

By Linda Kogan

UCCS has some amazing students, faculty and staff that host documentary screenings, manage our trails on campus, give funds for sustainable projects, and encourage you to 'Espresso Yourself' and bring your own coffee mug. Each newsletter, we'd like to take the time to introduce you to one of UCCS' faces of sustainability through a little Q&A.

Linda Kogan: What is your exact position at UCCS?

Julie Weller: Event Coordinator with Event Services

LK: What brought you to UCCS and Colorado Springs?

JW: I decided I was going to move to Colorado this past January because of the lifestyle the area can provide. As someone who is extremely passionate about the environment, I have been in awe of Western landscape for years. I am also very passionate about sustainability and finding it within my job and the city I chose to move to was very important to me.

LK: What are you most excited about regarding your new position?

JW: I am so excited to be the Event Coordinator for all events occurring at the Ent Center for the Arts. This building is absolutely stunning, the equipment is state of the art, and my clients and co-workers are incredible to work with.

LK: How did sustainability factor into your decision or confirm your position acceptance at UCCS?

JW: The implementation of sustainability at UCCS was a huge factor of my interest in this position. From my initial research to my on-campus interview, I was beyond impressed with the efforts of the University. From banning plastic water bottle sales on campus, to composting paper towels in the bathroom, to seeing the three compartment waste bins in almost every room on campus- the more I learned about sustainability on campus, the more I knew this was the place for me!

LK: What is one thing you would like to accomplish with regard to sustainability in your work at UCCS?

JW: I am most excited about the roll I get to play in practicing sustainability within events. Events can be extremely wasteful and it's important for us to prevent that waste through proper waste management, reusable drink and food ware, re-using decorations, etc. The most exciting part about working at the Ent Center are all the new opportunities to practice sustainability that come with a new building and new types of events. I look forward to attending the Sustainability Committee meetings to see what we can do at the Ent Center and on Main Campus to increase our sustainability efforts within events, and to get clients excited about implementing sustainable events.

LK: Anything else you'd like to share?

JW: I would just like to share that I am SO excited to work the Office of Sustainability, and I want to thank you all for the work that you do to make a difference every day for the environment. Your passion is inspiring.