

sustainability Program Offers New Conservation and Agroecology Concentration

Campus Farm Serves as Platform to Implement New Solar Array, Food

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He got involved as a volunteer on Stockton's campus farm before completing a four-month apprenticeship under Ben Falk of Whole Systems Design in Vermont.

"I was immersed in regenerative and resilient systems, permaculture, homesteading, agroforestry, horticulture and ecological design among many other things," he explained.

Through the apprenticeship, Chingery earned a Permaculture Design Certificate. Permaculture is a conscious and sustainable design process that looks to mimic natural patterns within farming, landscaping, home building and communities. "This was the pivotal moment for me. I knew that working through these systems to regenerate and build more resilient landscapes and communities was what I wanted to focus on for my life time," he said.

Chingery is now applying the skills from his apprenticeship to Stockton's campus farm. Through an internship focused on viticulture (the science, production and study of grapes), he is building a trellis and planting grape vines this spring. In addition, he is breaking ground this semester on

