We want to share your latest achievement, article, accomplishment, honor, or award. Please fill out this form and we will promote your news in the most appropriate way possible, social media, a website article, an alumni profile, and right here in Common Thread!

GSLC | FAST GROWING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COMPANY NAMES GSLC ALUMNUS AS SVP

PhD in Leadership and Change alumnus Dr. Moudy Elbayadi has been selected as Senior Vice President, Product and Technology of Brain Corp, a San Diego-based artificial intelligence company creating transformative core technology for the robotics industry. In this new role, Dr. Elbayadi will be responsible for driving the strategic roadmap and growth plans of the company’s technology portfolio.

Learn more about Dr. Elbayadi and his extensive work here.

GSLC | PHD IN LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE STUDENT AWARDED INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

PhD in Leadership and Change Student Shiphrah Mutungi Akandiinda has been awarded a 2019-20 International Fellowship by The American Association of University Women (AAUW) in pursuit of her doctoral studies.

The AAUW supports women leading innovative community projects that impact on women and girls globally. Shiphrah has been working in South Sudan as a Programme Director for Morning Star, a trauma awareness initiative aimed at addressing the impact of trauma resulting from decades of conflict.

She has extensive experience and skills in peace building, trauma programming, and gender innovations. Shiphrah, who is in her second year in the doctoral program will be better positioned to continue serving her region with the additional skills from the doctoral studies.
AUNE | STUDENT AWARDED COUNSELING FELLOWSHIP FROM NBCC AND AFFILIATES

Antioch master’s student Marissa Arrigoni has earned the prestigious NBCC Foundation Minority Fellowship Program Mental Health Counseling-Master’s (MFP-MHC-M). Marissa is a student at AUNE’s clinical mental health counseling program. As an NBCC MFP-MHC-M Fellow, Arrigoni will receive $10,000 in funding and training this year to support her education and facilitate her service to under-served minority populations.

Read the full article here.

AUNE | INCREASING MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE THROUGH FEDERAL GRANTS FOR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS

When students begin Antioch’s Clinical Psychology program, they might expect that they will work in schools, prisons, and hospitals (as neuropsychologists), in addition to mental health centers and private practice. A grant opportunity, however, aims to give them the option to work in primary care as a way to reach underserved populations that might not otherwise have access to mental health services.

Dr. Vincent Pignatiello is an Antioch clinical psychology graduate who returned to the program after completing his post-doctoral work, to serve as co-chair of the department.

By introducing students to a new setting and type of work “the grant gives students the flexibility to pursue their passions and interests working with primary integrated care,” said Pignatiello.

The grant fits into the original motivation of the program’s founding, to bring more psychologists into New Hampshire, back in 1982. Today it is the only PsyD program in the state that is fully accredited. Pignatiello added that primary care is needed in the community because New England has been affected by an opioid epidemic — the grant strengthens the health workforce and provides prevention and treatment in high-demand areas in New Hampshire and parts of Massachusetts.

Read the full article here.

AUSB | ANTIOCH STUDENTS AWARENESS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION (ASAPP) JOURNEY TOWARD A PLASTIC-FREE SANTA BARBARA

The students of the Transformation of Consciousness summer class, taught by Dr. John Galaska, Adjunct Faculty in the Undergraduate Studies program, embarked on a subtle activism project combining meditative techniques and direct action to raise awareness of plastic pollution. Each member of the class contributed to some aspect of this project, which included a website, an Instagram page, and posters that were distributed in the community. The goal of the project is to raise local awareness about plastic pollution and to educate and recommend better alternatives. View the laws and regulations about plastic pollution, research, alternate products to plastic, and a list of plastic-alternative products here.
AUS | FACULTY LEADS CANNABIS STUDIES

Participants worked with facilitator Michael Buchert, MPS, LMHC, ATR-BC (pictured, far right) to reflect and explore their implicit biases around cannabis at a recent Antioch Continuing Education event, *Cannabis Informed Treatment: Catching Up with Culture On the Couch*.

AUSB | UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES TEAM PARTICIPATES IN CLIMATE STRIKE AND MARCH

The AUSB Undergraduate Studies Program participated in the Climate Strike and March on Friday, Sept. 27, 2019. Members of the UGS Department Susan Gentile, UGS Program Coordinator; Dawn Murray, UGS Program Chair; and Kevin McDonald, UGS Student Advisor advocated for emission reductions and policies to prevent more carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. AUSB has an undergraduate concentration in Environmental Studies, which works to empower students to advocate for environmental justice and ecological preservation.

AULA | GREGORY YOUNG: ANTIOCH STUDENT’S GIS WORK USES MAPS TO TELL STORIES

When it comes to the climate crisis, Gregory Young wants to be part of the solution. These days, he’s on track to earn a MA in Urban Sustainability with a Certificate in Applied Spatial Analysis for Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Before he enrolled at Antioch University, Young worked as a case manager for at-risk and troubled youth. With a background in psychology, Young sees the intersection between climate change and inequality.

For the full story go [here](#).

AULA | ARTISTIC UPRISING 2019: AN INTERVIEW WITH CO-ORGANIZERS NOAH CHRISTENSEN AND BRIANNA FIELDS

AULA will host the 12th annual Artistic Uprising on November 15, 2019. Students, alumni, faculty, and friends will share their visual and artistic works of art with the community. All donations and proceeds from the sale of the art will help fund the Bridge Program which provides low-income adults with university-level education at no cost.

In honor of Artistic Uprising our Fall 2019 convocation, Antioch LA, is partnering with Tongva Nation land and people to support our theme of community. Co-organizers and students in the undergraduate studies program Noah Christensen and Brianna Fields spoke briefly about the development and their involvement with the event.

For the full interview go [here](#).
AUNE | WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE THE ONLY NAAEE-ACCREDITED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MASTER’S DEGREE IN THE NORTHEAST?

AUNE’s Masters of Science in Environmental Studies with an Environmental Education (EE) concentration consistently produces graduates in the EE field that excel in teaching about nature both inside and outside the classroom. Graduates of this program can be found across the globe in non-profits, zoos, aquaria, museums, national and state parks, public and schools, community and outdoor education programs, just to name a few. But our program can also boast about a unique distinction: Antioch’s is the only NAAEE-accredited environmental education program on the East Coast.

The North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) is the professional network for environmental educators. For over four decades, they have trained, supported, and connected educators across the US and around the world to share knowledge and resources and increase civic engagement through the environment. In recent years, NAAEE has begun a process of accreditation for higher education EE programs so that they can be recognized for their quality and document the successes of these programs to a wider audience.

Antioch’s EE program leadership team, Dr. Libby McCann and Dr. Jean Kayira began their self-audit of Antioch’s program in 2016 — 76 pages of documentation, analysis, and observation of their degree program. The process, while intense, gave them a unique chance to compare their performance and design with other leading EE programs and determine areas where they excelled and places where they needed to improve.

Read the full article here.

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AULA | DR. WENDY HARRIS: A BOLD NEW TREATMENT FOR ADDICTION

When most people think about addiction recovery, they often think of 12-step programs like Alcoholics Anonymous. However, addiction is a complex problem that requires more than a simple solution; one size cannot fit all with recovery.

Dr. Wendy Harris, teaching faculty at AULA and interim director of the Addiction and Recovery Specialization in the MA in Clinical Psychology Program, knows this better than most. After her own struggle with drugs and alcohol in her teens and twenties, she had a life-changing car accident. “I literally was hit by a cement mixer,” she says. “That’s when I decided to move to Los Angeles and ‘get spiritual’ and simplify my life.”

For the full story go here.

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AUSB | LENA MORÁN: WORKING TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

Lena Morán is a native of Mexico City, Mexico. She moved to Santa Barbara, California at the age of six, where she grew up. She went on to graduate from AUSB’s MA in Education, Leadership & Social Justice program. At present, Lena is the Director of Programming and Language Justice at Just Communities Central Coast, a company dedicated to advancing social justice in communities. While the social justice advocate graduated with her MAE in 2016, the road was anything but typical.

Read more about Lena’s story here.
**AUS | DR. DANA WATERS: AN ADVOCATE FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN WITH AUTISM**

Dr. Dana Waters, Associate Chair of the PSYD Program and core faculty, knew she wanted to make a difference for others when she began her graduate work at the Adler School of Professional Psychology, though she wasn’t sure how that would manifest. Not long after receiving her PsyD degree from Adler and moving to Seattle, Dr. Waters accepted a full-time position with the Washington School of Professional Psychology PsyD program; she taught there for nearly 12 years. During that time she also opened a small private practice where she specialized in treating adults with complex trauma, queer issues, adults on the autism spectrum, and chronic pain. In 2014, eager to be part of an educational institution with values and a mission centered around social justice, Dr. Waters joined the Antioch University Seattle PsyD core faculty.

During her tenure at Antioch, Dr. Waters discovered a cause she could pour her heart into: “It became clear to me that autism in girls/women was that burning flame for me,” she says. She began her work as an advocate in March of 2019, when she started the AWAKE Project, which stands for Autistic Women's, Advocacy, Knowledge and Empowerment Project. The mission of the project is to provide psychoeducation on the unique issues girls and women on the spectrum face.

Read the full story [here](#).

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**AUSB | IN BLOOM INSPIRES NATURE-BASED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND A LOVE FOR THE EARTH**

“The more opportunities that children have to be outdoors when they are young, the more they will fall in love with the earth and want to protect it.” That was one of the core themes behind the In Bloom events that were sponsored by AUSB and three other Antioch campuses and locations across the United States throughout 2020, said Dr. Marianne D’Emidio-Caston, former head of Antioch's Education Department.

The series of outdoor workshops, activities, and speakers, are also designed to create awareness of the university’s Nature-Based Early Childhood Education Certificate and Master’s Degree Program, which is a unique feature of Antioch Santa Barbara’s Education Training.

For more information go [here](#).

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**AUS | EDUCATION FOR ALL**

When most people think of a classroom, they have a picture in their mind—and it isn’t usually of a correctional facility. Yet that’s exactly where Dr. Rachel Oppenheim, Director of the School of Education at AUS, has been doing much of her teaching over the past 15 years.

“It’s an area that’s really underserved and under-resourced,” says Oppenheim, “so I’ve committed a lot of energy into both bringing education to jails and prisons and ensuring that that education is high quality and responds to the needs of incarcerated people.”

Read more [here](#).
AUSB | UNIVERSITY ADDS HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

AUSB is proud to offer a newly designed Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. This degree aims to serve the needs of the student body and will provide students with an opportunity to pursue a degree centered around psychological theory. This new degree will also provide the applied skills that will enhance their ability to obtain jobs in the field.

“A lot of people were involved in designing this degree. It was a collaboration with Santa Barbara City College as well as our psychology faculty at Antioch. It was important for us to make sure the expertise was behind the curriculum,” said Dawn Murray, PhD.

Murray, who serves as chair of AUSB's Undergraduate Studies program, says that adding the degree was largely in response to student demands. The new program will open up future opportunities for prospective and current students.

For more information go [here](#).

AUSB | AUSB IMPLEMENTS TWO NEW INITIATIVES

**Laptop Loaning Program.**
Courtesy of the Title III Grant, AUSB now has five student laptops they are loaning to undergraduate students per quarter. Students are reporting that it has been so helpful to complete their work.

**Grammarly has come to the AUSB undergraduates.**
As part of the Title III Grant, AUSB is piloting the use of Grammarly to help students improve their writing skills. We will let you know how it goes! We are already hearing good feedback about the software.

AUS | DR. JUDE BERGKAMP RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED PSYCHOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

Dr. Jude Bergkamp, Antioch University Seattle core faculty and PsyD program chair, was honored with the Distinguished Psychologist of the Year award from the Washington State Psychological Association at the WSPA Fall Convention in October. The Distinguished Psychologist of the Year award recognizes professionals who have made significant contributions to the field of psychology, whether through research, applied psychology in professional practice, or public interest. Dr. Bergkamp was selected for his impressive academic, forensic, and research contributions to the areas of social justice and psychology.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Bergkamp has advocated for the less fortunate and for the marginalized. Among his many accomplishments, he was a research fellow with the American Psychological Association where he was one of nine national fellows tasked with presenting research on minority health disparities, mental health parity, health care reform, and the role of psychology in public policy. He also received extensive education and training in forensics and has conducted research on how to integrate cultural competency into forensic evaluations.

Read the full article [here](#).
Dr. Torin Finser, AUNE Education faculty and a longstanding Waldorf teacher, author and educator of over 40 years, will be presenting at Festival of the Child, a global summit empowering parents & educators to not only survive the challenges of the 21st century but also to help children thrive.

Taking place online from November 14-20, 2019, it will be free to watch during the live broadcast. Over the course of 7 days, 21+ experts will share their personal wisdom and insights on how to support your child to grow up to be healthy, confident and full of hope for the future.

Dr. Finser will be speaking about innovating for the future in education, and will be joined by several speakers, including pediatrician Dr. Michaela Glöckler, who will be sharing insights on how to grow up healthy in an age of digital media. The summit includes a broad cross-spectrum of expertise, including storytellers, authors, teachers, psychologists and more.

Read more [here](#).

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AUNE hosted the annual summer DMT Intensive this summer with 18 participants. Students traveled internationally from as far as Singapore and India and across the U.S., from Alaska, Montana, Minnesota and Texas. The five-day program introduced the fields of dance/movement therapy and drama therapy, with different faculty each day sharing their expertise in areas such as, movement and expression, diversity and social justice, creative dance and current trends in DMT practice and research.

Read the full article [here](#).

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On Saturday, September 14th, the Antioch Bird Club hosted its first competition for bird watchers in the Monadnock Region of New Hampshire. Sponsored by various regional businesses, including the Monadnock Food Co-op, Achille Agway, Toadstool Bookstores, Bird Watcher’s Supply and Gift, Jake’s Market and Deli, and Moosewood Ecological LLC, this competition brought awareness to local fall bird species and raised funds for future Antioch student bird conservation research.

In total, 7 teams competed over 12 hours, tallying 85 species. The winning team, the RAVENgers, saw 46 of these tallied species, all on Antioch’s New England campus.

The 25 participants, many of them Antioch University students, competed for glory in the cup or for recognition in competition categories. Winners were picked for the Fledglings category (less than 5 years birding experience), the Townie category (most species seen in a single town), and the Carbon Footprint challenge (fossil fuel free competition).

Read the full article [here](#).
COLORS LGBTQ Youth Counseling Center in Los Angeles provides free and unlimited mental health services to LGBTQ-identified youth under the age of 25, their families and their partners. Operating out of Antioch University’s Los Angeles campus since 2012, the center has provided counseling for over 5,000 youth.

COLORS has had a milestone year. A few weeks ago, it celebrated a partnership with L.A. Care and was recently honored to confirm actor Charlie Carver as a host for its annual fall fundraiser—the COLORS Autumn Soirée. Carver is best known for his roles on Desperate Housewives, Teen Wolf, The Leftovers, and the LGBT history mini-series When We Rise. Praised for coming out on Instagram and for using his platform to advocate for LGBTQ rights, the actor is also slated to be recognized by the Human Rights Campaign.

For more information go [here](#).

AUSB Education Faculty Gary Delanoeye was once again selected to perform one of his short stories at Santa Barbara’s Center Stage Theatre. Santa Barbara’s Center Stage Theater hosted Personal Stories from October 14 to 17. Each show featured 10 authors performing their own stories, drawn from their lives and experiences. Gary presented his story, Good Cat, Bad Cat from his anthology of short stories Clean Shorts.

AUS undergraduate program core faculty member B.J. Bullert is passionate about the iconic Space Needle’s lesser known history – so passionate that she decided to make not one, but two documentary films about it.

*Space Needle: A Hidden History* is an 18-minute documentary about the inspiration architect Victor Steinbrueck drew from a beautiful wooden sculpture of a dancer called “The Feminine One” by David Lemon. The film also explores the possibility of a creative link between African American dancer Syvilla Fort and the Space Needle.

In conjunction with a library exhibit on the Space Needle, the Seattle Public Library hosted a series of events, including a screening of Bullert’s documentary, followed by a panel discussion with Bullert, Peter Steinbrueck, and architect Alan Maskin. Bullert joined a panel discussion alongside Space Needle historian Knute Berger.

The library also screened Bullert’s 2002 film *Space Needle at 40*. In this film, Bullert imagined the Space Needle as a woman turning 40.

Read more [here](#).
AUNE | DMT HOSTS LARGE TURNOUT OF ALUMNI AT 2019 ADTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thirty-four alumni and faculty from the AUNE Dance/Movement Therapy program gathered at a special reception during the 54th Annual Conference of the American Dance Therapy Association October 20, 2019, in Miami, Florida. The event was co-sponsored by the AUNE DMT program and the Office of Institutional Advancement. Faculty in attendance were Dr. Tomoyo Kawano, Program Director; Susan Loman, Past Program Director; Chevon Stewart, Core Faculty; Kara Serasis ’16, Adjunct Faculty; Karen Linafelter ’13, Adjunct Faculty; Danielle Fitzpatrick, Adjunct Faculty and ADTA Board of Directors/Committee on Approval. ADTA Board of Director’s alums of AUNE include Margaret Migliorati ’95, ADTA Board President; Ambria Cunningham ’15, ADTA Board Secretary; Kristin Pollock ’01, ADTA Board of Directors/Government Affairs.

AULA | TEAM “ANTIOCH WALKS” PARTICIPATES IN AIDS WALK LA 2019

For more than 25 years, AULS has participated in AIDS Walk Los Angeles and this year marked the second-largest team ever with more than 50 Antioch walkers. The team, aptly named Antioch Walks, included AULA’s Provost Dr. Mark Hower, new students also new to this event, old-time activists, teachers, students, staff, and two dogs. Team Antioch Walks raised $6,183 and ranked 23rd in a field of hundreds of teams from much larger institutions.

For more information go here.

GSJC | PROVOST COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS CHAMPIONS READING AS A CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY

The Graduate School of Leadership and Change (GSJC) recognized 20 new graduates during its 2019 commencement ceremony this summer. GSJC Provost Dr. Laurien Alexandre initiated the event with a powerful commencement speech that highlighted the power of reading as an act of engaged democratic citizenship and charged graduates and those in attendance to “go out and read” to learn, to grow personally and professionally, to expand horizons and to build empathy.

View this compelling address here.

AUS | DR. MARK R. JONES PRESENTED KEYNOTE AT RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS SUMMIT

Dr. Mark Jones presented at the Responsible Business Summit in San Diego, CA on October 10, 2019. His presentation is Diversity & Inclusion Keynote: Leading beyond the Financials. Jones discussed how diversity, inclusion, and equity has been proven to link to long term financial success — but how does it link to implementing socially responsible business values? This keynote explores how to lead and deploy DI&E to achieve the business transformation required to implement socially responsible business values.

Read the full story here.
AUSB | CLINICAL FACULTY PRESENT AT ACES CONFERENCE

Nicole A. Botaitis, MS, LMFT, LPCC, PPS, Director of Santa Barbara’s Clinical Training and Clinical Faculty in the MA in Clinical Psychology program co-presented to a standing room only audience at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) Conference with Dr. John O’Malley, PhD from the University of Denver on the topic “White Fragility in Counselor Education.” The bi-annual ACES conference was held in Seattle, WA in October 2019. ACES is the premier organization dedicated to quality education and supervision of counselors in all work settings. ACES members are counselors, supervisors, graduate students, and faculty members who strive to improve the education and supervision of counselors in training and in practice. ACES and the regional association’s host conferences to highlight research and best practices in supervision and in the training of counselors. The overall conference proposal acceptance rate this year was 57.69%.

AUSB AND AULA | CAMPUSES CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN

AUSB: The AUSB community participated in its annual “Halloween Party & Costume Contest.” Faculty and staff made and baked an assortment of Halloween dishes and goodies. Students were invited and decorated Halloween sugar cookies. The Undergraduate Program stole the show with their “Antioch University Superhero” costumes!

AULA: Members from multiple AULA Departments celebrated Halloween as a Pod of Lobsters.

AUS | DR. MARIAIMEÉ GONZALEZ PUBLISHES BOOK

After years of extensive research on social justice and advocacy, Mariaimeé Gonzalez, PHD, LPC, core faculty in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program and coordinator of the multicultural concentration, and her colleagues have curated enough content to write a book that modifies the way we train counselors. Her work, Social Justice and Advocacy in Counseling: Experiential Activities For Teaching, was recently published by Routledge.

“It’s a labor of love. The book is designed to help teachers and counselors as they implement social justice into their curriculums. We currently don’t have anything like this for teaching in our profession. Around 75-80 authors submitted activities, so we built it from scratch,” says Mariaimeé.

The book, which features chapters written by AUS Faculty Dr. Katherine Fort and Ms. Dani Baker, serves as a backbone for social justice and advocacy practices used by both counseling students and faculty—the chapters within the work touch base of essential topics, such as discrimination and oppression. The publication will help professional counselors and counselor educators increase awareness, knowledge, and skills when implementing social justice counseling and advocacy.

Read more here.
**AUNE | DR. SYNTIA DIETZ CO-AUTHORS PUBLICATION AS NEW CMHC CORE FACULTY**

Dr. Syntia S. Dietz, core faculty in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program, Department of Applied Psychology has co-authored her first publication since becoming part of AUNE. Formerly at East Carolina University, Syntia joined the CMHC faculty in July, 2019.

Faculty led-study abroad programs promote cultural competence and professional and personal development for students. However, students from historically marginalized and underrepresented groups do not participate in these experiences at the same rate as students from majority cultures. Counselor educators must seek ways to recruit diverse populations to promote equity in and access to international education experiences. Relational Cultural Theory (RCT) provides a guiding framework for counselor educators to diversify study abroad programs while also attending to cultural and power dynamics.

Please see Dr. Dietz’s work from Teaching and Supervision in Counseling; The official journal of the Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision: *Relational Cultural Theory: A Guiding Framework for Study Abroad Experiences* [here](#).

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**AUNE | DR. DEAN HAMMER’S ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN APA JOURNAL**

Dr. Dean Hammer, Affiliate Faculty in AUNE’s PsyD program, had an article “Cultivating Soulfulness in Psychotherapy” published in *APA Journal: Spirituality in Clinical Practice*. 2019, Vol. 6, No. 2, 139–143. “This reflection highlights the importance of reclaiming a focus on the soul in my practice of existential-based, spiritually oriented psychotherapy. My clinical experience and long-standing meditation practice guided the process of synthesizing concepts and theories regarding the role of the soul in psychotherapy. A primary goal is to illuminate how the cultivation of a soulful internal space within the therapist can enhance the therapeutic encounter,” wrote Dr. Hammer.

You can read more about the article [here](#).

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**AULA | JANE PAUL PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON GLOBAL YOUTH CLIMATE STRIKE**

Students and young people around the world led the Global Youth Climate Strike on July 20th of this year. While a robust climate activist movement has existed for many years, the extreme, dangerous circumstances of climate change and the obvious ties to an inequitable and extractive economy continue.

Jane Paul, Head of the Undergraduate Studies Concentration Urban Studies as well as Teaching (and founding) Faculty in the Masters in Urban Sustainability program, published an article in the September/October issue of *Dollars & Sense: Real World Economics*.

For full article go [here](#).