The CSUMB Campus Transportation System: Analysis and Encouragement of Alternative Transportation Options

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Two classes involved

- Infrastructure Systems, spring
- Sustainability Systems, fall

Weekly readings and assignments, each addressing some aspect of our infrastructure, span many of the topics shown above. Weekly panels of regional experts provide a context for on-the-ground activities associated with each area discussed. This class involves a group-based project.

Define and describe a system.
- Give examples of systems in your everyday life.
- State and describe principles of system function.
- Model system dynamics.
- Complete a relevant project that involves systems modeling.

What is the Sustainable City Year Program?
A partnership between universities and government entities where multiple class projects across campus are developed based on one entity’s sustainability-related needs. While this is not a part of the CALL grant, both classes participated in both CALL and SCYP for both an on-campus and off-campus lab experience.

Schools across the country (currently approximately 30) and internationally follow this model. They are a part of the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network (EPIC-N).

What is the Campus as a Living Lab Program?
The Campus as a Living Lab Grant Program provides funds for teams of faculty and facilities staff to develop or redesign a course that tangentially explore opportunities for learning using the campus physical plant.

2015-2016 Campus Partnership:
CSUMB Campus Planning Department
Regional governing entity: The City of Salinas, Dept. of Public Works

City of Salinas SCYP Project:
Implications of the West Alisal “road diet” and how it affects regional stakeholders.

SCYP Program Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 Projects:
- “Attractiveness” of driving
- Speed of traffic
- Bike lane availability and its effect on number of bikers
- Safety of pedestrians
- Time to cross streets
- Effects of bus only lane
- Lighting, crosswalks, and sidewalk conditions
- Survey of local businesses and regional community college reaction to road diet.

What’s next?
EcoCounter bike counter selected by class and Campus Planning over the ZAP bike counter. It will be installed December, 2016.

The SCYP program continues and classes from across campus participate with the chosen city partner, including the two classes presented here.

Both classes involved a project and this demonstrate Campus as a Living Lab and Sustainable City Year Program become a part of the picture.

In 2015, the entire Systems class filled a city bus to capacity to visit the Salinas field site.

Both classes during the 2015-2016 academic year participated in both programs!

What the SCYP Program Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 Projects
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Parking and Driving
- How do commuters use parking lots?
- How are the most impacted utilized?
- Are students from a nearby residence hall using their cars to get around campus?
- Car counts (both via video and standard).

Biking
- Which bicycle counters would be the best for the campus to purchase?
- What would be the best location to place bicycle counters?
- What are campus perceptions of sustainable transportation and biking?
- Which policies and regulations would tend to discourage biking and encourage other forms of transportation?
- Where are the bike racks on campus and how fully used are they?
- During rush hours, how many pedestrians and bikers cross some busy intersections near campus?

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A new capstone class for Environmental Studies students is now underway which employs both CALL and SCYP-based projects each fall.

A survey of bike rack locations on the CSUMB campus

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The author and several leaders of the EPIC-N national program at the 2016 EPIC-N yearly conference at San Diego State University.