Our main goal as an organization is to provide educational opportunities and ways to interact with others that empower everyone to see the benefits of engaging in sustainability initiatives. We hope that the opportunities that are presented to students help them look at the world through a different lens and drive their motivation towards contributing to living in a more sustainable world that we share. It is important to recognize that sustainability is a term that really goes beyond the idea of solely protecting the environment, but balances all three pillars, being environmental, economic and social in a more equitable way. With this being said, as an organization we provide opportunities to connect all three pillars in the work that we do.

This semester really showed our resilience and provided creative opportunities for our Lewis community to connect with our educational programs. With the transition to remote learning, all spring events were canceled, postponed, or set up virtually.
Although this was unfortunate it was a pivoting point for us and we used this as an opportunity to provide our educational programs online. Earth Week went virtual—consisting of many activities to do from home and online. Although we were unable to be with our community partners physically during this time we were able to continue our support through very generous food and PPE donations from Lewis Dining. They have always been an integral Lewis partner for us, especially through this crisis. As we conclude the spring semester we would like to use this opportunity to discuss some of our educational programs and provide a reflective component from our current and former club members.

Events
Throughout the first couple of months on campus this semester we hosted a couple Weigh the Waste events. For those that are not familiar with our Weigh the Waste program, it is a series of events throughout the Lewis dining halls that emphasizes the importance of proper waste disposal and provides several educational components to assist in enhancing more sustainable behaviors. As we continue to educate the Lewis community, we hope to see less waste and more proper disposal. We also had Recycling week planned for after spring break. Although we were unable to host it on campus, we incorporated events into our social media posts. We created a hashtag #SustainableFlyer for the Lewis community to share their eco-friendly activities such as creating upcycled items with materials found at home.

Earth Week
Earth week was filled with fun, educational pieces on how to create a better earth. The week kicked off with a recycling demonstration conducted by the Director of Sustainability at Lewis, John Lerczak. In addition, Frank Voltattorni, a Lewis alumnus ’18 and AmeriCorps Vista explained tips on how to start a garden. To end the
encourages others to join: The club is “super educational but also really fun to do things with people that share the same interests as you while making an impact.” The time commitment depends on your schedule. It can be a couple hours a week or a couple hours a month. The sustainability club is very flexible, but the more time a member puts in towards sustainability initiatives the more they will get out of all the opportunities and experiences that are provided. Henrietta Eghan strives to create a better future for our generation and ones to come. To stay connected with current initiatives follow us on our social media pages listed below and for more on how to get involved contact John Lerczak at Jlerczak@lewisu.edu.

Members' Reflections

It was great to hear from club members on how the sustainability club has impacted them. Many have expressed their love for the Weigh the Waste events; Lindsay Melvin, class of ‘19, enjoyed the interaction among other students. Helping inform others is a crucial aspect of this event, and the club’s mission overall. Vicki Pappas explained how she “learned how to better ‘organize’ waste. I never realized what actually goes into which categories.” Other favorite events include the Pumpkin Pitch and the Fairmont Community Cleanup. Angela Kujawa, senior sociology major,