Choose your adventure today

- The story of creating our first sustainability report – the internal stakeholder process
- Dealing with NGO – a story of external stakeholders
- What’s it really like to work in corporate sustainability?
Presidio Graduate School’s Mission

Educate and inspire a new generation of skilled, visionary, and enterprising leaders to transform business and public policy and create a more just, prosperous and sustainable world.

HISTORY:

Presidio Graduate School (PGS) is a non-profit academic institution accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). In 2002, Bainbridge Graduate Institute (BGI) pioneered the first MBA in Sustainable Systems and together with PGS in 2003, the two schools pioneered the field of sustainable management education. Both schools have been repeatedly ranked #1 and #2 sustainable business schools in the US by Net Impact since their inception. BGI later became Pinchot University and in 2017 PGS acquired Pinchot University combining these two powerhouses under the singular PGS brand. Today, with an active student body of 150, the school is the longest running sustainable management school and boasts over 1,700 alumni. With vibrant campuses in both San Francisco and Seattle it is poised for continued growth. In 2015, The New York Times named PGS the best business school to attend, “if you want to change the world.”

IMPACTS REPORT OVERVIEW:

Presidio Graduate School’s Alumni Impacts Report showcases quantitative results and highlights social impact stories of alumni who are challenging the status quo and creating a positive impact in the world every day. PGS prepares students with business skills, sustainability technical knowledge, and personal development to foster transformative leaders. Presidio Graduate School has also been named as one of the seven best business schools for careers in CleanTech careers by Business Because. One clear trend is that Presidians are both intrapreneurs and entrepreneurs who are fearlessly blazing the trail towards better business practices which serve environment and community.

“If you want to change the world, go to Presidio Graduate School”

- The New York Times
Metrics Impacts

The Presidio Graduate School community has generated substantial annual savings in the categories of Energy, Waste, Water, Carbon Emissions, and Dollars.

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<tr>
<td><strong>44,319</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Therms</td>
<td>Metric Tons CO₂</td>
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<td>Equivalent to saving 257,089 pounds of burned coal.</td>
<td>Equivalent to taking 37,508 cars off the road each year.</td>
<td>Equivalent to 43,379 Olympic sized swimming pools.</td>
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<td><strong>1.2 M</strong></td>
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<td>Pounds</td>
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<td>Equivalent to 24 garbage trucks worth!</td>
<td>Savings to the company’s bottom line.</td>
<td>Equivalent to 32,072 homes’ electricity use for an entire year.</td>
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The above data represents an annual savings from alumni projects and includes data from 30 alumni EDF Climate Corps projects and 14 REV Sustainability Circles from 2010 - 2017. Samples of project snapshots can be found in the pages that follow, in our “Stories Behind the Numbers.”
Stories Behind the Numbers: Partners in Sustainability

EDF CLIMATE CORPS:

EDF Climate Corps is a summer fellowship program that matches graduate students inside leading organizations to accelerate sustainability projects and organizational strategy. Since its inception in 2008, Presidio Graduate School, as well as acquired schools Bainbridge Graduate Institute (Pinchot University), have consistently had alumni selected to design and implement clean technology projects in this highly competitive and prestigious fellowship program. Some of their stories are on the pages that follow.

REV SUSTAINABILITY CIRCLES:

REV Sustainability Circles are comprehensive six-month peer-learning programs which drive strategic, tactical, and behavioral change towards resource efficiency through team engagement across the organization. Since 2010, over 14 groups of alumni leaders at organizations ranging from diverse sectors such as: clean technology, healthcare, retail, real estate, and food and agriculture have participated in this unique program. REV Sustainability Circles are rooted in quantifiable data to make the business case for sustainability. Aggregate data from 14 alumni led interventions are included in this report (page 3) as well as a feature on one organization’s journey towards sustainability in the wine industry.
Stories Behind the Numbers: EDF Climate Corps Fellows

Robert Bartolucci, (C23) San Francisco
EDF Climate Corps Fellow

Robert Bartolucci performed a portfolio-wide LED retrofit investment analysis for Guess stores. Bartolucci created a database of information for each store in scope, consisting of electricity use and cost, operational hours, lighting fixture schedules, location-based emissions, and utility-specific rebates.

He then prioritized a list of the most viable retrofit projects. The LED retrofits could save Guess 9.1 million kilowatt hours of annual electricity use, with the potential to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 4,189 metric tons annually.

These findings equip Guess to make better investments towards a more sustainable future.

Robert Bartolucci is a current MBA Sustainable Management student in San Francisco.

Piper Kujac, (C11) San Francisco
EDF Climate Corps Fellow

At the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), Piper Kujac and Rodney Dominique were tasked with developing projects to improve energy efficiency and decrease operating costs. They modeled the energy intensity of NYCHA housing developments, enabling NYCHA to compare buildings on benchmarks such as square footage, age and number of buildings. They wrote a strategic plan to engage NYCHA residents in energy conservation, as well as an estimate of the savings the plan will generate.

They analyzed proposed retrofits to NYCHA’s exterior grounds lighting and outdoor sidewalk canopies. Grounds lighting would be outfitted with auto-shut off timers and canopy lighting would be replaced with more efficient equipment. Finally, they developed power purchase agreements for five proposed fuel cell power generation and 10 proposed combined heat and power on-site pilot projects.

Together, Dominique and Kujac’s energy efficiency projects could save the NYCHA over $25 million, as well as 143 million kilowatt hours of electricity and 45,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Piper Kujac received her MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2012.

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Stories Behind the Numbers: REV Sustainability Circles

Julien Gervreau, (C13) San Francisco
Director of Sustainability, Jackson Family Wines

Jackson Family Wines was founded with an emphasis on land stewardship. As the company grew to be a global brand and became known as America’s #1 selling Chardonnay, they continue to blaze the trail in triple bottom line sustainable wine while raising the bar for global wine industry standards. Presidio Graduate School alumnus, Julien Gervreau, spearheads these efforts as the Director of Sustainability. Julien guides their initiatives in renewable energy, land and resource conservation, technology innovation, repurposing materials, employee and farmer engagement, and cultivating future leaders.

Jackson Family Wines has implemented numerous pioneering projects including installation of one of Tesla’s largest solar energy storage sites, innovative water recycling programs, and construction of the world’s first LEED certified winery.

Priorities for their organization include educating and mentoring future leaders, as well as building strong partnerships to advance the field and create a thriving sustainable wine community. They sponsored a winery training facility at the University of California at Davis, host EDF Climate Corps Fellows biannually, and in 2017, partnered with Net Impact to design a national business competition to engage business students in their sustainability marketing.

Julien Gervreau received his MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2012.

PGS Alumni Careers Snapshot

PGS alumni can be found in almost every sector of business. The professional diversity mirrors the intersectional curriculum which focuses on systems thinking, impacting across a broad scale of environment, economy, and society.

Presidio Graduate School Alumni Careers

Data collected 12/1/17 from PGS Alumni LinkedIn profile summaries.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS DATA

https://www.presidio.edu/consumer-information/

Data collected 12/1/17 from PGS Alumni LinkedIn profile summaries.
Natasha Lamb, (C4) Seattle
Director of Equity Research & Shareholder Engagement
Arjuna Capital

Natasha Lamb was just named one of 2017’s 50 most influential people by Bloomberg Business.

“I ask companies to address unmitigated risks or opportunities not only because it is the right thing to do, but because there is a business case to do so. There is no question I learned that skill during my time at [what was then] BGI, now Presidio Graduate School.”

Natasha leads efforts to shed light on environmental and social impact issues at corporations that could factor into her clients' investment decisions. Five years ago, she was pressing natural gas companies to release their data on methane leakage. Three years ago, she got ExxonMobil to release their first report on climate change and carbon asset risk. Now she is focused on the gender pay gap. By filing shareholder resolutions, her team has compelled companies to commit to equal pay transparency.

Natasha Lamb received her MBA from BGI in 2007.
Amanda Joy Ravenhill, (C10) San Francisco
Executive Director, Buckminster Fuller Institute

Amanda met author and activist Paul Hawken at PGS while he was teaching the Principles of Sustainable Management course. Together with two classes of students, Amanda and Paul conducted the formative research for a comprehensive guide illustrating the impact on greenhouse gas emissions, projected cost estimates, and scope of the strategy.


Today, Amanda continues this work as Executive Director of Buckminster Fuller Institute. The institute awards grants to cutting-edge thinkers who propose systemic solutions to address complex global problems.

Amanda Ravenhill received her MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2011.
PGS Impact: Alumni Spotlight

David Groves, (C13) San Francisco
Senior Policy Advisor, (Obama) White House

David Groves was appointed in February 2016 to serve as Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

He led the Obama White House efforts to increase private capital investment in America’s natural resources, working on issues ranging from forest, wetland, and endangered species habitat restoration to incentivizing conservation practices in the agricultural sector to increasing energy and water efficiency in residential buildings. A great video interview with David can be found on our blog and YouTube channel.

David received his MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2012.
PGS Impact: Alumni Spotlight

Desiree Williams, (C7) Seattle
Equity Specialist, City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Desiree Williams-Rajee is the Equity Specialist for the City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. As the Equity Specialist, Desiree led an effort to authentically engage organizations that serve communities of color and low-income populations through a formal learning partnership.

She and community members actively collaborated to create a climate plan that reduces carbon emissions, prepares for climate impacts, and delivers more equitable outcomes for Portland’s underserved and underrepresented communities.

In recognition of these efforts, Desiree was honored in July 2016 as a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity. She received her MBA from BGI in 2011.
PGS Impact: Alumni Spotlight

Nils Moe, (C3) San Francisco
Managing Director, Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN)

Nils is the Managing Director of the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN). In this role, Nils oversees this rapidly evolving North American network of over 145 cities representing more than 80 million people.

USDN fosters collaboration on local innovations for sustainability and supports its members who are on the front lines of addressing the issues surrounding climate change, disaster preparedness and social sustainability. This past year, USDN also launched the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance – a collaboration of vanguard international cities committed to achieving aggressive long-term carbon reduction goals.

Previously, Nils was the Mayor’s Senior Aide and Sustainability Advisor for the City of Berkeley and was one of the founding team members responsible for creating Berkeley’s innovative solar financing program, which has since become a national model of renewable energy financing. Last but not least, Nils co-taught EMCA (Effective Management, Communication & Action) with Carl Schneebeck at PGS for nine years.

Nils Moe received his MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2008.
PGS Entrepreneurs in Action

Audra (Jung) Willing (C13) & Jamee Herbert (C13)
Seattle
Co-Founders, BridgeCare Finance

BridgeCare Finance provides educational financing for quality childcare. They help families bridge the gap for pre-kindergarten education and relieve the pressure on parents by offering financing that lowers their monthly payments over a longer period of time.

Interest rates may vary depending on credit history but are substantially less than the credit card debt commonly used to finance childcare. They enable greater choice to set up families and their children for future success.

Both Audra and Jamee credit PGS for helping them find this balance between purpose and profit.

Audra (Jung) Willing and Jamee Herbert both received their MBA from Pinchot University in 2016.
PGS Entrepreneurs in Action

Daniel Kurzrock, (C21) San Francisco
Co-Founder & CEO, ReGrained

ReGrained harvests grain from urban craft breweries and upcycles it into delicious, nutritious, and sustainable snacks. Through patent-pending technology Dan and his partner developed with the USDA, they turn the leftover grain into a nutrient-dense flour that they use to make super grain bars. In addition to upcycling food waste, ReGrained has designed their product with closed loop principles, including compostable packaging.

They’ve received numerous awards and publications recently, including Forbes 30 Under 30, Fortune Magazine, Uproxx, fast Company and Conscious Company Magazine, and were featured in a TEDx Talk.
Sam co-founded Green Canopy Homes as a means to drive positive impact for a better future. Sam hopes to shift the way we think about business, “Why you do what you do is so much more important than what you do.”

Green Canopy Homes intends to be a catalyst for the sustainable construction movement, with plans to build 60 net zero residential units in the next 2-3 years in the Pacific Northwest. The shift to net zero energy residential construction is an intentional strategy to push the industry towards sustainable construction and design.

Not only is Green Canopy Homes changing the way houses are designed and used, they have plans for making net zero homes available to people of various income levels. As a certified B Corps, Green Canopy Homes serves to, “inspire resource efficiency in residential markets” in a way that moves beyond operating for the sake of profit extraction alone, to one that supports environment and community.

Sam Lai received his MBA from Presidio Graduate School Seattle in 2017.
Stacy Flynn, (C10) Seattle
CEO & Founder, Evrnu

Evrnu uses a patented recycling technology to convert discarded consumer waste into renewable fiber.

In 2016, Evrnu partnered with Levi Strauss & Co. (LS&Co.) to produce the world’s first jeans made from post-consumer cotton garment waste. The innovative textile recycling process uses 98% less water than a virgin cotton production process and reduces CO2 emissions by 90% compared to polyester production.

Each year in the US alone, 13.1 million tons of textile waste is created and of this 11 million tons ends up in landfills. Until now, there hasn’t been a viable solution that effectively transforms old clothes into new without compromising quality or strength. Stacy started working to solve this problem while earning her MBA. Her efforts ultimately resulted in the Evrnu technology, which can turn discarded cotton clothing into a new cotton-like fiber, creating endless possibilities of garment creations.

Stacy Flynn received her MBA from Bainbridge Graduate Institute in 2014.

PGS Entrepreneurs in Action

Sandra Kwak, (C7) San Francisco
CEO, 10Power

Sandra’s most recent accomplishment is founding 10Power, a social venture addressing international development at the local level. The business model is project management and financing for renewable energy projects in underserved communities internationally.

Beginning with solar PV projects for businesses, clinics, and schools in Haiti, 10Power is creating a blueprint for sustainable development that can scale impact across the globe. An essential part of their social impact is training and employing local women. Sandra built a strong team of PGS Alumni and other experts in their field to execute their ambitious global strategy.

Sandra Kwak received her MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2009. Her TEDx talk on Fourth World Nation Building can be viewed here.
PGS Entrepreneurs in Action

Nick Aster, (C2) San Francisco
Founder, Triple Pundit

Nick Aster is a new media architect and the founder of TriplePundit.com.

In June 2017 3BL Media Acquired TriplePundit. TriplePundit.com has grown to become one of the web’s leading sources of news and ideas on how business can be used to make the world a better place.

Prior to TriplePundit Nick worked for Mother Jones magazine, successfully re-launching the magazine’s online presence. He worked for TreeHugger.com, managing the technical side of the publication for three years and has also been an active consultant for individuals and companies entering the world of micro-publishing. He earned his stripes working for Gawker Media and Moreover Technologies in the early days of blogging.

Nick Aster received his MBA from Presidio Graduate School in 2006.
Thanks for reading our Alumni Impacts Report.

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Ready to make your own impact?  
Contact admissions@presidio.edu to find out more  
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Evrnu  
Green Canopy Homes  
Guess Stores  
Jackson Family Wines  
New York City Housing Authority  
ReGrained  
Triple Pundit  
Urban Sustainability Directors Network  
White House (Obama)

Do you have alumni impact data to add, or a story to share with our community?  
We want to hear from you! Please contact pr@presidio.edu.