

230811 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Sarah Torres, Eva Kercmar, Kate Malecek, Manisha Kapasiawala, Ben Ben, Tasha Cammidge, Honami Tanaka, Vijaya Kumar, Marina Lecoeuche

Pizza from [Sage Plant-Based Bistro](#) for this Friday's meeting! In the RSVPs, folks indicated their preferred pizza(s) for us to place for the group on Friday – we ordered multiple pizzas and shared them along with a homemade salad.

Introductions ...

Million Advocates for Sustainable Science Petition

- International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) along with My Green Lab are petitioning to change funding granting agency policy to promote sustainable research
- By signing the letter you can help transform how science funding organizations set expectations for efficiency, resiliency, and sustainability in the way scientific research is conducted
- KM: suggested we could promote this in our newsletters, and post posters, could promote over Earth Month

Green Labs Monthly Tip:

- Recycle printer ink and toner cartridges
 - o <https://www.officedepot.com/l/services/ink-and-toner-cartridge-recycling>
 - o <https://www.hp.com/us-en/hp-information/recycling/ink-toner.html>
- Styrofoam takeback programs from NEB and Sigma-Aldrich
- Recycle Corning, Falcon, Axygen product packaging (<https://corning.mailthisback.com/>)
- Recycle e-waste and batteries through Caltech's e-waste program

Updates!

- No new Certified Green Labs this month
 - o BUT if you want to, please get CERTIFIED TODAY! To get certified, finish the easy, 30-minute [Green Labs Certification](#) and submit it to sustainability@caltech.edu.
- -70°C/-80°C Comparison Pilot
 - o From Lightning Event - Manisha Kapasiawala
 - Collect samples from several interested labs
 - Determine a robust way to compare samples
 - Store in both a -70°C and a -80°C and compare over multiple years
 - Gradinaru lab has a -70°C?
 - From last meeting
 - JL: he raised this idea with David Warren at the BBE event, we could present the data to the community to convince them with data, using machines with similar ages and same location
 - KM: Jesse Flores may have ability to look at tracking to account for blips in temperature
 - NS: Maz lab would be interested in supplying samples

- JL: could use sterlings in Freezer Farm (TC, JL, and NS offer their -80s)
- JL/KM: could keep samples in -20 for a control, use a TX/TL control, do protein, DNA etc, every 6 months take a sample and test it, and just extrapolate data from there
- We moved on to add to the Drive document
 - Testing
 - Need controls of things that will fail
 - Ask about timing for failure protection
 - Schedule testing schedule for samples (some once a month for 6 months, once in 6 months, and once on year) depending on sample type
 - Include results for 6 months tests in 2024 second quarter newsletter
 - Possibly work into a publication for lab managers or something, help convince PIs, but political
 - Series of magnets or posters for advertisement
 - Make a figure for cost savings on website
 - Ben Bekey found resources online that he will share with group
 - (TC thinks it was this)
 - TC will share resources to group and ask that folks continue to plan out the project so it can be underway by August?

Lab	Samples	Timeline	Confirmation Tests
Elowitz	Protein (stored at -80)		Binding on reporter cell lines
Elowitz	Glycerol stocks (perhaps several samples for freeze-thaw)		Plate same volume from same prep for each condition
Elowitz	Cell lines (slow freeze) with replicates (4 for each condition)		Thaw and count viability
Murray	Cell lysate		TX/TL assay
Murray	DNA		TX/TL assay
Sternberg	Worms samples		
Mazmanian	Fecal samples		Sequenece
Prober Lab	Competent cells (perhaps several samples for freeze-thaw controls, do one tube no	One tube every 6 month for 6 months and then after 6 more months,	Plate on LB and count, could transform

	thaws for 6 months, one tube thaw every month for 6 months)	one tube at 6 months and one year only, one tube at one year only	
Karethikeyan	Metabolites? DNA/RNA, soil samples, environmental samples? Kept at -70		
Beacon	Kept at -70, different brand than Sterlings		

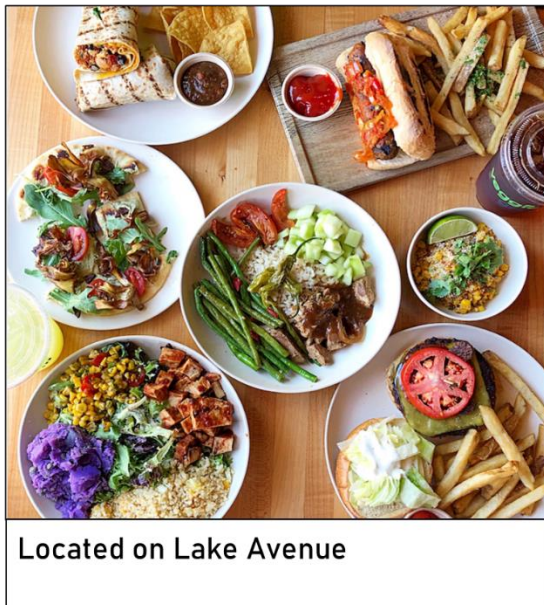
- Lomi Composter project update
 - o 90 gallons (340 L) of food waste turned into 37 gallons (140 L) of compost!
 - Third drop off this week
 - New signage posted last month
 - o Bjorkman Lab joining!
 - o Vera Beilinson in Alles/Kerkhoff joining!
 - o Chen
 - Lomi moved nearer garbage can on 3rd floor
 - Ordering table 2nd floor to move closer to garbage can?
 - HT: still running it at least 1x per day, so maybe hold off on the table for now, TC agrees
 - TC provided another bin for 2nd floor since it goes more quickly than other floors
 - o Competition?
- Pipette Tip Box recycling project
 - o USA Scientific
 - 159 gallons (600+ Liters) of plastic!
 - Also looking at other vendors to see if they will accept the flexible plastics
 - Need to separate out clear and rigid plastics?
 - o Genesee wants to have one also! Putting together signage and bins for them soon!
- Styrofoam Recycling Pilot
 - o No updates
 - o Sonita bringing our proposal to their leadership to see if we can use the stockroom for drop-off of Styrofoam
 - o Also looking into aggregating order function through TM with TF and purchasing
 - o Also found a vendor to pick up the Styrofoam, just need Caltech to approve a place to store it, hopefully hear something about this soon (from DW)
- Grenova Pilot update
 - o KM: looking into funding for this project and has talked with Pamela Bjorkman who is excited about this project, will wait to see
 - o Planning the writeup for additional/alternative RSI funding soon
- Newsletter in July
 - o Pilot program

- Update on Lomi with updated language
- Update on pipette box recycling program
- Resources including stickers and recycling signage
- Events
 - WiBBE event in Fall?
 - Beach cleanup?
 - Pilot program Lightning Talks Event in November?
 - Don't think we will do since no one has submitted a proposal yet
 - Green Labs Certification push for December (Holiday par-tay for certified labs)?
 - OR should we make it a general call for certification for the end of the year , and have the push be centered around Earth Day in April with signage going up in January
 - Lab Cleanup Event
 - When do we want to hold this?
 - DO we want to hold this?
 - KM: one week might not be long enough, may want to do over 1 month instead
 - ST: two weeks might be long enough?
 - MK: target lab managers, as they will need to lead
 - TC will email lab managers to see if there is interest in participating in this, since they will likely need to be the leaders on this project!
 - Every lab RSVPs by Sept 18 (Oct 23)
 - Made a list of chores for labs to use
 - Resources available like magnets for freezer cleanout or inventory google sheets
 - EHS and Biosafety can help design it and participate where they can
 - BBE could provide garbage bins outside each building
 - BBE could have extra -20s etc for freezer defrosts
 - Each participating lab will provide pictures of their cleanup by midnight Sept. 26 (Oct 31) to be eligible for lunch on Sept. 27 (Nov 1)
 - Prizes will be given for biggest before and after difference, and for the "weirdest thing found"
 - Labs can also submit the "weirdest thing found" pictures for a prize
 - Sponsors for the event? USA Sci?
 - Lunch will be pizza (all vegetarian options!)
- Samples:
 - Would like to volunteer a lab to do a writeup... any takers?
 - Polycarbin tips
 - Biobased tubes from Eppendorf
 - Biodegradable gloves from Thermo
 - Do we want these in the stockroom?
 - Do people like them? Feedback?
 - ML: I can do this if you want?
 - TC will arrange for her to have access to these tips!

Restaurant Guide

- Each person/team could take a restaurant and finish the entry
 - o Sustainability of the food
 - o Sustainability food containers and utensils
 - o Other pertinent information (woman- or POC-owned, ethically sourced food)
 - o Ease of ordering (do they use Grubhub etc)
 - o Catering options for larger events
- Also want to write a blurb for the beginning, including how to run a sustainable event, what to look for in sustainable restaurants etc
- Can add your own restaurant or start filling out the coffee/breakfast Guide
- Divvied up work like thus:
 - o Lemonade: KM
 - o Urban Plates: ST
 - o Mendocino Farms: ML
 - o Sage Vegan Bistro: VK
 - o True Food Kitchen: MK
 - o Paper Rice: HT
 - o HomeState: KM
 - o Parkway Grill: EK

Example:



Veggie Grill is one of the largest 100% plant-based restaurants in the nation. Their plant-based mission came from the knowledge of inhumane methods used in factory farming in the meat and dairy industry. They aim to introduce more plant-based foods to the community and bring awareness about the health benefits of a plant-based diet.

Hours: [Here](#).

Sustainability of food containers and utensils: Option for no utensils, some compostable containers.

Ease of ordering: [Postmates](#), [Doordash](#), [Online](#), Phone (626-535-9561), curbside pickup.

Catering Options: [Here](#) (order at least 4 hours notice, minimum of \$125).

For next time

- Certification
 - o Takes ½ hour
 - o Very simple!
 - o See <https://greenlabs.caltech.edu> for the form
 - o Get a plaque!
 - o Green Labs will give you bins and signage for your lab!
- Photos!
- Work on Action Plan
- Slack?
- Anything Else?

Next Meeting September 8th 12pm-1:30pm Chen 240
Bring a friend and get a RocketBook!

 <h2 style="text-align: center;">OCTOBER 24-31</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">ANNUAL LAB CLEAN UP WEEK</h3> <p>Competition: OCTOBER 24-31 Lunch Party: November 1st Who: CALTECH LABS</p> <p>Participants will compete to clean their labs top to bottom by cleaning out freezers, organizing storage spaces, and taking inventory of lab supplies!</p> <p>Each participating lab will provide pictures of their cleanup by midnight October 31st. Prizes will be given for the biggest before and after difference, and for the "weirdest thing found".</p> <p><u>The day after the competition ends, Green Labs is inviting all participating labs to have a sustainable lunch on us!</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>RSVP your lab by October 23! All Labs are welcome!</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Or check our website for more information about this event or find Green Labs tips to make your lab more sustainable!</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Download the Certification Form today!</p> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">Sustainably printed on 100% recycled paper!</p>	 <h2 style="text-align: center;">SEPT. 19-26</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">ANNUAL LAB CLEAN UP WEEK</h3> <p>Competition: SEPTEMBER 19-26 Lunch Party: SEPTEMBER 27th Who: CALTECH LABS</p> <p>Participants will compete to clean their labs top to bottom by cleaning out freezers, organizing storage spaces, and taking inventory of lab supplies!</p> <p>Each participating lab will provide pictures of their cleanup by midnight September 26th. Prizes will be given for the biggest before and after difference, and for the "weirdest thing found".</p> <p><u>The day after the competition ends, Green Labs is inviting all participating labs to have a sustainable lunch on us!</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>RSVP your lab by Sept 18! All Labs are welcome!</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Or check our website for more information about this event or find Green Labs tips to make your lab more sustainable!</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Download the Certification Form today!</p> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">Sustainably printed on 100% recycled paper!</p>
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IS CHALLENGING YOU:
GREEN LABS
CERTIFY YOUR LAB
BEFORE FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 6TH!



If your lab is Green Labs Certified by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6TH, Green Labs is inviting YOUR LAB to have a **SPOOKY TREAT** and enter a fun **RAFFLE** at a top secret location only given to those most excellent and certified green labs.
Your lab will also get a Certified Green Labs Plaque!



Download the Certification Form today!
 Date: Top Secret
 Location: A secret only given upon certification
 All Certified Labs are welcome!

Start your Green Labs Certification today!



Or check our website for more information about this event or find Green Labs tips to make your lab more sustainable!

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NOV. 30TH
GREEN LABS CERTIFICATION CHALLENGE

Date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH
Who: CALTECH LABS

Certified labs will be rewarded with a Certified Green Labs Plaque, and access to exclusive events and swag (including free recycling bins and efficiency signage and stickers).

If your lab is Green Labs Certified by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, Green Labs is inviting your lab to have a tasty treat and enter a fun raffle at a top-secret location only given to those most excellent and certified green labs.



Download the Certification Form today!
 Date: Top Secret
 Location: A secret only given upon certification
 All Certified Labs are welcome!

Start your Green Labs Certification today!



Or check our website for more information about this event or find Green Labs tips to make your lab more sustainable!

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STYROFOAM RECYCLING GUIDE
 Follow EH&S Guidelines for biohazardous, radioactive, chemical, and electronic waste

ONLY CLEAN, WHITE #6 EPS FOAM




PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE:


TAPE


PACKING PEANUTS


FOAM INSERTS


STYROFOAM CUPS OR PLATES


PACKING LABELS


CARDBOARD OR INSULATION


ICE PACKS


 Check out the Green Labs website for more tips and tricks to make your lab more sustainable!


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