

UC Davis Overview

Chancellor's Sustainability Committees Conference Session Monday, June 25, 2007

- 1. Committee Name:** UC Davis Sustainability Committee
Send us e-mail at sustainability@ucdavis.edu or visit our website at <http://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/>
- 2. When formed:** March 2005
- 3. Reports to:** Charged by Stan Nosek, Vice Chancellor – Administration
Chaired by Jill Blackwelder, Associate Vice Chancellor – Safety Services
- 4. Frequency of meetings:** Monthly for full committee; subcommittees meet as needed
- 5. Membership composition:** 21 members - cross section of students, faculty and staff;
Includes operational managers most closely linked with implementing sustainability initiatives
- 6. Mission Statement:**

Sustainability Definition and Guiding Principles – Adopted July 2005

What is Sustainability?

Sustainable practices support ecological, human, social and economic vitality for both our campus and the global community. Sustainable actions meet present needs while enhancing the environment and the ability of future generations to thrive.

Sustainability Principles and Values

- Employ a holistic approach
 - Address short- and long-term benefits, costs and impacts
 - Integrate environmental, economic and human considerations
 - Link teaching, research and public service with campus planning, development, policy and operations
- Strive for progress
 - Identify metrics or other tools that gauge participation, awareness, and action
 - Evaluate in an iterative, adaptive, and responsive manner
 - Adjust goals and indicators as new insights are gained
 - Employ continuous improvement
 - Seek and apply knowledge from others
- Promote sustainability as a shared responsibility
 - Engage faculty, staff, students and visitors
 - Conduct open and accessible communication
 - Enhance interdisciplinary teaching and research

- Improve coordination and relationships throughout the campus community

7. Goals

Continue implementation of January 2006 report: Blueprint for a Green Future
<http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/bulletins/downloads/sustainability.pdf>

8. Funding? From whom?

There is no ongoing budget specifically earmarked for sustainability. Some initiatives are being implemented in the normal course of business within existing budgets (i.e. Climate Registry, Strategic Sourcing, LEED building design, Recycling) while other specific projects have been funded ad hoc. All ad hoc funding (about \$100k) has been provided by the Office of Administration.

9. Structure – Subcommittees or working groups? List these.

5 Subcommittees:

- a) Campus Planning and Transportation
- b) Education and Outreach
- c) Energy and Atmosphere
- d) Green Buildings
- e) Materiel Management

10. Activities/Events organized by the Committee:

- a) Sponsored SCUP webcast on October 2006 Sustainability Day
- b) Sponsored a Vendor Faire for sustainable products on October 2006 Sustainability Day
- c) Co-sponsored Sustainability Summit in May 2007 with California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC)
- d) Planning multiple events to coincide with Focus the Nation on January 31, 2008.

11. Accomplishments or achievements to date:

- a) Campus sustainability web site sustainability@ucdavis.edu launched in October 2006
- b) Developed purchasing sustainability web site
<http://purchasing.ucdavis.edu/geninfo/sustainability.cfm>
- c) Conducted training for buying staff in sustainable products
- d) Significant expansion of R4 recycling programs and activities: organics diversion, Clean Sweep Campaign, Styrofoam peanut reuse program, Mini-bin program, Zero Waste events, Sports Recycling Program
- e) Student Housing received 9th place in the 2006 Recyclemania grand champion division
- f) Significant efforts in food service sustainability: recycling, composting, locally grown, natural/organic, health, environmental impact, education
- g) Sustainability grant competition: awarded 7 projects
 - a. Sustainability education in the Design Department
 - b. Project Compost – worm composting project
 - c. Sustainable gardening signs for the UC Davis Arboretum
 - d. Efficiency of food consumption at UC Davis Dining Commons
 - e. Interpretive graphics system to promote sustainability concepts
 - f. Pedal powered charging table

- g. Toolkit for funding strategies
- h) Joined Climate Registry and achieved first year data certification
- i) Drafted campus Waste Prevention and Recycling Policy
- j) Awarded CalTrans bicycle grant of \$142,500 plus campus funding of \$35,700 for total project funding of \$178,500.
- k) Developing sustainable landscaping guidelines integrating storm water reuse, land and plant materials
- l) Developing metrics to track progress over time
- m) Initiated conversation with City of Davis sustainability staff to collaborate on common issues
- n) Product educational/informational documentary – planned for completion in August 2007
- o) Developing a Greenmap of the campus – planned for completion in the fall

Refer to January 2006 report: Blueprint for a Green Future for historical achievements
<http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/bulletins/downloads/sustainability.pdf>

12. Future plans (if you have any formulated)

- a) Embed sustainability as a cornerstone of the UC Davis Centennial celebration, planned to begin in the fall of 2008. The academic year 2008-09 commemorates 100 years since UC students first began attending classes in Davis. The Centennial is an opportunity to shine a light on the remarkable accomplishments of UC Davis, to celebrate the diversity of our programs and people, and to point the way towards our bright future. Hold the dates for the Centennial Fall Festival, from October 9-12, 2008. There is much to celebrate!
- b) Hope to secure funding for a full-time Sustainability Director
- c) Planning multiple events to coincide with Focus the Nation scheduled on January 31, 2008

13. Other aspects as important

Strong emphasis and focus on partnership with the academic community.
<http://climatechange.ucdavis.edu/>