

UC Riverside Overview

Chancellor's Committees on Sustainability Conference Session

- 1. Committee Name:** UC Riverside Chancellor's Committee on Sustainability (CCS)
- 2. When formed:** 2/12/2007
- 3. Reports to:** Vice Chancellor Al Diaz & Chancellor France A. Cordova via CCS Chair and EH&S Director Ross Grayson
- 4. Frequency of meetings:** CCS Monthly, subcommittees as needed
- 5. Membership composition:** 79 members on the list-serve from a cross section of academic & administrative units with student representatives

6. Mission Statement:

No defined mission statement, but interprets sustainability as:

... an idealized state where people live long, dignified and productive lives, satisfying their needs in environmentally sound and socially just ways so as to not compromise the ability of other human beings from doing the same now and into the distant future, and as the merging of development¹ and nature conservation efforts.

In practice, achieving sustainability occurs through the process of sustainable development — discovering, adopting, implementing, establishing, and adjusting appropriate institutions, policies, strategies, and technologies to produce a just transition that moves society toward the envisioned idealized state of existence.

UCR Sustainability Policy Statements focus on leadership in:

1. Research and education
2. Operations, grounds, and infrastructure
3. The larger community

7. Goals:

The CCS commits to:

1. Implement the UCOP Green Building Design Policy, Clean Energy Standard, and Sustainable Transportation Practices
2. Cultivate a principled environmental and social ethic for sustainability in all campus activities
3. Maintain and improve health, wellness, environmental integrity, diversity, and social equity on campus
4. Steer campus operations to reduce our negative impact on the environment
5. Support development of integrated educational programs
6. Establish appropriate subcommittees and workgroups

¹ Where *development* is defined as a process of expanding people's choices, the most critical of which afford them greater opportunities for living long, healthy lives, becoming educated, and gaining access to the resources necessary for realizing a decent standard of living, and where development efforts at a minimum create conditions conducive for individuals and communities to develop their full potentials and to have reasonable chances of leading long, creative, productive, and fulfilling lives in accordance with their aspirations and abilities (adapted from [UNDP 1990](#):10).

8. Funding? From whom?

No fixed budget for sustainability initiatives. Accomplishments to date have relied on sourcing through conventional administrative channels. EH&S has dedicated considerable staff time to website development and managing CCS meetings.

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

- Academics
- Community
- Energy & Operations
- Funding & Financing Sources
- Landscaping
- Marketing
- Natural Resources, Recycling, & Waste Reduction
- Performance & Management Systems
- Procurement & Green Purchasing
- Sustainable Building Design
- Sustainable Food Systems
- Transportation

10. Activities/Events organized by the Committee:

- Ongoing “get caught being green” program to reward individuals for green behavior.

11. Accomplishments or achievements to date:

Campus Sustainability Champions

The following departments/facilities have worked hard to reduce the negative impact on our environment and at the same time protect the UCR community.

Environmental Health & Safety

1. Led drive cooperatively with Sustainable UCR to establish the CCS.
2. Developed and maintains UCR Sustainability website.
3. Led search for, and houses new Sustainability Initiatives Manager.
4. Developed sustainability poster for promotional use at outdoor events.
5. Developed sustainability orientation materials for new students for fall 2007.

Physical Plant

1. Replaced standard light fixtures with low-energy-use fixtures.
2. Uses thermal energy storage tanks to optimize UCR’s efficient use of power.
3. Uses computer controlled irrigation systems that “sense” moisture levels and irrigate only when and where needed.
4. Uses low VOC paints (minimizing the release of volatile organic compounds into our air).
5. Composts campus green wastes.
6. Uses non-toxic and low-toxicity pesticides.
7. Uses biodegradable cleaning solutions.

Fleet Services

1. Was awarded in June 2006 for having the largest alternative fuel vehicle fleet in the University of California system.

2. Was named as one of the top 100 Alternative Fueled fleets in the US.
3. Switched to water-based cleaning chemicals.
4. Partnered with C-CERT to obtain five additional electric vehicles by the end of February 2006.

Printing & Reprographics

1. Uses 90% Soy based inks.
2. Of the paper used, more than 60%, about 40,000,000 sheets per year, is recycled.
3. Uses water based solvents that are environmentally safe.
4. Recycles all trim offs from the books, about 12 tons per year.
5. All new copiers ordered use "energy star" power reduction that turns off the heating elements in the fuser when not in use, saving up to 40% of the energy consumed.

Dining Services

1. Recycles the cooking oil to be made into biodiesel.
2. Serves eggs produced by on-campus laying hens.
3. Uses citrus from campus groves in sauces and garnishes and are developing a program to serve campus grown orange juice.
4. Actively participates on the UC System-wide workgroup to continuously improve campus sustainability.

Mail Services

1. Placed blue recycle containers in every department to collect recyclable paper waste.
2. Evaluates all incoming Standard mail for a "clean list" to make sure all former employees are removed from incoming or commercial mailing lists.
3. Recycles all non-distributed phone books and catalogs totaling about two tons per year.
4. Significant percentage of campus-based delivery and low-volume transport vehicles are electric.

Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS)

TAPS manages the campus Alternative Transportation, Carpool, Vanpool, Cyclist & Walker, Public Transit, and Drop Off programs. Other services include the Campus Shuttle, Metrolink Shuttle, and Guaranteed Ride Home programs.

Child Development Center

The UCR Child Development Center (CDC) is accepting used inkjet printer cartridges and cell phones for recycling.

CE-CERT

CE-CERT has an IntelliShare program with Honda Civic GX Natural Gas vehicles that can be used by the campus for transportation in and around UCR. This program is part of the research for new shared-use vehicle systems.

12. Future plans (if you have any formulated):

1. Developing a sustainability performance score card to measure and track progress at UCR from benchmarks and targets
2. Developing comprehensive, holistic policies and specific actions across the widest range of campus operations.
3. Initiate a speaker series on sustainability for the 07/08 academic year.

4. Working on retrofitting the largest campus heat producing boiler to significantly reduce emissions and increase energy efficiency.
5. Will lease Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Hondas at a reduced rate to customers to give them added incentive to use these vehicles.
6. New student "sustainability" orientation materials that include the distribution of sustainability book marks with information on sustainable living.
7. Working to bring a weekly farmers' market to campus.
8. Plan to perform trash autopsies fall quarter.
9. Conduct a logo design competition for fall quarter.
10. Hold a photo competition for fall quarter.
11. Develop a campus community food garden.
12. Energy efficient tree planting.

13. Other aspects as important:

1. UCR signed on to the California Climate Action Registry in December 2006.
2. UCR hired a Sustainability Initiatives Manager who started 11 June 2007 based in Environmental Health & Safety.

14. Contacts:

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