

Winston-Salem State University Sustainability Committee September 8, 2010

CALL TO ACTION:

Sustainability is the concept of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. It is progress toward a sustainable economy, society and environment (environment, equity and economy).

Sustainability can be described as each of us doing our part to build the kind of world—*economically, environmentally and socially*—that we want to live in, and one that we want our children and grandchildren to inherit. It means becoming aware of all interconnections—visible and invisible—in which our day-to-day choices affect the intricate balance of social, economic and ecological systems.

The United Nations' World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) introduced the far-reaching implications of the term, "sustainable," in their widely cited report, *Our Common Future* (1987): "Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable—to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

Over 400 university and college presidents have signed the "University and College President's Climate Commitment" aiming to eliminate carbon emissions and integrating sustainability in their curriculum.

In view of the above, several universities in the University of North Carolina System have established Sustainability Committees or Task Forces to provide an integrated avenue to address the many areas involved in creating and maintaining a sustainable way of life in the university.

Sustainability Committee Mission Statement

Sustainability is the concept of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. It is progress toward a sustainable economy, society, and environment. The Winston-Salem State University Sustainability Committee shall promote and facilitate the cooperative efforts of students, faculty, and staff to educate, develop values, share knowledge, adopt policies and implement practices within the campus and local community that are sustainable.

Committee Charge:

To prioritize and to facilitate the implementation of recommendations that are identified to further the mission of sustainable practices in all aspects of WSSU's institutional culture, including operations, activities, academic programs, and community relationships. The committee will provide an annual report to the chancellor that summarizes progress and future priorities.

The following organizations will provide the membership of the Sustainability Committee. The Committee Members should consist of one representative (or more as indicated) from the following:

Office of the Chancellor

- Chancellor's Office
- Athletics
- Diggs Gallery
- O'Kelly Library

Provost Office & Academic Affairs

- Provost Office
- School of Business and Economics
- College of Arts & Sciences
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Education & Human Performance
- Office of Distance Learning
- Institutional Research

Division of Information Technology

Division of Lifelong Learning

- Office of Distance Learning

Division of Finance & Administration:

- Finance & Administration Office
- Business Services (Dining) (2)
- Accounting
- Human Resources
- Purchasing
- Environmental Health & Safety
- Campus Police (including Parking & Transportation)
- Facilities- Grounds, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Facilities Planning and Engineering, Energy Management, Operations (2)

Division of Enrollment Management Division of Student Affairs:

- Campus Life

- Housing & Residence Life Staff
- Student Government Association (2)
- Career Services
- Health Center
- Commuter Students
- Evening & Weekend Students
- Non-Traditional Adult Student Organization

Division of University Advancement:

- Marketing and Communications

Faculty Senate

Staff Senate University College

Committee working groups:

The committee consists of the following working groups:

1. Campus Dining,
2. Green Building & Energy,
3. Waste Reduction & Recycling,
4. Parking & Transportation,
5. Academics & Culture,
6. Outreach & Student Initiatives,
7. Marketing, and
8. Grounds Management.

Each committee work group may recruit ad hoc members to participate in the activities of the work group.

Campus Dining:

Charge:

Review best practices and strategies for future improvements and assist the development of a dining services master plan. Look at strategies for waste reduction, recycling, health/nutrition options, and more.

For example:

- Use of water use reduction technology for dishwashing
- Use of energy reduction technology for cooking
- Recycling of oils and materials from the grease traps

Campus Dining work group members: Dining- Lead
Student
School of Business and Economics Business Services

Green Building and Energy:

Charge:

Review WSSU's design and construction guidelines. Use the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) rating system as a frame of reference. Strengthen green building efforts throughout campus. Review best practices and what is currently being done at WSSU. Look at strategies for green buildings – HVAC systems, lighting (LED), high efficiency systems for water and electricity, land preservation and restoration, low-flow shower heads and toilets, etc. Look at how WSSU can conserve energy and save money. Look at recommendations for sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and innovative design.

For example:

- Establishment of design and construction guidelines requiring recycling and reuse of materials
- Establish routine reporting to the community of energy and water consumption
- Promote education and training on maintaining energy conservation settings in the work place

Green Building and Energy work group members: Housing and Residence Life – Co-lead Facilities
Operations – Co-lead
Student Staff senate Faculty
Facilities Planning & Engineering

Waste Reduction & Recycling

Charge:

Review best practices at WSSU. Provide strategies and recommendations for an integrated and environmentally sound waste management & recycling program for the WSSU community. Identify ways in which waste minimization and management on campus can be improved (and incorporate technology into strategies). Other areas of focus include chemical safety, occupational safety, environmental health, fire safety, emergency management. Look at the total

savings per year for recycling waste at WSSU. Identify ways to improve / increase the recycling program at WSSU. Increase and improve recycling signage on campus and look into increasing recycling of “alternative items” such as toners, CDs, etc.

For example:

- Expand and improve recycling programs throughout campus, through involvement of students, faculty, and staff
- Monitor proper disposal and recycling of laboratory waste
- Advocate for the use of environmentally friendly products on campus (supplies, equipment, furniture)

Waste reduction and recycling work group members: Environmental Health

Environmental Services

Recycling Housekeeping

Grounds Faculty

Student Government Association – Co-lead Housing and Residence Life

Business Services (Dining, Bookstore, Post Office, Conferences & Institutes, Ticket Office)

Parking & Transportation

Charge:

Review best practices at WSSU and other campuses and provide recommendations for a Transportation Master Plan, a long-range plan to develop an integrated and multi-modal network of transit options for campus users. Build awareness about current programs, identify new strategies, and implement improvements in a new master plan.

Provide a list of options for an integrated approach to parking demand management including multi modal options for campus users. For example:

- Explore opportunities for implementation of parking demand management strategy
- Promote park and ride alternatives
- Explore opportunities for the use of alternative fuels

Parking & Transportation work group members: Transportation and parking-Lead

Student Government Association Faculty

Staff Senate Provost Office

Facilities Planning and Engineering

Non-Traditional Adult Student organization University College (or Student Affairs)

Academics & Culture

Charge:

Identify strategies to increase the knowledge, interest and commitment to sustainability in WSSU's curriculum and everyday practices. Assess campus commitment on all levels of administration, faculty, staff and students in the curriculum and campus life, more broadly. For example:

- Offer curriculum courses addressing sustainability
- Promote internships at places that work in the sustainability area
- Offer conferences and open lectures on sustainability
- Research information and ideas on implementing a Center of Sustainability at WSSU.

Academics and Culture work group members: Faculty Senate-Lead
Chancellor's Office Provost Office Career Services

Outreach and Student Initiatives

Charge:

There are diverse ways for WSSU students to learn about sustainable living and get involved with making WSSU a more sustainable institution. These outlets may include environmental internships, service projects, academic courses, green programs and contests, community events, conferences, etc. Identify ways in which WSSU might provide a better model of sustainability for its students. Investigate other university models, build and gauge student interest, and develop proposals.

For example:

- Implement "green games" between residence halls
- Promote student involvement in university recycling program through the work study program
- Promote participation of students in community environmental activities

Outreach and student initiatives work group members: Campus Life-Lead
Career Services
Marketing and Communications Student Government Association University College
Faculty

Marketing:

Charge:

Communicate the successes of the sustainability work groups to the community. For example:

- Produce a monthly on line "sustainability newsletter"
- Promote sustainability as part of the WSSU brand
- Market the success of all working groups of the sustainability work groups

Marketing work group members: Marketing and Communications- Lead Information Technology

Grounds

Charge:

Identify strategies to increase the knowledge, interest and commitment to sustainability on WSSU's grounds.

- Explore latest techniques in erosion & sediment control, and tree protection strategies on all campus projects.
- Work closely with landscape architects to rigorously manage campus stormwater on campus through the use of rain gardens, stormwater sedimentation ponds, semi permeable parking lots, and rain sensors in the irrigation system.
- Explore strategies to reduce the need for landscape irrigation

Grounds work group members: Facilities Grounds - Lead Parking & Transportation
Facilities Planning & Engineering Student Government Association Athletics