

# WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS

### 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



#### RESEARCH AND CURRICULUM

- 169 students enrolled in sustainability-related majors, minors, or certificate programs.
- Western continued to establish itself as a leader in researching and advocating for social, environmental, and economic improvements in the Salish Sea region and along the Canada-U.S. border.



#### CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- In partnership with tribal organizations, Western hosted a number of programs focused on indigenous-settler relationship-building and healing, and integrating sustainability and tribal sovereignty into education systems.
- Western began managing two community farms, which included starting a seed-saving project, providing produce to a local community health center's free farm stand, and connecting with nearby neighborhoods.

#### BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Western purchases 95% of its electricity from renewable sources and is developing a community solar project at the Administrative Services Building.



#### STUDENT LIFE

- The Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund (SEJF) funded 17 grants amounting to \$338,000. More than half of these proposals were led by students.

#### GROUNDS

- Western has successfully transitioned most of its grounds management fleet to electric equipment, and has continued transitioning its vehicle fleet to electric by adding battery electric vans and a battery electric truck to its fleet.

#### PROCUREMENT

- Western is developing a sustainable purchasing guide, which will provide purchasers with product diversity classifications, company sustainability statements, and eco-certifications or ecolabels.

#### TRANSPORTATION

- Western now offers free employee bus passes for all Whatcom Transportation Authority and Skagit Transit fixed routes and for Whatcom Transit Authority's paratransit services.