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- The Center's sustainability initiative for research labs at Penn State evolved into a second-year pilot in fall 2023 that included 29 labs (2 MRSEC) and expanded to 6 commonwealth campus locations
- Over 400 researchers have been involved thus far.
- Labs completing the My Green Lab Certification process can be paired with a trained undergraduate consultant who applies their learnings to the laboratory setting via an engaged scholarship experience.
- The number undergrad consultants expanded to 17 students, with 15 lab pairings and 2 returners who served as peer mentors.
- Efforts were made to capture quantitative impact data via waste audits, plug load measurements, and water usage analysis; Program longevity is likely dependent upon evidence of operational impact.
- Institutional investment by Penn State Sustainability has been essential for the program's success, and MRSEC Education Director, Kristin Dreyer, continues to play a central role in establishing program permanency.
- The International Institute of Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) awarded an Honorable Mention to Penn State's program in 2023.



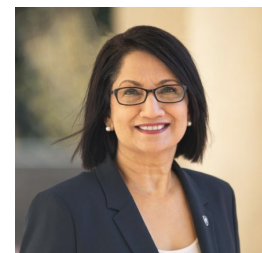
Expansion of the undergrad consultant program allows for metrics to better capture needed quantitative impact data while students gain valuable workforce skills .



my green lab  
certification.



International Institute for  
Sustainable Laboratories



"This is work that Penn State is committed to – even within our operations – **from the success of our Sustainable Labs Program in making our research more sustainable and energy efficient**, to our commitment to decarbonization and achieving 100% greenhouse gas emissions reductions by 2035."

- Penn State University President Neeli Bendapudi, October 10, 2023