

## **Presidents' United to Solve Hunger**

### **Summary**

The Presidents' United to Solve Hunger (PUSH) program was developed by the Hunger Solutions Institute at Auburn University (of Alabama) and is co-sponsored by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the Association of Public and Land-grants Universities.

The UN's Secretary General has issued the Zero Hunger Challenge, where every man, woman, and child on earth has access to sufficient nutritious food. The Alliance to End Hunger engages diverse institutions (corporations, non-profit groups, universities, associations, individuals) to build public and political will to end hunger at home and abroad.

Individual universities have made significant contributions to food security, but never before have joined in collective action to share best practices in teaching, research, outreach, and student engagement to address food and nutrition security for everyone, everywhere.

### **Goals & Objectives – summary of Western's achievements to date**

1. Share information and best practices
  - Summary of initiatives at Western
  - First meeting of Ad Hoc working group (main campus/affiliate staff, faculty, student council representatives – meeting 4 times a year)
  - Posting initiative summary on Wellness or Student Experience webpage
2. Encourage multidisciplinary problem-solving
  - Bachelor of Foods and Nutrition – Brescia University College
  - Centre for Global Studies – Huron University College
    - Refer to current initiatives chart below for specific courses
  - CEL courses – Philosophy 2010F/G: Philosophy of Food
3. Engage faculties in implementing strategy to end hunger
  - Research by faculty members across disciplines
    - Refer to current initiatives chart below for project details
  - Faculty members partnering with Agri-Canada on research initiatives
    - Refer to current initiatives chart below for project details

4. Disseminate information to partners in business, government and civil society
  - Developing resources to post on website TBA
5. Empower students through awareness initiatives within and between campuses
  - Many student run initiatives on campus – focus is on a local scale
    - Refer to current initiatives chart below for details
  - World’s challenge challenge – focus is on larger/global issues

**Recommendations for Moving Forward - What it means for #WesternU**

- Establish official Western Ad Hoc committee on Hunger – with representatives from Faculty, Staff, Affiliate and USC – to meet 3-4 times per year and lead initiatives
- Develop an action plan for a Zero Hunger Campus
- Look at possibility of greater emphasis on university research on ending hunger
- Look for continued opportunities for collaboration between student affairs and academic programs to address local and global human sustainability
- Develop new opportunities to cooperate with other universities in North America and in developing nations
- Look at possibility of developing more CEL courses focusing on hunger related topics (Currently only one course that specifically focuses on the topic) – and developing more main-campus opportunities
- Increase accessibility and communication of hunger-related information/initiatives to campus and global community
- Develop more awareness initiatives within the student community – focus on global issues (many student initiatives focus on local community/student community)
- Develop more advocacy programs to increase awareness of global hunger issues

Western’s **current initiatives** that are aligned with the PUSH program:

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Nutritionist</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Free nutrition counseling is made available to all students registered at the University of Western

		Ontario, compliments of Hospitality Services. <a href="http://www.has.uwo.ca/hospitality/nutrition/nutrition_counselling.htm">http://www.has.uwo.ca/hospitality/nutrition/nutrition_counselling.htm</a>
<b>FRESH Program</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Food Resources & Education for Student Health (FRESH): peer nutrition education program with an aim to make Western the healthiest campus in Canada. Developed by graduate students enrolled in the Masters of Food and Nutritional Sciences program at Brescia, FRESH exists in partnership with Hospitality Services to engage students, through a variety of strategies, to improve the food and nutrition environment at Western. <a href="http://www.has.uwo.ca/hospitality/nutrition/fresh.htm">http://www.has.uwo.ca/hospitality/nutrition/fresh.htm</a>
<b>Dietician (USC)</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Two registered dietitians offer one on one counseling, group presentations, cooking classes, on and off campus. The USC covers all costs for Western undergraduate students. <a href="http://www.usc.uwo.ca/nutritionist/default.html">http://www.usc.uwo.ca/nutritionist/default.html</a>
<b>On Campus Food Bank</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	The USC Food Support Service is a completely anonymous food hamper distribution system. Food hampers can be requested through email and collected 24 hours a day. <a href="http://www.usc.uwo.ca/page.asp?id=50">http://www.usc.uwo.ca/page.asp?id=50</a>
<b>USC Food Support Services Food Drive</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	The Food Support Services team at the USC is looking for non-perishable food items to use for their food hamper drive. The Social Science Students' Council has a box in our office, SSC 1124, for any students that would like to donate to this amazing cause. <a href="http://ssscwestern.ca/food-support-services-food-drive/">http://ssscwestern.ca/food-support-services-food-drive/</a>
<b>Food Support Services</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Food Support Services is an on-campus food bank established to provide students with food security during their studies. The service is anonymous and free. <a href="https://twitter.com/fss_western">https://twitter.com/fss_western</a>
<b>Western's Hunger Games</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Food awareness event hosted by Food Support Services. <a href="https://twitter.com/hashtag/WesternsHungerGames?src=hash">https://twitter.com/hashtag/WesternsHungerGames?src=hash</a>

<b>Grocery Checkout</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	University grocer that also has online delivery system. <a href="https://www.grocerycheckout.com">https://www.grocerycheckout.com</a>
<b>Farmer's Market</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Increasing the accessibility of fresh, local foods on campus is a key priority for Hospitality Services and the Farmers' Market is just one way the department is achieving this goal. <a href="http://sustainability.uwo.ca/initiatives/eating_on_campus/eating_on_campus.html">http://sustainability.uwo.ca/initiatives/eating_on_campus/eating_on_campus.html</a>
<b>Food Support Service Coordinator</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Effectively run the food bank and educate on student hunger issues. <a href="http://www.usc.uwo.ca/government/Executive_Portfolio/VP_Internal.pdf">http://www.usc.uwo.ca/government/Executive_Portfolio/VP_Internal.pdf</a>
<b>Hospitality Services Food Donations</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Daily leftover food from each Hospitality Services outlet is donated to the Ark Aid Street Mission. This serves as one of the key sources of food for this organization.
<b>Year-End Food Drives</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Bins are left in lobbies of each residence during December and April Exams. Students are encouraged to leave any non-perishable items in these bins, which then get donated.
<b>Trick or Eat Program</b>	<b>Off-Campus Initiative</b>	Promote Meal Exchange's Trick or Eat program in residences. Students form teams and visit door to door on Halloween night requesting canned goods, which is donated to a local Food Bank.
<b>Western Cares Food Drive</b>	<b>Off-Campus Initiative</b>	The Business Cares Food Drive announced donations totalling 281,000lbs of food to help support those in need in our community. <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/faculty_staff/fooddrive">http://www.uwo.ca/faculty_staff/fooddrive</a>
<b>Business Cares Food Drive</b>	<b>Off-Campus Initiative</b>	Heading into its 14th campaign, Business Cares is hoping to eclipse the 259,870 pounds of food it raised last year for the London Food Bank. The three-week campaign has been able to increase its donations each year. <a href="http://communications.uwo.ca/media/releases/2013/November/business_cares_food_drive_to_kick_off_2013_campaign.html">http://communications.uwo.ca/media/releases/2013/November/business_cares_food_drive_to_kick_off_2013_campaign.html</a>
<b>Western Meal Exchange</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Meal Exchange empowers youth to take an active role in improving their local food system. <a href="http://mealexchange.com/western">http://mealexchange.com/western</a>
<b>Hungry for</b>	<b>On-Campus</b>	Hungry for Change is a club run by medical

<b>Change</b>	<b>Initiative</b>	students at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at UWO. Our main fundraising event is a gala, which involves a global health speaker, a night of discussion and entertainment, and a silent auction. The proceeds of this event will be going to Ghana Medical Help, Right to Play, and the Global Health Funding Committee at Schulich (which provides scholarships to students pursuing global health electives). <a href="http://www.uwomeds.com/hfc/">http://www.uwomeds.com/hfc/</a>
<b>World's Challenge Challenge</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Students will form diverse teams of three and think of a problem that the world is facing and present their solutions to a panel of judges. The first prize will be a \$1000 scholarship per team member to be used on an international learning opportunity (study abroad, service learning, exchange, or other experiences). <a href="http://international.uwo.ca/students/challenge.html">http://international.uwo.ca/students/challenge.html</a>
<b>Western Heads East</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	Establishing disease-fighting probiotic yoghurt programs in highly underserved areas of Sub-Saharan Africa with alarmingly high rates of HIV/AIDS infection. <a href="http://www.westernheadseast.ca">www.westernheadseast.ca</a>
<b>Borrowed Shoes Diversity Challenge</b>	<b>On-Campus Initiative</b>	A program aimed to promote awareness and acceptance of diversity through personal experiences. It is organized by the Leadership And Mentorship Program (LAMP) but is open to everyone and anyone interested in participating. <a href="http://news.westernu.ca/2012/01/campus-digest-jan-12/">http://news.westernu.ca/2012/01/campus-digest-jan-12/</a>
<b>London Food Bank</b>	<b>Off-Campus Initiative</b>	Helps to provide food for those in need. <a href="http://www.londonfoodbank.ca/">http://www.londonfoodbank.ca/</a>
<b>Water Research</b>	<b>Academic</b>	CEE International Development students work in Africa to help dig wells for agricultural use - <a href="http://www.eng.uwo.ca/international/around_the_world.html">http://www.eng.uwo.ca/international/around_the_world.html</a>
<b>Community Engaged Learning</b>	<b>Academic Programming</b>	Integrates service to the community with specific course curriculum. The reflection component is incorporated into the design of the course and can vary from journaling and essays to classroom discussion. The hands-on, practical experience in

		<p>the community allows students to gain a deeper understanding of course content as it applies to local and international contexts.</p> <p><a href="http://www.success.uwo.ca/experience/community_engaged_learning/index.html">http://www.success.uwo.ca/experience/community_engaged_learning/index.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.success.uwo.ca/experience/community_engaged_learning/curricular_course_credit/index.html">http://www.success.uwo.ca/experience/community_engaged_learning/curricular_course_credit/index.html</a></p>
<p><b>Centre for Global Studies (HC)</b></p>	<p><b>Academic Programming</b></p>	<p>An academic unit at Huron University College offering courses that aim to broaden and deepen knowledge of global issues. Many courses address the tensions between the discourses and practices of food security and food sovereignty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CGS 1022F/G Introduction to Globalization – agricultural production, Fair Trade agriculture and subsistence/self-sufficient agriculture</li> <li>• CGS 2002F/G Problems of Global Development – food sovereignty, globalization of land and food as commodities</li> <li>• CGS 2004F/G Critique of Capitalism – commoditization of agricultural products</li> <li>• CGS 3201F/G Think Global, Act Local – food production in relation to global/local dynamics</li> <li>• CGS 3203F/G Global Studies Participatory Project – protection and promotion of food sovereignty</li> <li>• CGS 3509F/G Indigenous Peoples and Development in Global Perspective – self-sufficient and land-based food production, food sovereignty</li> <li>• CGS 3514F/G Global Resistance Movements – study of the case of La Via Campesina</li> <li>• CGS 4010 F/G/ Poverty – students directly work with organizations, many of which focus on aspects of food security/sovereignty (food banks,</li> </ul>

		<p>community gardens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CGS 4016F/G Globalization – globalization of capitalist agriculture</li> </ul>
<b>Philosophy 2010F/G: Philosophy of Food</b>	<b>Academic Programming</b>	The Community Engaged Learning course aims to present certain philosophical reflections of food and give students a better understanding of the food system, and implications at both the individual and world levels.
<b>Bachelor of Foods and Nutrition</b>	<b>Academic Programming</b>	The Bachelor of Science (Foods and Nutrition) degree (formerly BSc Human Ecology) provides students with professional and service-oriented preparation through an interdisciplinary approach that combines courses in Foods and Nutrition, Human Ecology, sciences, business, and social sciences. <a href="http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg1473.html">http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg1473.html</a>
<b>Norm Huner</b>	<b>Research</b>	Professor and Canada Research Chair, Department of Biology. Greenhouse crop production. <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/biology/directory/faculty/huner.html">http://www.uwo.ca/biology/directory/faculty/huner.html</a>
<b>Tony Weis</b>	<b>Research</b>	Associate Professor, Department of Geography. Political ecology, focused on agriculture and rural development. <a href="http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/weis/">http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/weis/</a>
<b>Environmental Sciences Western Field Station</b>	<b>Research</b>	Used for inter/multidisciplinary research in Departments of Biology, Physics and Astronomy and Geology, along with researchers from Faculty of Engineering and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/esw/">http://www.uwo.ca/esw/</a>
<b>Southern Crop Protection and Food Research Centre</b>	<b>Research</b>	One of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's network of 19 research centres (standing agreement for student and faculty research programs). Research in areas of genomics, biotechnology and insect/plant diseases.
<b>Paul Charpentier</b>	<b>Research</b>	Associate Professor, Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering. Polymer films containing nanoparticles for greenhouse coverings.

		<a href="http://www.eng.uwo.ca/research/compendium/faculty/pc_harpentier.htm">http://www.eng.uwo.ca/research/compendium/faculty/pc_harpentier.htm</a>
<b>Biotron Experimental Climate Change Research Facility</b>	<b>Research</b>	World-unique controlled environment research facility; reconstructs entire mini ecosystems to understand interactions between organisms in air, soil, water. <a href="http://uwo.ca/sci/research/biotron/">http://uwo.ca/sci/research/biotron/</a>
<b>Stanton Farms</b>	<b>Research</b>	Researchers using farm as a demonstration project for farming and renewable energy.
<b>Persistence and Transport of Emerging Substances of Concern</b>	<b>Research</b>	In work conducted at ESW, led by Ed Topp from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the soil persistence and transport potential via surface runoff of numerous "Emerging Substances of Concern" (ESOCs) from biosolids-treated land is being determined in the context of evaluating the risk of exposure to adjacent water. <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/esw/field_research/esoc.html">http://www.uwo.ca/esw/field_research/esoc.html</a>
<b>Fibre Flax Program</b>	<b>Research</b>	Field trials are being conducted at ESW to test the performance of different varieties of fibre flax under the soil and climatic conditions of southwestern Ontario. <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/esw/field_research/fibre_flax.html">http://www.uwo.ca/esw/field_research/fibre_flax.html</a>
<b>Poverty Research Centre</b>	<b>Research</b>	Given the complexity of the issues associated with poverty the Centre will focus its research, knowledge management and communications efforts on three areas: precarious employment, food security and mental health and homelessness. <a href="http://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/media-and-communications/newsroom/poverty-research-centre-opens-in-london/">http://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/media-and-communications/newsroom/poverty-research-centre-opens-in-london/</a>
<b>Hanson Nyantakyi-Frimpong</b>	<b>Research</b>	Professor in department of Geography. Thesis: Hungry farmers: A political ecology of agriculture and food security in Northern Ghana <a href="http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/">http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/</a>
<b>Rachel Bezner-Kerr</b>	<b>Research</b>	Adjunct Research Professor in department of Geography. Globalization, agriculture and food; food security/food sovereignty; participatory research; sustainable agriculture; maternal and child



		nutrition; HIV/AIDS and food security; knowledge, science and participatory educational methods; Malawi; colonial history in southern Africa. <a href="http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/">http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/</a>
<b>David Sparling</b>	<b>Research</b>	Professor, Agri-Food Innovation & Regulation Chair. Business case studies of large, complex farms; non-crop and livestock revenue sources, multiple farm operations, ownership, value-chain activities. <a href="http://www.ivey.uwo.ca/faculty/directory/david-sparling/">http://www.ivey.uwo.ca/faculty/directory/david-sparling/</a>
<b>Isaac Luginaah</b>	<b>Research</b>	Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair, Department of Geography. Soils, Food and Health Communities project in Malawi. <a href="http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/luginaahi/">http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/luginaahi/</a>
<b>George Naklha</b>	<b>Research</b>	Project with GreenField Ethanol to increase efficiency of ethanol production from corn, and developing technology for 2nd generation ethanol plants from cellulosic materials to reduce demands on corn.
<b>ICFAR</b>	<b>Research</b>	Extraction of chemicals that can go into the food chain - <a href="http://www.icfar.ca/">http://www.icfar.ca/</a>
<b>RESTORE</b>	<b>Research</b>	Research Project - Ground remediation, which will help convert polluted land into food producing farms. – <a href="http://www.eng.uwo.ca/research/restore/">http://www.eng.uwo.ca/research/restore/</a>
<b>Water Research</b>	<b>Research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slobodan Simonovich's research to mitigate floods and protect farming land. - <a href="http://www.slobodansimonovic.com/">http://www.slobodansimonovic.com/</a></li> <li>• Andrew Binns work on river dynamics, which would help provide water for agricultural use. - <a href="http://www.eng.uwo.ca/people/abinns/">http://www.eng.uwo.ca/people/abinns/</a></li> <li>• Ernest Yanful's work for mobile water treatment units for Aboriginal water re-use, eventually into farming. - <a href="http://www.eng.uwo.ca/people/eyanful/">http://www.eng.uwo.ca/people/eyanful/</a></li> </ul>

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