



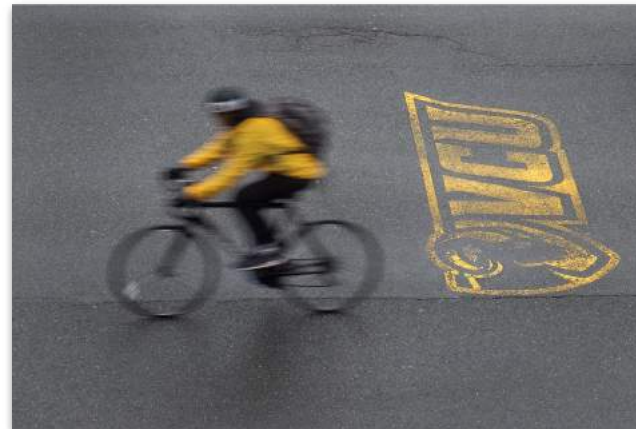
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SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Faculty Senate Meeting - October 2022

VCU sustainability & related initiatives

- Campus and buildings
 - 22 LEED certified buildings
 - GHG emissions, water & waste
- Reporting & recognition
 - 2021 STARS Gold (AASHE)
- Education, awareness & advocacy
 - Urban gardens & forestry
 - Free Store & Ram Pantry
 - Alternative transportation
 - Planetary Health Report Card (MS4SF)





Guiding principles

- **Bold, collaborative, measurable and creative solutions.** Demonstrate thought leadership in establishing goals across a wide spectrum of opportunities to improve sustainability at both the university and health system.
- **Influence change.** Leverage our role as educators and health professional to raise awareness and foster a culture that inspires changes in everyday behavior and improves operations, teaching, healing and research.
- **Meaningful and achievable goals.** Prioritize goals and commitments based on impact and feasibility.
- **Local and global impact.** Consider how the plan will impact student success, patient care, the community and the world.

Draft focus areas



Environmental issues

- Energy and emissions
- Water use and conservation
- Waste management and reduction
- Greening the OR
- Greening the laboratory



Health and well-being

- Indoor air quality
- Food
- Fitness
- Health, safety and well-being



Biodiversity and ecology

- Biodiversity
- Landscape management



Research, teaching and innovation

- Courses
- Publications in accredited journals
- Green technology patents and practice



Environmental equity, partnerships and engagement

- Climate resilience
- Food
- Procurement practices
- Community impact
- Climate/equity

Timeline



Phase 1

May - Aug 2022

- Revise project plan
- Develop communications and engagement plan
- Complete benchmarking
- Draft guiding principles and focus areas
- Begin to seat working groups, select chairs, prep agendas, gather research and support materials for working groups

Phase 2

Sept 2022 - Nov 2023

- Continue to seat working groups, select chairs, prep agendas, gather research and support materials for working groups
- Working groups meet to develop goals, targets and strategies
- Engagement activities to build interest and buy-in

Phase 3

Nov 2023 – April 2024

- Working groups submit recommendations in Nov
- Begin cost assessment based on goals, targets and strategies
- Draft plan: Nov - Jan
- Engagement activities to gather feedback on the plan Feb-Apr
- Build sustainability plan dashboard

Phase 4

May 2024 - Aug 2024

- Write and design final plan
- Present final plan to BOV and BOD in June
- Plan dashboard and website go live
- Communications and engagement activities to market the final plan

The team

- Executive Sponsors
- Development Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Working groups
- Project team
- Partners





Working groups

- Working group for each focus area
- Membership
 - Balance of VCU and VCUHS staff and faculty
 - 2 co-chairs and ~6 members
- Set targets, identify gaps, determine KPIs, identify and prioritize solution sets, and provide costs and budgets
- Review, revise and recommend data sets; holistic approach to data sets; integrate 5 focus areas



Current faculty participation

- Development Committee
 - Andrew Barnes, School of Medicine Health Behavior Policy
 - L. Harold Barnwell, College of Health Professions
 - Jesse Goldstein, College of Humanities and Sciences
- Advisory Committee
 - Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger, Center for Environmental Studies
 - Michael S. Donnenberg, School of Medicine
 - Corin Hewitt, School of the Arts
 - Jonathan Jones, Center for Environmental Studies
 - William R. Muth, emeritus professor, School of Education
 - Mark D. Wood, School of World Studies
 - Wilhelm Zuelzer, MD, School of Medicine
- Project Team
 - David Berdish, School of Business



Engagement opportunities

- **Faculty Senate** and/or **Dean's Council** updates at key milestones
- Present at **departmental staff meetings** on request
- **Town halls** and **open houses** to be scheduled at key project milestones
- ONE VCU **marketing channels** to relay project information
- ONE VCU Sustainability Plan **survey**
- **Contributions in writing** may be sent to sustainplan@vcu.edu

A vertical decorative border on the left side of the slide, composed of various white line-art icons. These icons represent different aspects of sustainability, including a microscope, a heart with an ECG line, an apple, a person riding a bicycle, a water drop, a leaf, a handshake, a building, and a person walking. The icons are arranged in a dense, repeating pattern.

Questions, suggestions and more info

Visit: sustainabilityplan.vcu.edu

Email: sustainplan@vcu.edu