Preparing the Next Generation: A Sustainability Curriculum Focused on Professional Development

Lora Winslow & Ethel Wilkerson
*Manomet Sustainable Economies Program*

Abigayl Novak
*University of Maine (Student)*

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*manomet*
*Soaring Solutions. Grounded Science.*

*U360*
Our Mission

Applying science and engaging people to sustain our world.
U360

Training students.
Learning from small businesses.
Building a sustainable future.
Why U360?

To give college students real-world experience in three vital areas not taught in the classroom...

- Professional skills
- Practical, applied sustainability
- How to engage people with different viewpoints
U360 Curriculum

• Phase 1: Sustainability Principles & Skills Trainings
• Phase 2: Small Business Engagement
• Phase 3: Sustainability Analysis
• Phase 4: The Capstone Event
U360: Preparing the Next Generation

“Through books and lectures, I was able to learn a significant amount about sustainability in school. But U360 allowed me to step into the world and speak with real people living their own lives. By engaging in this form of outreach, I came to understand where people were coming from and I was able to better apply my knowledge to help them, their business, and the world.”

- Zachary Maia, University of Vermont, Spring ’18
Total U360 Students To Date

71 students from 10 New England universities

University of Southern Maine, University of New England, University of Maine, St. Joseph’s College, College of the Atlantic, Colby College, University of Vermont, University of New Hampshire, Suffolk University, Brandeis University
Total U360 Businesses To Date

679 businesses from 47 different states
Measuring Success
Why U360?

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- Professional skills
- Practical, applied sustainability
- How to engage people with different viewpoints
Learning Objectives: Professional Skills

99% of small businesses interviewed rated student professionalism as high or extremely high.

Results from businesses’ post-interview survey. (50% reporting)
Learning Objectives: Professional Skills

As a result of U360, over 90% of students report an increase in the level of experience and comfort in:

- Interview Skills
- Communicating professionally
- Professional correspondence
- Managing workflow and deadlines
- Maintaining professionalism
Learning Objectives:
Applied Sustainability

100% of students report an increase in knowledge of...

What businesses can do to take action on climate change

Sustainable business practices and small business management

Results from students’ post-program survey. (100% reporting)
Learning Objectives:
Applied Sustainability

“I wanted to see first-hand how environmental issues and economic interests are unquestionably related, and I wanted to learn how to balance these factors to make meaningful solutions. Manomet’s U360 internship provided all of these learning opportunities. It was the ideal choice for learning beyond the classroom.”

- Leah Soloway, University of New England, Spring ‘17
Learning Objectives: Engaging People with Different Viewpoints

“Talking about sustainability in a lecture hall is different from applying it in the real world because it’s missing the key stakeholder for a successful application: real people. U360 allowed me a chance to interact with people outside of my small circle at my university and connect with business owners all over the country. This connection with business owners gave me a different perspective than the one I was experiencing as a college student.”

- Kaylin Keith, University of New England, Fall ‘17
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Questions?