITH RISE

CANR
NATSCI
EGR
BUS
CSS
CAL
COM

36

COMPOST BINS

DISTRIBUTED TO RISE STUDENTS

28

AVERAGE ACT

FOR OUR 2016 INCOMING COHORT

34

DIFFERENT CROPS

GROWN AT THE BAILEY GREENHOUSE & URBAN FARM

50

FUNGI LOGS

CULTIVATING SHITAKE MUSHROOMS AT BAILEY

\$12,230

\$\$\$

GRANTS

STUDENT GRANT FUNDING RECEIVED THIS YEAR

SOCIAL MEDIA



@msuRISE

814 Followers
on Twitter

/MichiganStateU.RISE

479 "Likes"
on Facebook

Sustainable Stories

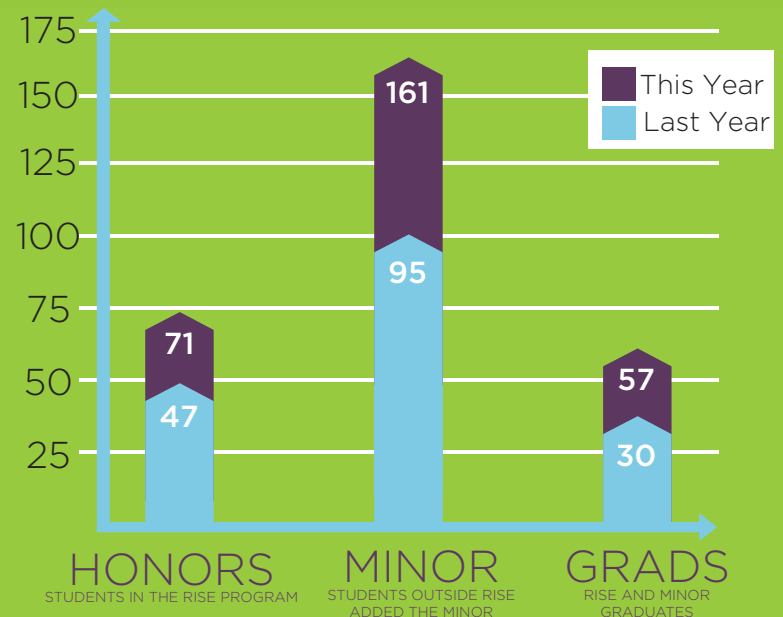
msuriseblog.wordpress.com

58 posts / 1,879 views
950 visitors

New Channels!



GROWTH THIS YEAR



Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU)

Ten Spartans attended the Clinton Global Initiative University annual meeting in California in April based on their ambitious plans to address areas such as education, poverty and the environment.

Former President Bill Clinton launched the CGI U to engage a growing network of young leaders who are developing innovative solutions to pressing world challenges. Students are selected to attend the annual meeting based on their Commitment to Action: a new, specific and measurable plan that addresses an issue on their campus, in their local community or around world

“The projects from this diverse and impressive group of Michigan State University undergraduate students demonstrates that entrepreneurial thinking applies to social ventures and can be harnessed to bring significant change to the world,” said Neil Kane, MSU’s director of undergraduate entrepreneurship.



Bridge to Health: Roberta Dankyi

Roberta Dankyi is a Master Card Scholar, second-year Honors College nursing student. Her Commitment to Action is a healthcare initiative that will train healthcare professionals to serve as the bridge that will train these professionals to educate women and girls on the risk, symptoms and prevention of cervical and breast cancer.

Garden Buddies: Eamon Devlin, Haley Fulco, Bethany Kogut

Eamon Devlin is a junior in the Honors College studying environmental studies and sustainability, **Haley Fulco** is a freshman in the Honors College studying zoology and **Bethany Kogut** is a sophomore in the Honors College studying elementary education. Their Garden Buddies Commitment to Action is applying horticultural knowledge in an innovative way to support families who want to grow nutritious food. By providing families with hands-on training and support, students will help them extend the growing season and produce high-quality nutritious food with minimal inputs.

Meals for Mealworms: Mathew Huber, Lindsay Mensch, Kirsten West

Mathew Huber is a freshman environmental science major, **Lindsay Mensch** is a freshman in the Honors College studying English and **Kirsten West** is a freshman packaging major. Their Meals for Mealworms Commitment to Action is to research the ability of mealworms to decompose polystyrene waste and to educate students at MSU about the harmful effects of polystyrene. Mealworms can digest polystyrene and break it down into nontoxic organic matter.

“RISE has helped me to become an influential leader by helping me find my abilities through **risk** and **failure**.”

BETHANY KOGUT-COE

3 RISE Scholars Nominated for Udall

The Udall Foundation awards scholarships to college sophomores and juniors for leadership, public service and commitment to issues related to American Indian nations or to the environment. Each year, the foundation awards up to \$7,000 for educational expenses to 60 outstanding students in the United States.

Hannah MacDonald, a sophomore majoring in environmental geosciences in the College of Natural Science is among four undergraduate students nominated by Michigan State University for the nationally competitive Udall Scholarship.

MacDonald is from Alpena, MI, and is a graduate of Alpena High School. Also a member of the Residential Initiative on the Study of the Environment (RISE), MacDonald currently interns at the Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory and has conducted sea turtle research in the Bahamas.

Eamon Devlin hails from Farmington Hills, Michigan and is a graduate of Harrison High School. He is a mentor in the Residential Initiative on the Study of the Environment (RISE), and has conducted vermicomposting research. Additionally, he's participated in study abroad experiences in Antarctica and New Zealand, and study away experiences at Yellowstone National Park and in Washington, D.C.

Alex Manaia is from Rochester, Michigan and is a graduate of Stoney Creek High School. He's a research assistant for the African Atlantic Research Team, a volunteer for the Lansing Refugee Development Center and director of media and design for Global Youth for Education and Change MSU. He's previously served as a research intern for the MSU Department of Forestry and Urban Agriculture in Lansing.

Congratulations on the nomination Hannah, Eamon, and Alex!

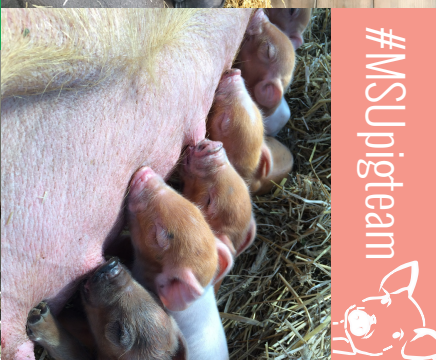


"In our interconnected world, I **aspire to make our world a more sustainable place** by focusing on human systems and inspiring others to understand their impact to the environment within their daily lives"

EAMON DEVLIN - CANR



BAILEY
2020/2021
TEA
PROJECT



#MSUpigteam



the PRODUCTS of our PROGRAM are
TOOLS

for **LEARNING**

We are especially proud of the high-impact learning that occurs as a result of our student-led co-curricular projects. These projects provide opportunities for students to build skills and capacity to:

- Transfer knowledge to complex new situations
- Make sound judgment in the absence of rules
- Engage in collaborative decision making
- Solve novel problems
- Cultivate the capacity for lifelong learning
- Practice self-evaluation in a learning community

RISE MENTOR
PROGRAM



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
WORM TEAM



Undergraduate Grants Funded 2016

Be Spartan Green Student Fund

Each year, first-year students in the RISE seminar (NSC 192) write grants to improve campus sustainability. This assignment positions students to develop their skills in interdisciplinary teamwork, communication, and solving complex problems. Students must identify a campus partner (faculty or staff) and formulate proposals that include programming, anticipated outcomes, and evaluation. Our students were very successful this year in garnering funds to support their projects.

Bailey Hall Resale Shop-\$1480

Collaboration with MSU Surplus Store

The goal of this project is to foster a culture of reuse at MSU while increasing landfill diversion efforts on campus. While the MSU Surplus Store fills this role, the location and hours of operation are inconvenient for most students. Sales using Surplus Store goods will be sold in Bailey Hall or Brody Building with profits being returned to the Surplus Store. The team will also survey the student body to determine attitudes towards reuse and awareness of the Surplus Store.

Allison Farmer- Enviro GeoSci and **Terrance Beebe-**FIM



Bailey Mushroom Project-\$2250

Collaboration with Professor Greg Bonito Plant Soil and Microbial Science

The goal of this project is to educate MSU students about mycology from a scientific perspective as well as commercial opportunities related to fungi. Currently scientists are using fungi for bioremediation, sustainable packaging and pest prevention in agricultural systems. Growing shitake mushrooms as part of the Bailey Hall Greenhouse and Urban Farm will provide students with direct opportunities to learn about these exciting new fields while producing healthy and delicious food for sale to our campus chefs.

Melissa Eggleston- HRT, **Sarah Ruth -**ESS, **Degan Gembarowski-**HRT

“RISE has given me a sense of purpose and has **allowed me to flourish** at Michigan State University. It has showed me that I am welcomed and that people appreciate my thoughts and what I accomplish.”

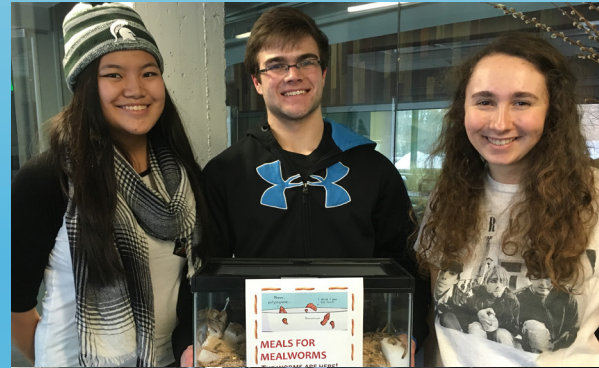
ALEX MARX-CNS

Meals for Mealworms- \$3200

Collaboration with Professor Rafael Auras, Packaging and Cayden Bunnell Compost Manager MSU Recycling Center

This pilot study is designed to research the feasibility of mealworm polystyrene decomposition. The team would also like to find useful applications for the organic waste produced by mealworms that have digested polystyrene. Outreach and engagement workshops with undergraduate peers to educate about Styrofoam reduction will be provided throughout the 2016-17 year.

Kirsten West- PKG, Matt Huber-ESS, Lindsay Mensch-PW



Bailey Compost Initiative-\$4000

Collaboration with Professor Ramani Narayan, EGR and Richard Lombardo, Director of Business Development, Natur-Tec Biobased Materials

Composting is a sustainable way to redirect organic waste from landfills and turning "waste" into a valuable resource especially in urban settings. The goal of this project is to scale up current residential hall composting initiative and test three different composting systems for use in campus setting. Additional experimentation to explore the ability to compost throughout winter months with freezing temperatures. Use of vermicomposting coupled with pre-composting and supplemental heat will be tested. Educating the MSU community about the need to close the food loop eliminating the need for synthetic fertilizers.

Alex Marx- ESS, Abdullah Mohammed- EGR, Selena Perez-ZOL, Brooke Desposato-FS, Anna Jean Appeldoorn-UPLA



EARTH'D Recycling Educational Video -\$1300

Collaboration with IPF Sustainability

This team created a 3 minute YouTube comedic educational video "EARTH'D" to promote recycling on campus. The video has been broadly disseminated to educate their peers on the importance of recycling and how their behaviors can impact the environment on a global scale. To date the video has 363 views on YouTube. This video premiered to a large audience at the RISE Earth Day event.

Watch the YouTube: <https://youtu.be/PPyfNbPz83c>

Maeve O'Dowd -MI, Victoria Chapman-SPN, Mackenzie Bosworth-EEM, Annalisa Rocca-EEM



"People from scientific disciplines need to work with people in the humanities to **communicate the urgency of environmental issues.**"

LINDSAY MENSCH - CAL

International Student Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment 2015

Allison Stawara, HRT senior, was selected to represent the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at this prestigious event at Tokyo University of Agriculture in October 2015. At this summit students from over 30 countries convened to share projects from their home institutions and to discuss global food problems and possible solutions. Allison presented her paper, "Addressing Local Disconnect from Food in the Context of Global Climate Change". She also presented her work with the Bailey Greenhouse and Urban Farm as a model for other colleges and universities to make food systems change.

Josh Knoll, EEM and **Eamon Devlin**, ESS have been selected to attend the 2016 summit. The theme for this year's summit is Promoting Environmental Justice in the Globalization of Intensive Agricultural Systems.

Campus Compact Award

Liz Brajevich, EEP was awarded the Outstanding Community Impact Award by the Michigan Campus Compact. Only 6 students from across the state received this award. Liz was recognized because of the hundreds of hours she has spent volunteering in Lansing supporting at risk youth through: Moving Up Michigan, Haven House Shelter Partnership and St. Vincent's Catholic Charities Group Home.



2015-2016 RISE GRADUATES

Environmental & Sustainability Studies Minor

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Andrew Bianculli-ABM
DuoQuan Blunt-FSC
Liz Brajevich-EEP *

Katelyn Burns-FW
Miya Devoogd-ESS
Joe Fox-HRT
Cameron Freisen-PKG
Geena Fritzman-FW
Genevieve Gagnier-PKG
Rachel Hurst-PKG
Matthew Jackson-NRRT
Madeline Judge-ESS
Kathryn Kaleth-ESS
Sean Martin-ESS
Rachel McDaniel-NRRT
Allison Montambeau-ESS
Michael Pokryfki-PKG
Sarah Randall-ESS
Michelle Sondergrath-CSS
Abigail Spikerman-AFNRE
Allison Stawara-HRT
Allie Trudgeon-FOR
Karlo Zadro-EEP

College of Natural Science

Katherine Grantham-ENV BIO/ZOL
Julia Hamilton-ENV BIO/ZOL
Megumi Ishii-ZOL
Cecilia Jimenez-ENV BIO/ZOL
Megan Kastelen-ZOL
Charles Nicoli-NEUROSCIENCE
Michael O'Keefe-BMB
Caitlin O'Neill-ENV GEOS
Brad Petty-ZOL
Stephen Plont-ENV GEOS
Elliott Rowley-ENV BIO/ZOL

College of Communication Arts and Sciences

Kaitlynn Graham-ADV
Dakota Johnston-MI
Colleen Otte-JRN
Nick Smith-ADV

College of Engineering

Benjamin Bailey-BE
Elisabeth Warner-ME

College of Social Science

Kelsey Allan-PSY
Christina Ignasiak-UPLA
Hailey Lobb-PS PLAW
Jesse Nagel-ECON
Guangruo Zuo-UP

College of Business

Lindsey Burwell-HOSP
Laura Castle-MRK
Bailey Esterley-SCM
Carolyn Fisher-FI
Sarah Grassa-HOSP
Shaun Hetu-SCM
Alec Latta-MRK
Marshall Williams-SCM

College of Arts and Letters

Althea Arnold-ARTS&HUM
Grace Noyola-PW

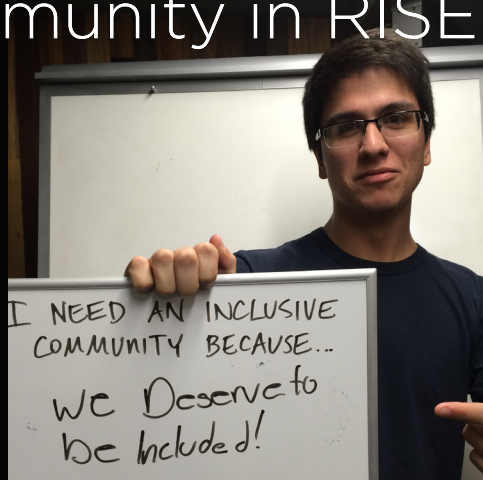
* CANR Undergraduate Commencement Speaker



“RISE has provided me with the **confidence** and skill set necessary to go out in the world and change things for the better.”

LIZ BRAJEVICH - CANR



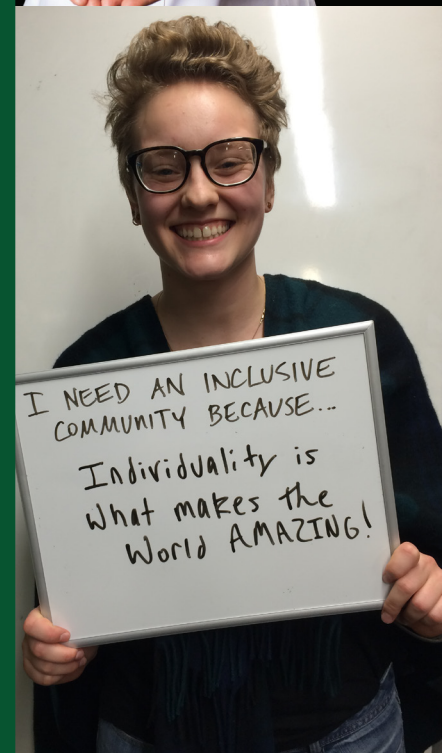


“Not only am I more aware about issues concerning our environment, but I have started to **apply this critical thinking** to politics, women’s rights, and so much more.”

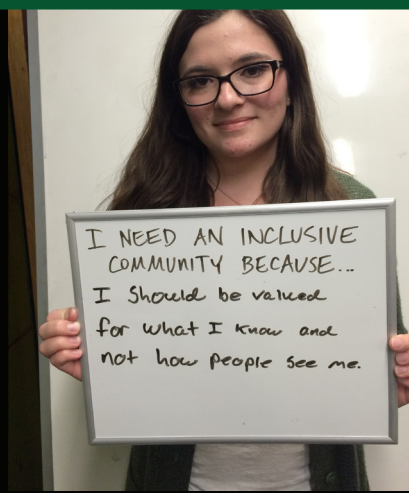
VICTORIA CHAPMAN-CAL

“I realized this community was so crucial. It has helped me get the **strength to speak** my mind, encouraged me to launch new ideas, and gave me a huge support system.... people with different interests and backgrounds decide to **collaborate** and are genuine friends.”

MARIE CLARK-COE



AR WORLD



Thank You Partners!

We are a learning community with many important partners. Without these very special relationships we could never accomplish all that we do. Heartfelt thanks to you our community partners who create the network of support for our students.

Matt Raven, Department of Community Sustainability

Dale Rozeboom, Department of Animal Science

Meghan Milbrath, Department of Entomology

Greg Bonito, Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Science

Paul Jaques, Spartan Innovations

Michael Kaplowitz, Chair, Department of Community Sustainability

Vennie Gore, VP Auxilliary Enterprises

Marta Mittermaier, Food Stores

Jeremy Moghtader, Student Organic Farm

Neil Kane, Undergraduate Entrepreneurship

Rebecca Selesky, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center

Carla Iansiti, Residential and Hospitality Services

Ann Earhart, IPF Sustainability

Kurt Kwiatkowski, Culinary Services

Barbara Sawyer-Koch and Donald Koch, Environmental Studies Spartan Scholarship

Rick Lombardo, Natur-Tec

Becky Jo Farrington, College of Natural Science

...and our many friends at:

Culinary Services

IPF Sustainability

Residential and Hospitality Services

Residential Education and Housing Services

Housing Assignments Office

THANK YOU RISE STUDENT LEADERS!

2015-2016 RISE MENTORS

Sierra Barfield
Kellen Boyd,
Maria Cotter *
Roberta Dankyi
Sean Devlin
Haley Ferer
Zachary Grover
Madison Hardy
Kera Howell
Josh Knoll
Alexis Kontourosis
Nick Kurtansky
Abigail Reimel
Lillian Slajus
Natasha Sloniker
Kaylee Zajac

RISE TUTORS

Lizzy Burr
Sean Devlin
Mirna Kaafarani
Kevin Kern
Abdullah Mohammed
Stephen Plont
Hannah Robar

BAILEY GREENTEAM

Kelsey Allen
Dani Blumstein
Leah Desposato
Joe Fox
Degan Gembarowski
Michael Klacking *
Bethany Kogut
Joe Snowaert
Allison Stawara *
Tyler Vuillemot *

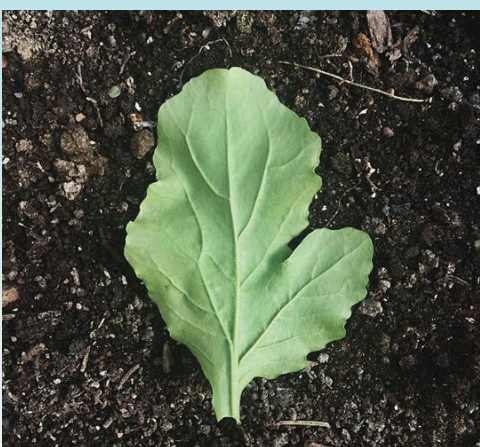
** indicates coordinator/manager*

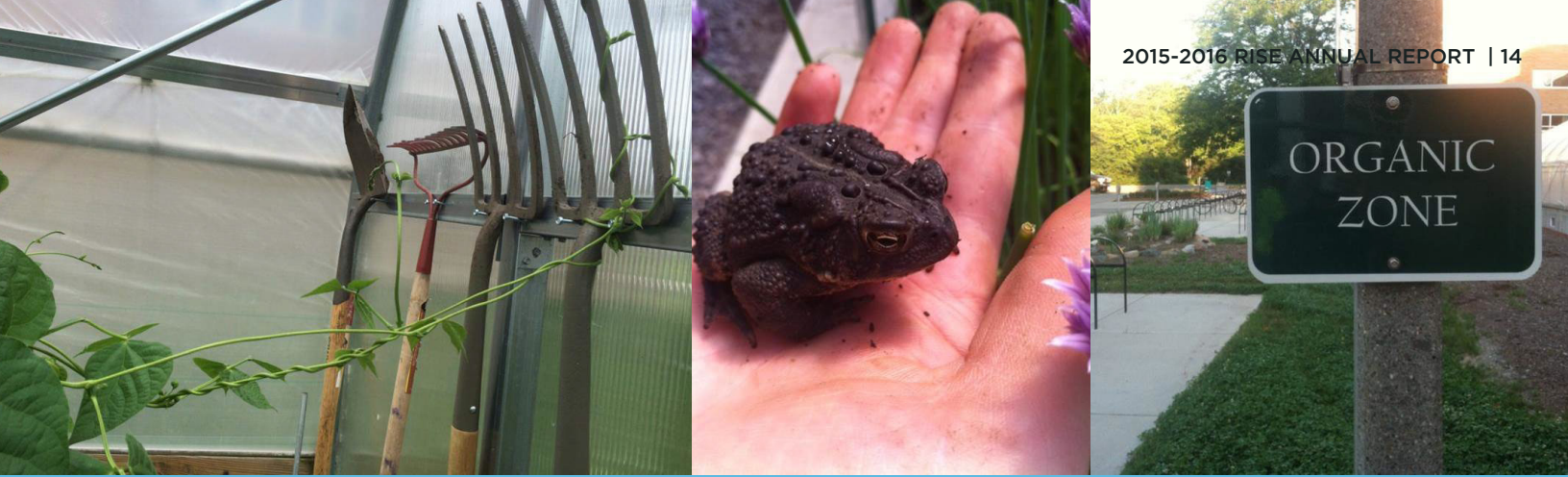
EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Makenzie Bosworth
Victoria Chapman
Marie Clark
Haley Ferer
Zachary Grover
Madison Hardy
Kera Howell
Bethany Kogut
Alex Marx
Lindsay Mensch
Kaylee Zajac

RISE 1ST YEAR RECRUITMENT TEAM

Alex Marx
Andrea Batten
Annalisa Rocca
Brooke Desposato
Caroline Schuetz
Dalanei Willoughby
Haley Fulco
Jared Zink
Kaitlyn Thrush
Lindsay Mensch
Lizzy Burr
Lydea Noye
Maeve O'Dowd
Makenzie Bosworth
Mary McHugh
Rachael Zarger
Rachel Burdt
Sajjad Abdul-Aziz
Sara Kolar
Selena Perez
Victoria Chapman





OUR CORE VALUES

Authenticity | We value the path of personal development is grounded in living authentically, cultivating honesty with ourselves.

Community | We value our interdependence with each other and the biosphere. Healthy relationships are essential to human and planetary flourishing.

Happiness | We value happiness as an essential outgrowth of a life well lived.

Innovation | We value a safe environment where innovation, creativity, and exploration occurs.

Respect | We value 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 | We value a network of care and support for the planet, our community, and each other.

Wisdom | We value understanding of ourselves, our life calling, and real purpose for the betterment of individuals, the community, and the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

Create, Grow, Connect:
A Community of Learners
Committed to Stewardship and
Environmental Sustainability.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After participating in the Residential Initiative on the Study of the Environment, students will be able to:

Form an Opinion

Articulate multiple perspectives about complex issues.
Formulate their own positions regarding these issues.

Demonstrate Leadership

Describe and demonstrate leadership practices.

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.
Make meaningful academic, life, and career choices.

Engage in Sustainability Work

Understand the foundational concepts of sustainability.
Apply concepts of sustainability to our campus and community.

Find, Follow, Friend RISE



RISE Website

<http://rise.natsci.msu.edu>



"What's On The RISE?" Weekly Newsletter

subscribe: <http://eepurl.com/FXZ69>



@msuRISE



facebook.com/MichiganStateU.RISE



RISE YouTube Channel

<http://bit.ly/20aN4o0>