

UCLA Campus Sustainability Committee Overview

Sustainability Conference, UCSB

June, 2007

- 1. Committee Name:** UCLA Campus Sustainability Committee
- 2. When formed:** 2005 and formally chartered in April 2006
- 3. Reports to:** Chancellor's office (Executive Vice Chancellor)
- 4. Frequency of meetings:** Every other month; subcommittees meet as needed
- 5. Membership composition:** 18 + members
2 undergraduates and 2 graduate students; 4 faculty; Assistant Chancellor; AVCs for General Services (Facilities, Parking and Transportation, and Environmental Health Services), Communications, and Capital Programs; Directors of Purchasing, Housing and Hospitality; Administrators from Student Affairs, Staff Assembly; Co-chaired by Director of the Institute for the Environment and Assistant Director Campus and Environmental Planning.
- 6. Mission Statement:** To promote sustainability in planning, development and operation of the campus environment and facilities as well as in the development of sustainability initiatives in education, research and community service activities.
- 7. Goals:**
 - To engage the campus in an ongoing dialogue about sustainability;
 - To integrate sustainability with existing campus programs in education, research, operations, and community service;
 - To instill a culture of sustainable long-range planning and forward-thinking design.
- 8. Guiding Principles:**
 - Environmental quality, economic health and social equity are mutually dependent.
 - UCLA has the ability and responsibility to assume a leadership role to advance education and research in sustainability.
 - Local actions can and do have global effects.
 - Every individual can effect change by becoming aware of the social, economic and ecological impacts of our personal decisions.
- 9. Funding:** Some seed money was provided by Chancellor's office to staff the Committee and fund attendance at conferences in 2006. Office space and administrative

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support provided by the IoE. A campus commitment to staff a new sustainability position was made in April 2006 and the campus continues to evaluate the appropriate scope and reporting structure for the position.

10. Structure: The CSC has formed four working groups to look at best practices and develop recommendations aimed at supporting ongoing and new sustainability initiatives in the following broad areas:

- Ways and Means
- Formal Education
- Informal Education
- Operations

11. Activities/Events: A Campus Sustainability Website: www.sustain.ucla.edu has been implemented to provide an interactive forum for exchanging information and increasing awareness. The website features a summary report reflecting all the ongoing sustainability activities in education, research and operations at UCLA and setting the stage for future endeavors. A copy of the CSC Charter is also available as well as opportunities for involvement.

12. Accomplishments: Committee is now formally chartered with Chancellor's support to retain a full-time staff position. Working groups are engaged in conducting faculty and student surveys; and developing draft proposals to increase awareness about sustainability in the campus community. Over 20 articles on sustainability and/or sustainability related topics were published in 2006/07 in a variety of communication venues. Student and faculty survey results are being analyzed to determine existing levels of awareness about sustainability among students and faculty, and to establish a data base of existing courses focused on sustainability and/or sustainability-related topics. The campus joined the California Climate Action Registry and has completed collection of 2006 baseline emissions data.

13. Future plans: promote a decision to support preparation of a sustainability assessment and plan; engage in developing a Climate Action Plan for the campus; develop and gain support for new initiatives to promote sustainability building on achievements to date.

14. Academic Initiatives in Sustainability: UCLA has graduated its first students enrolled in the new IoE interdisciplinary program in Environmental Science awarding the Bachelor of Science degree. In addition, the UCLA Anderson School has implemented a new emphasis for graduate students entitled "Leaders in Sustainability" with an interdisciplinary focus involving the Anderson School of Management, the School of Law, the School of Public Affairs, the School of Public Health, the Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, Geography, Economics and others.