Strategic Planning to Infuse Sustainability into the Curriculum

Krista James, Environmental Science
Wendy Stary, Plastics Engineering
University of Wisconsin- Stout
Sept 2007 UW-Stout became a Charter Signatory of the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment (ACUPCC).

- Reduce greenhouse emissions- neutral carbon footprint goal

- **Sustainability across the curriculum and campus activities**
American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment (ACUPCC).

2008 UW-Stout Stakeholder Visioning: Cornerstone of UW-Stout’s strategic planning process. Do the plans of the university align with stakeholder needs?
The July 2008 visioning session marked the beginning of the next round of planning—lays out series of goals, called FOCUS 2015, to be accomplished by the year 2015.

Participants: 85 attendees including

- Representatives from Board of Regents and UW System Administration
- Technical College and For-Profit University Presidents
- Superintendents of School Districts and Principals
- Politicians
- CEOs from Business and Industry
- City and County Administrators
- Representatives from Economic Development Organizations
- Representatives from the Medical Community
- Stout Foundation Board and Alumni Board Members
- Stout Students, Faculty, Academic Staff, Classified Staff, and Administrators
FOCUS 2015 GOALS

1. Advance diversity knowledge, skill sets, and dispositions in students, faculty and staff.
2. Expand early and ongoing experiential learning opportunities including undergraduate applied research and entrepreneurship
3. Further develop and execute integrated enrollment management
4. Focus on sustainability: President’s Climate Commitment and Classroom Initiatives
To achieve these goals, the annual operating budget process at UW-Stout includes the following steps and processes:

**Summer Strategic Planning Group** - develop University Priorities & Action Plans. Strategies for implementation, assign responsibilities & timelines, allocate resources to support FOCUS 2015 Goal Statements.

**University Priorities**
- More focused documents that zero in on one specific initiative. Closely monitored by the Strategic Planning Group.

**Action Plans**
- Comprehensive documents comprised of multiple initiatives. The number of action plans changes with changing needs.
Timeline

Stakeholder Visioning- every 5 years (THEMES)

Summer strategic planning group- Priorities and Action Plans for the academic year

Campus-wide Listening (Engagement) Sessions- to encourage faculty, staff and students to engage in direct, unfiltered, unedited communication with university administration.

Small group work to assess priorities and action plans
“Integrate sustainability into the curriculum via classroom experiences, research projects, and general education courses, as appropriate.
2 Campus Groups Tasked with Action Plans

- **Environmental Sustainability Steering Committee (ESSC)**
  Vice-Chancellor Diane Moen

- **Sustainability Across the Curriculum Network (SACN)**
  Provost Julie Furst-Bowe
<table>
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<th>Action Plan:</th>
<th>Responsible:</th>
<th>Timeline:</th>
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<td>Recommend a definition of “Infusing Sustainability into Curriculum”.</td>
<td>ESSC and SACN</td>
<td>Nov, 2010</td>
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<td>Provide campus with a list of potential classroom projects from energy conservation &amp; waste reduction policies.</td>
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<td>Provide recommendations to the Chancellor for campus wide academic initiatives.</td>
<td>Krista James with assistance from SACN and ESSC</td>
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Action Plan: Recommend a definition of “Infusing Sustainability into Curriculum”

Curriculum that encourages students to think about environmental, social, and economic factors individually and in relation to one another.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Action Plan: Provide campus with a list of potential classroom projects formulated from the energy conservation & waste reduction policies.

Potential/Future Projects

Environmental Sustainability Office > Potential/Future Projects

Below is a list of potential sustainability-related projects for students, faculty, and staff to engage in. If you are interested in working on any of these projects, please contact UW-Stout’s Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Sarah Rykai, at rykai@uwstout.edu to plan and coordinate the project you are interested in.

If you have ideas for an additional project, please submit your idea here.

Analysis

- Energy audits of campus buildings.
- Waste audit for campus buildings – determining what is recycled versus what is thrown away.
- Campus-owned appliance audit – looking at the number and characteristics (Energy Star, model, year, etc.) of refrigerators, microwaves, printers, etc. for each academic and administrative building.
- Faculty, staff, and student-owned appliance audit – looking at the number and characteristics (Energy Star, model, year, etc.) of refrigerators, microwaves, printers, etc. for each academic and administrative building.
- Recycling bin audit – determining locations and number of recycling bins for all buildings on campus (inside/outside; academic/nonacademic).
- Feasibility study on developing a campus and community food waste recycling network.
- Analyzing current green and natural spaces throughout campus.
- Sustainability applications with Human Resources minor and certificate programs.
- Potential sustainability projects (energy, materials, audits, etc.) linked to UW-Stout’s built environment.
- Programs that currently include sustainability in performance evaluations.
- Green building design/management training (benchmark) of current UW-Stout personnel.
- Options for GREEN training for UW-Stout personnel.
- Rain garden projects for campus/community.
- Course evaluation ministries that assess sustainability competencies.

http://www.uwstout.edu/sustainability/futureproj.cfm
Recycling bin audit of all Academic Buildings
Action Plan: Provide recommendations to the Chancellor for campus wide academic initiatives.

- Enhance web presence: link sustainability information to UW-Stout’s homepage, list courses that incorporate sustainability, identify programs that feature sustainability.

- Integrate sustainability information in campus tours/admissions.

- Offer presentations on sustainability at the new faculty and staff orientations.
• Encourage administrators to make integrating sustainability part of the renewal/performance evaluation process at all levels.

“Programming and activities that incorporate the UW-Stout Priorities are highly encouraged”

• Celebrate successes in sustainable infusion and innovation through formal ceremonies and official recognition
Organize Northwest Earth Institute (NWEI) reading/discussion groups to learn more about sustainability and specific actions that can be taken at home and work.

www.nwei.org
Sustainability Across the Curriculum Network (SACN)

2011-2012 Projects
The STARS Program

Assess current curricular offerings

- Course catalog
- ImageNow-accessible curriculum database
- Survey to SACN members
New General Education Categories

Contemporary Issues courses- must show how a topic/issue/problem crosses disciplinary boundaries and a solution is reflective of multiple disciplinary perspectives (must include either B or D category). "The Interdisciplinary Nature of ...."

Social Responsibility/Ethical Reasoning courses - must include an objective that aligns with the GE Objective: "Develop ethical reasoning skills and act responsibly". "Ethics in ...."

HUGE POTENTIAL FOR INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
World Café Event- Oct 6, 2011

http://www.theworldcafe.com

To advance the goal of increasing course offerings related to sustainability across campus.
Sustainability Calendar of Events
Includes ALL sustainability-related activities

Events for Sunday, Sep 18, 2011

No events for today

More events:
Blue Devil Athletics
Blue Devil Productions
Alumni Events
University Recreation

Facebook Twitter

Only UW-Stout events are published here. For regional, local or
UW-Stout
Sustainability-Related
Academic Programs
Majors/Minors

- B.S. Applied Science, Environmental Science
- B.S. Applied Social Science
- Environmental Studies minor
Sustainable Design & Development Minor

Student capstone projects:

• Sustainable planning for a local brewery
• Recycling plan for plastics lab
• Energy audit for university library
• Feasibility study of composting programs for campus
• Vermicomposting program: Child & Family Study Ctr
• Research to improve water quality of Lake Menomin
A collaborative, online Bachelor of Science degree completion program offered by UW-Parkside, UW-River Falls, UW-Stout and UW-Superior with administrative and financial support from UW-Extension.

Introduction

Energy independence and an educated workforce are critical to a prosperous future for Wisconsin. To respond, the University of Wisconsin-Extension has brought together the strengths of four different University of Wisconsin campuses — UW-Parkside, UW-River Falls, UW-Stout and UW-Superior — to craft a degree completion program that equips workers with the management skills they will need to lead sustainable business initiatives.

Careers Benefitting from the Sustainable Management Degree

Far from an academic exercise, the Sustainable Management degree takes the theories of sustainability and makes them tangible in the business setting. It's a hands-on, problem-solving degree. By teaching the fundamentals of the Triple Bottom Line, graduates can immediately start helping their companies create profits, preserve the environment, and improve their surrounding communities.

- The **Facilities Manager** who has to compare the costs of solar panels to clean coal to biofuels to determine not only the total currency cost but also the carbon cost
- The **Plant Manager** who must manage storm water run-off in an environmentally sensitive way and also install geothermal systems that use the Earth's temperature to heat and cool the plant
- The **Human Resources Director** who must look at the long-term impact of today's labor decisions on the welfare of the community
- The **Product Manager** who must figure out a new paint technology that