David Bere:  Spring semester 2015, 2 pager.

Over the spring semester of 2015, my work at the Office for Sustainability saw the implementation of Green woodworking. Green provides a sensible and rewarding introduction to the OfS Design Studio. Students, experienced or novice, can utilize the Design Studio to learn proper technique for making spoons, bowls, turned items, such as wooden bowls or simply how to split wood. We see green-woodworking as a friendly medium to introduce students to safe tool use and sustainable practices at the Office for Sustainability.

While Green woodworking is the start of our programing we have in our studio, it is not all that happens in the studio. The space is available Thursdays from 4 till 7pm for students that want to work on office projects, or class projects. During this time, students are welcome to drop in. Additionally, students may request to schedule an additional time to work on their projects.

Providing safe and supportive use of the Design Studio has been my special project since I was hired in January 2014. This semester the Studio manual, a document containing all necessary tests and procedures for the studio, was approved by OfS leadership. This now allows us to open the studio space to students with woodworking projects. In addition to working on the manual I have been involved with several other design and build projects.

My first project of the semester was to build two sawhorses. These devices were the start of our gear-up to green woodworking. The sawhorses were built in the English and in the continental styles. They were constructed using popular from the Gibbs house and reclaimed lumber that I gave to the office. They were built during winter at my home and have been used at the Gibbs house and office for events such as our spring Community Celebration at the OfS.
My next major project was the construction of a Spring-pole lathe, which turned out well. It was made from material I donated and materials a local carpenter parted with. This project allows us to introduce students to wood turning on a device that is less likely to be misused and result in injury when compared to a powered lathe. Additionally, I have worked on creating demonstration projects to capture student interest such as snowshoes, wooden spoons, wooden bowls, and spoon blanks for students to use at events or at open shop when needed. Snowshoes are one item I would like to produce at the office so students can lace them together once the weather is less conductive to outdoor work.

I continue to be a staple in the activities of the bike stable. Every Friday I open the shop and ensure everything is put away when the end of the day is near. On Wednesdays, Doug and I represented the Bike Stable and Bronco Bikes at Western Wednesdays. For our end of the semester open house, I built a single speed mountain bike that was given away as a prize for our raffle.