

Examples of Campus Strategies

Institution: Millsaps College

Team: Jeannie Bryson (Student, ACS Environmental Intern), Robert Caskey (Student, ACS Environmental Intern), Johnie Marie Whitfield (Faculty), and Stan Galicki (Faculty)

Plan: The primary focus of our initiative was the improvement of the campus recycling operation. In the 12-year history of recycling at Millsaps we have successfully implemented recycling of aluminum cans and mixed/office paper. The system is currently operated by the Housekeeping and Physical Plant staff. Plans developed at the SCDC II focused on improving efficiency, awareness, and the expansion of the program.

Short-term goals include the incorporation of newsprint into the recycling stream and a recycling awareness campaign. Additional recycling bins will be placed in 3 critical locations on campus, the Library, Political Science Department, and the Else Business School. The new bins will be dedicated to newsprint only. Presently the project will have to be student operated, the interns and the student environmental group EARTH will coordinate the effort and deliver the paper to the recycler as needed. A second effort will focus on campus awareness with respect to the recycling program. The interns felt that the recycling in the dorms was inefficient. Small containers will be placed on each floor of the dorms enabling students to recycle more effectively and raise their awareness. The interns have also started a column in the campus newspaper to help increase awareness and the dissemination of information.

Intermediate goals include the institution of a planned presentation at orientation for incoming freshman and the assumption of all recycling responsibilities by the Physical Plant. The team felt strongly that for continuity and efficiency students should begin to hear and think about sustainability issues from the moment they arrive on campus. The team also recognized that Physical Plant Personnel should operate the recycling program so that student energy could be directed at alternative issues.

A final note relates to the upstream reduction of waste through the elimination of bottled drinks from vending machines. We do not recycle plastic, we do not want it. We have already contacted the local Coke distributor and started looking at the options.

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Institution: Centre College

Team: Preston Miles (Faculty), Scott Messner (Director of Physical Plant), Jerry Meyer (Physical Plant)

Plan: We certainly make no commitments on the part of the College, but from our experiences and discussions, we offer these suggestions.

- That LEED and Life Cycle Analysis and energy efficiency best practices be considered early in the planning process for future remodeling and new construction.
- That the concepts and principles of sustainability be brought to the attention of the campus – both individuals and groups. We would like to make presentations to ECCO and Building and Grounds Committee.
- That senior staff examine concepts, and consider adopting practices and policies for a sustainable campus.

Institution: Rhodes College

Team: Brian Foshee (Director of Physical Plant), J.Peter Ekstrom (Associate Professor of Anthropology), Mac McWhirter (Comptroller and Assoc. Dean of Admin. Ser.), Midu Bagrodia (Senior Chemistry Major), and Neal McGough (Student)

Plan: The Rhodes' team of 4 brought back ideas and enthusiasm from the Sustainability Clinic II at Emory Nov. 10-12. They reported to the RPC (Rhodes Planning Cooperative) last week and infused the group with new ideas and enthusiasm. RPC have decided to focus on devising a Master Plan of action. We will meet for a 7:30am Wednesday breakfast every other week to develop a plan for introducing and coordinating sustainability issues on campus. This will be our major project for the next semester.

Several of the ideas in the team's report, however, fall within established structures on campus and will be instituted now. For example, assessing traffic and parking problems on campus will be part of Anthropology 300 "The Map is Not the Territory?" class; investigating landscaping with native plants, porous pavement, and composting, plus campus audits will be topics for student research projects in Geology 214 Environmental Geology this spring. We decided to try to bring George

Bandy to campus for a public lecture sponsored by the student environmental group, Campus Green. Additionally, we plan to invite the city councilman for our neighborhood to speak to the RPC about porous pavements. And perhaps most significantly, our commitment to institutionalizing the RPC as an official committee at Rhodes was reinvigorated, and we are currently drafting a proposal to try to accomplish this goal.

Institution: Southwestern University

Team: Stephanie Ritter (Student), Emily Niemeyer (Faculty), Laura Hobgood-Oster (Faculty), Ruben Torres (Physical Plant), and Gary Logan (Fiscal Affairs)

Plan: Our plan incorporates the following goals.

1. Create Environmental/Sustainability Oversight Team
 - Membership – staff, student, faculty, administration, safety officer
 - Chairperson – Ruben Torres (if time/schedule allows his participation at this level)
2. Environmental Assessment of Campus
 - Formulate long range environmental strategic plan for SU
 - Organize information already gathered (from campus audit that students conducted two years ago) and determine what information needs to be gathered at this point
 - Prioritize plan based on assessment
3. Campus Educational Initiative
 - Speakers
 - Workshops
 - Hall programs
 - Campus activism
 - Campus assessment brochures
4. Ongoing projects while above goals are being organized
 - Implement the “already in process” recycling initiative
 - Solidify SEAK (Students for Environmental Awareness and Knowledge)

Institution: Washington and Lee

Team: Robert Akins (Professor of Engineering, Chair of Campus Environmental Planning and Management Committee, and ACS Fellow), Tom Contos (Director of Facilities Planning), Scott Beebe (Director of Physical Plant), Helen Downes and

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Blaine Clarke (ACS Interns), Joe Atkins (VMDO Architects), and Tomas Woltz and Jocelyn Kelley (Nelson-Byrd Landscape Architects).

Plan: We intend to continue three existing initiatives and will begin planning for three new initiatives. The existing initiatives are:

- Work to expand the recycling program, adopt an institutional goal based on percentage by weight, and have aluminum added to the mixed paper by then end of this academic year.
- Follow our environmental guidelines through the design of the new University Commons. A workshop was held November 30 where the architects outlined how they hope to address our guidelines in the design. A second workshop will be held in May to explain the final design. These guidelines are based on the LEED 1.0 and Energy Star requirements.
- Participate with the City of Lexington in the restoration and remediation of portions of Woods Creek, which flows through our campus. The City has submitted a proposal to a state program and Washington and Lee is participating as a partner and via cost sharing.

New initiatives for the academic years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 are:

- Undertake a quantitative campus environmental assessment in conjunction with the Environmental Studies Program.
- Work to develop strategies to advance efficiency and conservation in both energy and water use.
- Improve our landscape management practices.

Institution: University of the South

Team: Emily Wright-Timko (Student ACS environmental intern), Jennie Trimble (Student), Marvin Pate (Director of Physical Plant), Michelle Thompson (Assistant Dean of Students), Laurie Kianka (Projects Coordinator, Physical Plant/Admin), and Robin Gottfried (Professor of Economics)

Plan: Detailed below are short and long term goals for renewing the recycling program at Sewanee. The main focus is to create a more sustainable recycling program that evolves from being primarily student driven. Short term goals include conducting a student survey to ascertain interest and commitment, re-organizing our environmental action group "ECO-Domain" to support these initiatives, and

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establishing contact with key players in order to design an operational plan and gather realistic costs. Launch of two immediate initiatives such as requiring 2-sided copying on campus and building in recycling requirements into an upcoming new contract with the university food service provider are planned for this semester. With these short term goals and initiatives established a presentation to the University's Vice Chancellor/President would be the next step.

With the support from the top administration, a new recycling program will require purchase of new equipment, construction of recycling gathering points, and training of key personnel. The goal is to have the program up and running by January of 2002. With the operational plan underway, education and publicity will be a key part of the initiation of the new program. A speaker's series about supporting a sustainable campus will be presented and sponsored each year. Along with education and buy-in, incentives programs for different constituencies on campus will be developed. For example, educational campaigns to increase recycling in certain academic buildings and residence halls would be supported by competition and rewards. Immediate and long term analysis of the new program will be essential. With recycling operating well, focus will be given to reducing and reusing. Initiatives such as composting will be planned for and implemented.