Green Events Consulting

2011-12 Consultant Application Information

**Green Events Consulting**

Green Events Consulting (GEC) is a program under the Associated Students of Stanford University (ASSU) Student Service Division that aims to promote sustainable practices on campus and to encourage VSOs (voluntary student organizations, or student groups) to make their events as green as possible. The objective is not only to tangibly increase the number of campus events that are executed in an environmentally sustainable manner, but also to actively engage a diversity of student organizations in the decision-making process, thereby creating an informed base of active students who understand the complexities of “sustainability in practice” and can readily utilize that knowledge.  This program will recruit VSOs interested in hosting green events and will assign each VSO a team of Green Events Consultants, who will give the VSO step-by-step guidance through the event-planning process.

**Responsibilities as a Consultant**

A key component of this program’s effectiveness is the consultants. Teams of 2-3 consultants and 1 project leader will help VSOs tackle the four big categories of event-planning: waste, purchasing, food, and advertising. Additional categories outside this scope may also be addressed. Consultants will check-in with student groups based on a timeline; these scheduled meetings prior to the event will give consultants and VSOs time to discuss waste, purchasing, food, and marketing decisions, as well as funding. Consultants will help groups communicate with campus and off-campus resources and contacts and will help put groups in touch with sustainable options, like organic food caterers. Consultants will advise their respective VSO throughout the event planning process, attend the specified event to provide support, and provide feedback and verification of compliance following the event’s completion. Each project team will be responsible for 2-3 student groups participating in the GEC program.

Consultants will go through a brief training course during fall quarter that will help them approach VSOs and that will prepare them for discretionary dilemmas they may encounter when consulting and for which they will need to provide groups guidance. For example, if a VSO is debating whether or not to buy organic or local produce, the consultant will need to help the group understand the trade-offs in that situation so that the VSO can make a well-informed decision. Beginning winter quarter, consultants will begin working on real cases with their project teams. GEC’s training curriculum will focus on teaching consultants both foundational knowledge in sustainability as well as communication and consulting skills.

**Time Commitment**

The required **retreat** for GEC will take place **Saturday October 13**, time and location TBD. Training will occur in the form of weekly workshops, and **these workshops will be every Tuesday from 8 to 9 PM in Old Union, beginning October 9.**  The retreat and training workshops are mandatory, and all students selected to be GEC Consultants are required to attend and are expected to be aware of the time commitment of this position. Beginning winter quarter, GEC Consultants will spend 5+ hours per week working with their project teams on real VSO events.

**Application**

If you would like to promote sustainable practices on campus, please take Green Events Consulting into consideration and complete the application below. Applications are due to stanfordgreenevents@gmail.com **by 11:59PM on Friday, October 5th.** You will be notified regarding the status of your application on **Sunday, October 7th**.

2011-12 GEC Consultant Application

due Wednesday, October 12, at 11:59 PM to stanfordgreenevents@gmail.com

Name:

Year:

Major:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Dorm/Room Number:

Please answer each question (or each part of a question) in no more than 250 words.

1. What experience do you have with sustainability and green decision-making? Why are you interested in this position?

2. Are you familiar with ASSU and campus procedures and legislation?

3. Scenarios -- There are no right answers to the following scenarios; we just want to get a sense of how you would approach situations like these:

a. A student group that you are consulting is planning a campus-wide event but has little to no
 knowledge about recycling. How would you begin advising this group? Where would you start?

b. Members of the VSO student group you are consulting are disagreeing over whether or not to use paperless advertising. How do you help them reach a decision, and how do you do this without
deepening the conflict that has risen within the group?

4. What are your time commitments for this school year?

5. Are you free Tuesday nights from 8-9PM, and the morning of 10/13?

**Thank you for your interest in Green Events Consulting!**