

UCF 2016 CGIU Project Summaries

Individual Projects:

●Sara Ard – junior, political science – *H.O.P.E.*

Sara would like to create a program and fund for survivors of Human Trafficking. The fund and program will enable them to gain an education, vocational opportunities aside. My goal is to create a fund that will be geared towards survivors gaining an education. I have a group of professors, deans, and organizations outside of the University willing to work together to form a committee for the fund. The committee will help decide upon the application process and the overall program. Before a survivor can complete the application they must be in a stable stage of their healing process. We will need a special force that are comprised of professors, deans, administration, UCF Police, and Victim Services that are willing to enforce a special program, that enables top safety procedures for the individuals that apply as this new uncharted territory can be of danger to survivors.

●Milka Derisma – senior, business administration – *BYG Shift*

Milka Derisma's CGI U Commitment to Action is to provide a college readiness program for community college students transferring to a university. The program consist of three parts: the website, which is currently running, an app so the student can customize the information based on their major of choice, and presentation at local community colleges by Milka on how to successfully transfer to a university. Hopefully these three component will help transfer student, excel at their new institution rather than be placed on academic probation.

●Joseph Ehrli – junior, interdisciplinary studies – *No Fear According to Joe*

No Fear According to Joe is a start-up company designed to provide resources in the form of self authored books in Haitian Creole to children with disabilities at the only inclusive orphanage in Haiti. These books will also be showcased through educational leadership conferences in Port au Prince throughout the year of 2016 to teachers and schools and orphanages in Haiti in the hopes of promoting the inclusion of students with disabilities and student leadership in Haiti.

●Casey Field – senior, finance – *The SCARF Society*

The SCARF Society is a women's empowerment organization that aims to connect women through a unique scarf exchange. Every women will bring a scarf, have the opportunity to hear the stories of prominent women in their community, and then exchange scarves and social change ideas. By providing women a platform to share their stories and exchange insight with others through a scarf trade, the Scarf Society encourages women to be grateful of those that spoke into their lives and empowers them to speak into the lives of other women and young girls by encouraging action, creativity, belonging, and joy.

●Hannah Hollinger – junior, environmental science – *Compost Cycling*

In an effort to reach campus climate neutrality, Hannah along with the student-led organization, I.D.E.A.S for UCF, holds a CGI U Commitment to Action in developing an organic waste composting effort using bicycle-powered collection. The futuristic vision of this project scales to utilize all organic food waste produced in campus dining halls and consistently produce enough compost to satisfy the demand

for, educate the community on sustainable agricultural methods/healthy and organic food, and ultimately encourage a zero-waste campus.

● **Caroline Julian – freshman, biology – *A Positive Cycle for Ethiopia***

A Positive Cycle for Ethiopia is a multistep initiative provide programs to local schools that will teach girls practical healthcare skills, including how to make reusable cotton pads. Part of these students' days will be then used to, with donated materials, produce these pads sold in a similar model to that of the PuraVida bracelet company ("The Pura Vida Story | Pura Vida Bracelets"). Funds raised would be used to fund the additions of better access to running water, soap and hand sanitizer, proper disposal methods, and further educational projects, as well as the eventual expansion of the program.

● **Catherine Ninah – junior, industrial engineering – *Food, Energy, and Water Nexus as an Art***

Catherine Ninah conducts environmental engineering research on the Food, Energy, and Water (FEW) Interaction to model and evaluate waste pathways in order to reduce the ecological footprint. These evaluations consider populations across the world and the amount of food wasted by each. She will begin to research the sustainable infrastructure of the food waste system in universities across the world. To provide public awareness on FEW Nexus, Ninah will work with art classes at local universities to create art pieces demonstrating findings and results in addition to setting up FEW days with relevant activities in museums and science centers.

● **Roseberline Porcenat – senior, interdisciplinary studies – *Healthy Hearts for Haiti***

Rose-Berline Porcenat will be focusing on the Public Health in Haiti. The second leading cause of death in Haiti is cardiovascular disease. This proposal will monitor the health of 50 individuals over a period of 3 months. The goal is to develop a health education curriculum to inform individuals about cardiovascular disease and its modifiable risk factors. Rose-Berline and her team will screen these individuals and provide them with their metabolic results, and create an action plan with each to develop ways of improving their numbers and reducing their risk for cardiovascular disease.

Group Projects:

Hearts for the Homeless Orlando

- Andrew Aboujaoude – sophomore, biomedicine
- Alexis Gheri – junior, biomedicine
- Jennifer Carvel – sophomore, biomedicine

Hearts for the Homeless Orlando seeks to improve the availability of healthcare for the homeless community in Orlando, Florida, by providing free health screenings that will detect hypertension, one of the deadliest diseases of the homeless demographic. By operating with the weekly Straight Street Orlando Food Share, these health screenings will be more accessible and thus, more significant to the homeless population. This initiative will furthermore partner with the Shepherd's Hope Health Clinic to ensure free treatment for at-risk homeless individuals.

CO2 U

- Zachary Good – freshman, business administration
- Jacqueline Meyer – junior, environmental science
- Chad Maycumber – freshman, computer science

To create an interactive interface for Apple/Google users that tracks daily carbon emissions by the software determining whether you are walking, biking, driving, or taking public transportation. The interface will tell you based on these activities how much CO₂ is being released into the atmosphere based on that activity. It would also show you the damage you are causing and relate it to how it affects things they are aware about in the environment. The app/interface would also track energy consumption in everyday life and it would give tips on how to reduce both your carbon emissions and energy usage.

Bring Science and Discovery to Bithlo

- Christopher Yanick – sophomore, biomedicine
- Hollis Dahn – senior, biology
- Allie Vaknin – sophomore, sociology

The Mad Scientists Research Society is making a commitment to improve science education and involve students in invigorating STEM research at Orange County Academy, a non-profit school operating in the impoverished community of Bithlo. This school lacks qualified STEM teachers and educational materials due to poor funding, and many students consider pursuing higher education an improbable endeavor. To increase academic confidence and interest in higher education, the Mad Scientists Research Society will lead multidisciplinary STEM activities to teach students research skills that they will utilize to complete a guided research project and present at their first community science fair.