

Sustainability Council minutes, February 20, 2015

Attendance: recorded at 15

- Discussion of mission statement for the committee
 - Thank you to Ray Stoupa for compiling the Mission Statements of other Jesuit or Catholic universities' sustainability groups. (Document is attached)
 - Question: Is this for students or for the university as a whole?
 - The group feels that the Council is a good partnership between students, faculty, and staff
 - At Loyola-Chicago, it is student-driven and highly successful
 - Needs to be short, purpose-driven. 2 sentences. We should be able to say it quickly.
 - Ed's "What do we do, who do we do it for" are a good purpose statement
 - Culture, social justice/service, curriculum, etc.
 - Santa Clara and USF have good mission statements. Santa Clara includes economic, human, environment, etc. Did not speak about curriculum (is it part of academic life?)
 - Loyola calls out faculty, staff, students, and alumni
 - Didn't like the competitive aspect of Loyola
 - Nothing wrong with being a leader, but goal should be to influence rather than lead
 - Campus as a community change agent
 - LeMoyné: "contribute to knowledge about and understanding of the environment and its human dimension"
 - Not just about us, it's about us as a partnership with other schools, the community
 - Boston College's mission has three pretty good goals. Maybe add a few more to tack on to our mission. Consistent with what Creighton does
 - There is a "Purpose" statement in the draft sustainability policy.
 - Like references to Magis and Cura Personalis
 - Need to include signatory of ACUPCC and St. Francis Pledge, but not necessarily in the mission
 - A number of schools reference these
 - Promoting collective effort
 - List tangible actions to show momentum following the purpose statement: majors, recyclemania, etc.
 - Someone needs to cobble it together and bring it to the committee to vote next time.
 - One student group, two fac/staff groups
 - What should we add to the purpose? Goal is 5
 - Educating the entire Creighton community (fac/staff/students/administrators/alumni)
 - Including all generations (alumni, current, future)
 - Creating sustainable social justice for current and future generations
 - Advancing sustainable practices

- Education and research
 - Champion of the environment
 - Enhancing the community
 - Incorporate Jesuit values
 - Instill a culture of long-term planning and forward thinking.
 - Lifestyle and institutional changes
 - BC: Advance sustainable practices on campus through education, research, activities, development, and operations, to make sustainability integral to the fabric of Boston College
 - Words: Stewardship; agent of change; God’s creation; generations; conserve
 - Create, communicate and apply knowledge
 - Dignity of the person “no individual may prosper at the expense of another”
 - Lifestyle and institutional changes
- Commuter survey needs to be updated. Public Safety says we can include commuter questions with their campus survey, but that won’t be until April 2016. However, this survey has a good rate of participation. Will include commuter survey with Public Safety’s survey next spring.
- Sustainability major has been approved and will officially begin in fall 2015.
- Composting – IRHG resolution proposing using weCompost, a local vendor, starting in Skutt. Most Jesuit universities do some sort of composting. Overwhelming support from IRHG. Cost is comparable to trash pickup. Creighton would probably be the largest customer of weCompost.
 - Where do the funds come from to pay for the composting? Will the university cover it? IRHG may have a budget for it, if the university could fund.
 - Suggestion for IRHG to pay as a pilot, then prove a business case for the university to pay for it.
 - Logistical issues for Sodexo in Skutt to figure out what goes where, etc.
 - Could Sodexo switch to compostable plasticware to complement this program?
- Andy Waltke is organizing a Metro Omaha Food Summit at Creighton University
 - Bring together the local food systems community of Omaha with the Creighton community.
 - To expose Creighton students and volunteer base to a wealth of interesting opportunities/organizations available right now in Omaha in relation to sustainability and local food systems.
 - Invite together a conglomeration of actors from the Metro area in one location to gain exposure, volunteer opportunities, and educate others in the community about their work. Also taking advantage of so many related minds in one location, host an engaging, organic conversation after the summit ends (about 2 hours) with all the invited actors to find possible collaborations or ideas to address/emphasize at the city scale.
- Earth Week Plans (April 20-24), tentative schedule:
 - EVS Club, Energy Technology Club, GreenJays, CCSJ
 - Monday, CCSJ: Alaska Trip film and dialog

- Tuesday, EVS Club: Event to discuss climate change. Probably a panel with Creighton professors to discuss the science of climate change
- Wednesday: CCSJ, GreenJays: We Matter Walk
 - CSU: Sustainability-themed WAC (Wednesdays After Class), TBD
- Thursday, Energy Technology Club: TBD
- Friday, EVS Lecture Series: TBD
- Recyclemania update
 - Official Dates: February 1-March 28
 - May get lost in the shuffle of all the digital displays

Next meeting is March 27, 2015 in SKUTT 105. Note change in date and location.

Upcoming events: Earth Week: April 20-24, 2015

Recyclemania: February 1-March 28

Other schools' mission statements:

Yellow = Council feels should be incorporated

Red = Council wants to avoid.

Creighton (draft sustainability policy)

As a Jesuit and Catholic University, Creighton University affirms its moral obligation to practice ecological responsibility and social justice to work towards creating a better, more sustainable world for us and for those that come after us. Such a pledge is a living embodiment of **the Jesuit ideals of Magis and Cura Personalis**. This policy establishes Creighton University's commitment to employing more sustainable practices and educating the University community about environmental responsibility.

Boston College

The mission of sustainability@BU is to lead the University in a more sustainable direction and integrate sustainability into the culture and structure of Boston University. Through this effort, the University will reduce its use of natural resources, operating costs, and improve environmental and social impacts. Through faculty contributions across all disciplines such as: public policy, science, business, law, the humanities, and some of the nation's preeminent environmental programs, Boston University prepares this generation to lead our society toward a more sustainable future.

Boston University's Strategic Plan for Campus Sustainability is currently integrated into the University's Strategic Plan in many areas. The point of departure for Boston University's journey into the future is the set of ten "commitments" that were embraced through the University's 2005–2007 strategic planning process. These commitments grow directly out of our traditions and our values. They reflect our strengths and our weaknesses. And—in general and aspirational ways—they point to tomorrow's opportunities. Three of the ten commitments address sustainability. Here are some excerpts:

A commitment to strengthening and expanding the University's connections to Boston and the world.

... Just as we strive to give our students the context and experiences to function in our truly global society as responsible citizens, the University will continue to work to be institutionally responsible as a steward of our environment by putting in place programs of infrastructure renovation and usage that will conserve energy and minimize our emission of greenhouse gases. Much of this effort will be transparent as we renew our buildings.

A commitment to aligning our policies, processes, services, operations, and the development of our campus with our values.

Boston University is an incredibly complex institution. But complexity can't be allowed to push our values to the background. We are, first and foremost, a service organization, and we have to act accordingly. We must deliver transparent and student-oriented processes across all of our campuses, schools, and colleges. We must control costs to protect the range and quality of our services, and at the same time ensure access to BU.

Even as our campus grows upward and outward, we will decrease our environmental "footprint." We intend to focus on conserving energy and decreasing greenhouse-gas emissions in all of our operations.

The Sustainability Committee is Boston University's organization to advise the University's Administration on strategies and programs to address these issues and affect change on campus. The Sustainability Committee includes the Sustainability Steering Committee and, initially, four working groups including: Recycling and Waste Management, Energy Conservation, Sustainable Building and

Facility Operations, and Communications and Outreach. sustainability@BU supports the efforts of the Sustainability Committee and provides day to day administration of the Sustainability Program.

Boston College Sustainability Steering Committee

We like:

- Specific goals

Purpose

The Committee is charged with advising the University leadership on matters pertaining to the campus environment and sustainability. The mission of the Committee has three central goals:

- Advance sustainable practices on campus through education, research, activities, development, and operations, to make sustainability integral to the fabric of Boston University
- Engage the campus in an ongoing dialogue about sustainability, and enhance communications across all segments of the community
- Instill a culture of sustainable long-term planning and forward-thinking

Responsibilities

- Define areas to be studied by Working Groups. Working Group membership will be determined by the Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee in consultation with the offices of the University Provost, Medical Campus Provost, and Executive Vice President
- Provide oversight of Working Groups
- Provide advice on the development of the Strategic Plan

Marquette University

Mission: To promote sustainable lifestyles and work environments, and to inspire the Marquette University School of Dentistry community to work toward a more sustainable campus, dental profession, and world.

We work to implement sustainable initiatives at the dental school, engage the local community through service, and connect students with resources around Milwaukee to explore their interests in the outdoors, conservation, and healthy living.

Georgetown University

We liked:

- To display accomplished goals

Georgetown pledged to support sustainable practices in campus development and operations during the 2010 meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

The university joined other members of the Global University Leadership Forum (GULF) to sign the Sustainable Campus Charter, a partnership of GULF's network of 25 universities and the International Campus Sustainability Network.

“At Georgetown, we’ve made a commitment to minimize our environmental impact, promote energy efficiency and build sustainable practices,” said President John J. DeGioia, who represents the university at the annual forum. “We are proud to sign on to this charter, and we will continue our efforts to align our operations, research and teaching with the goal of sustainability.”

By signing the charter, universities commit to three campus-wide principles:

- Demonstrating respect for nature and society and agreeing that sustainability considerations should be an integral part of planning, construction, renovation and operation of buildings on campus
- Ensuring long-term sustainable campus development, campus-wide master planning and target-setting should include environmental and social goals
- Aligning the organization's core mission with sustainable development, facilities, research, and education should be linked to create a "living laboratory" for sustainability.

The universities also agreed to set measurable goals for sustainable development, construction, and operations and work to incorporate the study of sustainability principles and practice into their educational offerings.

The community plans to share digital teaching materials for underserved populations, and representatives from GULF institutions will join with the vice chancellors of key African universities in March to explore possible sustainability collaborations.

In recent years, Georgetown has reaffirmed its commitment to sustainability by enhancing the campus recycling program, converting the shuttle fleet to bio-fuel, and reduced its carbon footprint by 16 percent since 2006.

Georgetown plans to design all new facilities and renovations to LEED standards and cut its carbon footprint in half by 2020.

Initiated in 2006 by the World Economic Forum, the GULF community now includes 25 heads of universities from nine different countries. DeGioia is one of only 11 university representatives from the United States.

Gonzaga University

Consonant with our Jesuit and Catholic identity, we believe that respect for creation and the integral development and flourishing of the human person are inseparable from a faith that does justice. The Advisory Council on Stewardship and Sustainability (ACSS) is an ad hoc University committee in service to sustainability efforts at Gonzaga, and specifically to the carrying out of the Gonzaga University Climate Action Plan, which was reviewed and approved by President Thayne McCulloh in January 2013. As such, the ACSS works collaboratively with the Director of Sustainability to provide support and advice for him and for the President, as well as to engage with other individuals or groups on campus who are or become involved in sustainability projects.

LeMoyne College

Le Moyne's College Committee for Environmental Sustainability (CCES) engages our extended community in responsible environmental stewardship. As conscientious world citizens, we:

- work to reduce the negative environmental impact of all campus operations
- contribute to knowledge about and understanding of the environment and its human dimension
- seek ways to educate others about the environment.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

WE LIKED:

- ALUMNI
- POSITIVE INFLUENCE
- GREATER COMMUNITY
- EDUCATIONAL LEADER

The goal of the Office of Sustainability at Loyola is to support the **faculty, staff, students and alumni** in making the University a leader in the Chicago region and internationally among Jesuit institutions. Loyola University Chicago is embracing sustainability through our campuses, curriculum and community.

Loyola's sustainability initiatives are guided by the following principles:

- **We seek to have the lowest environmental footprint in Illinois**
- We support sustainability across the curriculum
- We believe sustainability is about Social Justice
- We facilitate the campus as a learning laboratory
- We support a pathway to careers (that empower a just future for all)
- **We envision the campus as a community change-agent**

Loyola's Sustainability Mission

Sustainability at Loyola is driven by our Jesuit tradition of social justice, our service to humanity, and our role as an institution of higher education. It is embodied in an educational experience for our students and activities that seek to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We are committed to an inclusive process considering social, economic and environmental impacts and exemplified in a transformative education for our students.

Regis University

Mission

Regis University strives to bring awareness and education to students and faculty about reducing plastic waste and greenhouse gas emissions, while focusing on global social justice issues around water privatization and the fundamental human right to clean and safe drinking water.

In the Jesuit tradition of living with and for others, we understand that the choices we make today influence the world that our future men and women will inhabit. The Regis University Sustainability Committee helps to educate our student body on environmental issues in this ever-changing world. We confront local issues of sustainability and use our positive voice to inspire change. With creativity and an integrative worldview, we hope to inspire a culture that is environmentally conscious, as well as one that fosters stewardship for our natural world and minimizes the impact we have upon it.

St. Joseph's University

Vision

Saint Joseph's University will minimize its detrimental impact on the environment and the surrounding community, while at the same time maintaining the highest standards in its mission of education, the advancement of knowledge, student formation and development, and service to the local, regional,

national and international communities. This vision will be fulfilled within the framework of the Catholic and Jesuit traditions that are the heritage of Saint Joseph's University, and will be extended beyond SJU by its alumni.

Mission

The mission of the University Committee on Sustainability is take a leadership role in identifying, developing, promoting and implementing environmentally sustainable practices for students, staff, and faculty at Saint Joseph's University and in all aspects of its operation.

Goals

The Committee on Sustainability will:

- Promote and support ongoing and new efforts relating to green and sustainability issues at SJU.
- Publicize new and ongoing efforts within and outside of the SJU community.
- Solicit input from the SJU community regarding green and sustainability efforts, specifically regarding potential new programs or activities and ways to improve ongoing efforts.
- Provide information and guidance to the various offices within SJU involved in green and sustainability efforts.
- Provide a mechanism for communication and planning regarding green and sustainability efforts involving administrative, faculty and student groups, offices and units.
- Report annually, to the President and SJU community, on progress towards sustainability goals.

Santa Clara University

We liked:

- Social justice w/ Jesuits
- Campus outreach
- Student life
- ***Education

Sustainability Mission Statement

Vision:

The Center for Sustainability is the focal point for Santa Clara University's Justice and Sustainability Strategic Priority and contributes to creating a more **just, humane, and sustainable world**.

Mission:

The Center for Sustainability advances academic and public understanding of the ways in which social justice and sustainability intersect by integrating principles of social, environmental, and economic sustainability into campus operations, academic and student life, and outreach programs.

Pillars:

The Center for Sustainability aims to help the University:

1. *Achieve Climate Neutrality by the end of 2015.*
 - a. Reduce the university's use of electricity and natural gas. Reduce single-occupancy vehicles on campus.
 - b. Example metrics: annual greenhouse gas emissions inventory, local offset initiatives
2. *Practice responsible consumerism.*
 - a. Improve the University's impacts on the local and global community associated with procurement (extraction, production, distribution, consumption, and disposal).
 - b. Example metrics: local/ organic/ sustainable food procurement rates, sustainable purchasing policies, and water diversion rates.
3. *Develop a culture of sustainability among all students, faculty, staff, alumni, and visitors.*

- a. Expand the campus community's ability and desire to partake in sustainable behaviors as well as their understanding of how they can contribute to developing a sustainable world.
 - b. Example metrics: number of individuals involved in sustainability-related co-curricular and employee programs, assessments of the campus community's perceived value and intrinsic motivations for sustainable behaviors.
4. *Use the campus as a living laboratory for developing global solutions.*
- a. Support solutions-based coursework and research to solve local and global problems using the campus as a demonstration test-bed.
 - b. Example metrics: number of sustainability-related and focused courses, number of students and faculty engaged in sustainability-related research, number of students engaged with community members at BUG sites.

University of Saint Thomas

The Mission of the UST Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee will advance the University of St. Thomas' mission to integrate sustainable values and promote a culture of long-range planning and sustainable design in our community. Toward this end, the committee will:

- work to create a comprehensive campus sustainability plan in fulfillment of our stated strategic goal and our endorsement of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment
- work with administrators, faculty, students and staff to implement the campus sustainability plan with standards for curricular, research, operation, investment, and public service endeavors
- work with Physical Plant operations in developing and implementing energy and natural resource conservation initiatives including alternative energy, green building design and sustainable operation and maintenance practices
- develop and implement ongoing assessment and auditing procedures for the campus sustainability plan and associated initiatives
- publicize and celebrate UST programs and practices that advance environmental sustainability in our community
- offer informational resources and guidance in sustainability to the UST community

University of San Francisco

We like

- Dignity of the person
-

Mission Statement

As a Jesuit and Catholic University, we have the responsibility to provide leadership in developing a more sustainable way of living. As an urban University committed to educating minds and hearts to change the world, the University of San Francisco has the additional responsibility to draw on its location in one of the most environmentally innovative urban areas in the world in order to set new standards for sustainability in higher education. These include sustainable university operations, sustainability training and education across the curriculum, and serving as a partner in sustainability with our campus neighbors, the city of San Francisco, and the global community.

By embracing sustainability, the University furthers its efforts to distinguish itself as a diverse, socially responsible learning community of high quality scholarship and academic rigor sustained by a faith that

does justice. The University's commitment to sustainability is rooted in a number of its core values, which include a belief in and a commitment to advancing:

- **social responsibility in fulfilling the University's mission to create, communicate and apply knowledge to a world shared by all people and held in trust for future generations;**
- the moral dimension of every significant human choice: taking seriously how and who we choose to be in the world;
- **the full, integral development of each person and all persons, with the belief that no individual or group may rightfully prosper at the expense of others;**
- **a culture of service that respects and promotes the dignity of every person.**

USF affirms its commitment to becoming a more sustainable University through its operations, by shaping the leaders of a more sustainable and just world for the future, and by building partnerships locally and globally that can help transfer a culture of sustainability beyond the campus.

University of Scranton

Education for Justice: The Case for Sustainability

Charge: To increase knowledge of and educate students, faculty and staff on sustainability issues, campus-wide, to become a model for effective environmental practices in higher education.