

Leadership in Sustainable Food and Fashion: A Summer Workshop

Monday, June 2, 2025

University Union Room 409, Diamond Eagle Suite



College of Merchandising, Hospitality & Tourism

Agenda

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| 8:00am | Registration & Continental Breakfast |
| 8:30am | Welcome & Program Overview
<i>Jiyoung Kim, Ph.D., Professor, CMHT Associate Dean, USDA Grant Principal Investigator</i> |
| 8:35am | Planting a Personal Mission, Vision and Purpose
<i>Erin Donovan, Ph.D., Founder Training Fuel Consultants</i>
<i>Students will explore the foundational elements of leadership by defining their personal mission, vision, and purpose.</i> |
| 9:30am | UNT Dining Services Extravaganza
<i>Peter Balabuch, Executive Director of UNT Dining Services</i>
<i>From seeding greens at the innovative hydroponic garden to crafting delicious ice cream at the renowned Clark Bakery, this session blends culinary education with hands-on experiences. Students will enjoy the vibrant energy of a college campus with a visit to the popular Bruce Dining Hall and gain a deeper understanding of sustainability and making conscious food choices.</i> |
| 1:15pm | Flower Power: Experimenting with Natural Dyes
<i>Shelley Christner, Founder of DIME Store & Creativity Instigator</i>
<i>Students will explore the 'color power' that plants and flowers have as they bundle dye Texas grown organic cotton socks with a variety of flowers foraged from Shelley's garden or organically grown flowers from dye gardens of other natural dyers. Students will leave with a wealth of knowledge about natural dye and a new pair of hand-dyed socks!</i> |

- 1:45pm** **Storefronts to Foster Community Sustainability**
Savannah Kurka, Artist & Workshop Coordinator DIME Store
Savannah will highlight how local communities can contribute to a more sustainable future using the local Denton DIME store retail space as a launchpad.
- 2:30pm** **Break**
- 2:45pm** **Social Sustainability: Food, Culture, and Big Dreams**
Tobi Smith, Hospitality Entrepreneur
Learn how to lead with purpose and passion when chasing your dreams and caring for your team. Students will enjoy the flavors of Nigeria with some product tasting.
- 3:30pm** **Student Spotlight: Exploring the Future of Sustainable Fashion**
Madeline Blackburn & Caroline Bowen, UNT Students
Undergraduate research fellows will share their research findings on recommence and zero waste textile initiatives.
- 3:45pm** **Cultivating Leadership for a Sustainable Future**
Erin Donovan, Ph.D., Founder Training Fuel Consultants
Using the themes of sustainability in farm, food, and fashion, they'll work in teams to tackle a real-world problem that demand creativity, collaboration, and leadership.
- 4:15pm** **Wrap Up & Dismiss**