

2023 IN REVIEW



Overview

2023 was a transformative year for CGTC. A goal of this year was to increase our public awareness through increased participation in outreach events, interacting more with local media and increased partnerships locally and nationally.

Part of our increased outreach is conducting more presentations with local and federal partners including 2 meeting with representatives from the U.S. White House.

A highlight of the year was moving into our new building that provided better facilities to host visiting researchers and partners.

With this, we were able to host students from various visitors including local high school students, City Planning graduate students from the University of Pennsylvania and researchers from the University of Southern Alabama.



2023 St. Croix Ag Fair L-R: Joe Dwyer, Nikita Beck, CGTC; Sen. Carla Joseph

2023 Energy Fair

This year's Energy Fair which took place on October 28 at the UVI Sports and Fitness Center. This year's theme was "Accelerating Resilience in the Virgin Islands" to reflect our broaden goal of answering the question "What is Resilience in the U.S. Virgin Islands?" We're excited to announce that we had excited participation of over 30 vendors local and national and had over 200 visitors during the event!



2023 Energy Fair Round Table Discussion L-R: Dr. Greg Guannel, CGTC; Jonisha Aubain, U-Mass, Jeannine Francis-Brown, CGTC; Kyle Flemming, VIEO; Chavante Marsh, WAPA; Michael Jaffurs, VIEO

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Moving into New Office
- Publishing the first Coastal Vulnerability Index for the USVI
- Presenting at the 2023 VI-EPSCoR Annual Conference
- Partnership with the Research and Technology Park (RT Park)
- 3rd Annual King Tide Monitoring Program
- Gaining the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

2023 IN REVIEW

Research

Our research capabilities have increased this year. With the addition of a graduate student and multiple undergraduate students, our capacity to investigate the intricacies of the effect our natural environment on the built environment has increased.



CGTC & DPNR-CZM in the field



CGTC & Univ. of South Alabama in the field

We are honored to share that we part of the Caribbean Climate Action Network (CCAN), a NOAA funded program and were a co-author of the 5th National Climate Assessment Caribbean Chapter and held a corresponding workshop.

A highlight of the year has been our increased field work as we gear up to take on multiple projects to expand the shared understanding on how to protect our coastal environments. We are proud to share we've carried out research that addresses our 4 pillars.



Dr. Greg Guannel in the field

Looking Forward

Through our efforts in 2023, we expect 2024 to be a year of increased production as we release more publications that investigate the Territory's past to help build a more resilient future. Especially when it comes to implications of our capability to adapt to climate change. We also aim to deepen our partnerships with our government entities and expand the knowledge of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

What to Expect in 2024

- 2024 Energy Fair at St. Croix Agricultural Fair
- More Publications
- Public Release of the USVI Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan
- Updated Social Vulnerability Index
- Launch of the Renewable Energy Technology Program at UVI Fall 2024



CGTC at the 2023 Energy Fair