

# IGNITE CHANGE. GO GREEN.

## Faculty Spotlight:

Donna Switzer, CHMM, CPEA, Project Manager for Environmental Resources Management and Adjunct Professor for Villanova College of Engineering

In this interview series we bring you inside the world of Villanova's faculty and explore how their work relates to creating a sustainable future. In this issue we hear from Donna Switzer, an adjunct professor in the College of Engineering.

### What is your academic background?

I started my academic career at American University with a BS in Marketing. Later I received my Masters in Environmental Science from Drexel University.

### How long have you been teaching at Villanova?

I started teaching at Villanova 3 years ago.

### In your own words, how would you define sustainability and why is it important to you?

To me, sustainability means: "enough for all, forever."

My involvement with sustainability comes from the industry perspective. Sustainability is important because it allows manufacturers and designers to focus on opportunities to create value for people, and reduce their impact on the environment. It requires manufacturers and designers to change their approach to problem solving, and to protectively seek methods to decrease negative outputs and increase positive ones.

### Have you been able to incorporate sustainability into your course work?

Yes! My course, CEE 7829 environmental engineering, looks to give engineers the tools to evaluate opportunities to reduce pollution, waste, and toxicity while creating products and services that add value or opportunity.



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## **If you could create any course, what would it be?**

I am fortunate enough to have been able to create a course, Villanova's "Environmental Compliance Systems" (CEE7520). This course introduces the major environmental, health & safety, and hazardous materials handling laws and regulations influencing industry. The course discusses techniques to enable compliance with the laws, and how taking a sustainable approach to design and manufacturing reduces a company's impact and regulatory burden. I throw in a lot of my own "war stories" and bring in other industry professionals to add to the discussion.

## **What do you do outside of teaching at Villanova?**

I am a project manager/consultant with Environmental Resources Management (ERM). I help manufacturers manage their environmental and health & safety risks. This includes applying for regulatory permits (air emissions, water discharge, etc), developing plans (such as emergency response plans), conducting compliance audits, developing sustainability and management systems programs, and evaluating operations for risk reduction opportunities. Right now I am helping a power company with the permit implications of converting from a coal-fired power plant to a natural gas-fired power plant.

## **How does your work with ERM address sustainability concerns?**

Through my experience and professional contacts, I can assist manufacturers and designers in reducing their environmental and health & safety impact.

## **What are your favorite outside the office activities?**

I love to be outdoors- hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, whitewater rafting, camping, boating, and riding motorcycles. I also have a goal to visit all the US National Parks.

If you have someone you would like to see on the **Faculty Spotlight**, please send their name to [liesel.schwarz@villanova.edu](mailto:liesel.schwarz@villanova.edu)





# HOLIDAY MARKETS

Open daily through Christmas Eve

## Made In Philly Holiday Market

Sun-Th: 11-7PM

Fri-Sat: 11-8PM

City Hall Courtyard



December 2-18

## University City Arts League: Craft Show

Mon-Fri: 5-8PM

Sat-Sun: 12-6PM

University City Arts League Gallery, 4226 Spruce St, Philly

December 4

## GreensGrow Farms Holiday Bazaar



10AM-4PM

Greensgrow Farms, 2501 E. Cumberland St, Philly

December 10

## South Philly Handmade Brigade

11AM-6PM

1241 Carpenter St, Philly

December 18

## Go West! Craft Fest

10AM-4PM

The Rotunda:

40th & Walnut Street, Philly







# GREEN CHRISTMAS

## SHOP FAIR

Opt for Fair Trade gifts this holiday. You will bring joy to the gift receiver and maker.



## TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES®

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Fair Trade Retailer Since 1946

We create opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to our markets through long-term, fair trading relationships.

Our mission is to build sustainable partnerships with artisans from around the world, by connecting them with customers through an online marketplace. We seek to empower women artisans to rise above poverty and support their families.

*the little market*



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We care about family. We're a family business that considers all of our artisan partners and customers as members of one big extended family. We're all on this planet together and when we work cooperatively we can create incredible change!

Enrou exists to invest in people. That's why every purchase you make through Enrou empowers someone to live a more meaningful life.





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## EVENTS

Thursday, December 8

### **Work Defending the Future: Sustainability Careers in The Trump Times**

How to Get a Purpose-Driven Job in Business, NGOs, or Government

12PM

Webinar

Log-in: [bluejeans.com/118656784](https://bluejeans.com/118656784)

Dial-on Only: 1.888.240.2560 Code: 118656784

Friday, January 6

### **Carbon Pricing in Higher Ed**

The workshop will examine different models for internal carbon pricing, including models adopted by Yale, Vassar and Swarthmore.

10:30AM-4:00PM

Contact [Liesel.Schwarz@villanova.edu](mailto:Liesel.Schwarz@villanova.edu) for discount pricing

## OPPORTUNITIES

### **Event Coordination Intern, Sustainable Business Network**

The Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN) seeks a part-time Event Coordination Intern to assist the Member Services Manager with managing a calendar of networking and education events, as well as SustainaBall, SBN's annual fundraising gala.

### **The GREEN Program: Summer Program in Peru**

Peru features a unique culture rooted in the ancient Inca empire, is ranked as a top global culinary destination, and is home to one of the 8 world wonders. Explore water and agriculture in Peru as we dive into culture and education like never before.

