

**Academic Affairs
Sustainability Group* Meeting**

**June 6, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
UN 211**

Agenda

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| I. Welcome and Introductions | Stephens |
| II. Genesis of the Greening Initiative | Vasisht |
| a. Definitions | |
| b. Resources and Links | |
| III. Proposed Scope of Initiative | Stephens |
| IV. Proposed Institute for Sustainability | Jennings |
| V. Planned Faculty Survey | Kurland/Zell |
| VI. Future Meeting Schedule/Action Items | Stephens |

*Anticipated Attendees (as of 6/5/08):

Helen Cox	Geography
Shoeleh Di Julio	Mechanical Engineering
Susanna Eng	Library
Joyce Feucht-Haviar	Extended Learning
Marilynn Fillbeck	Health & Human Development
Steven Fitzgerald	Computer Science
Thomas Hatfield	Environmental and Occupational Health
Hamid Johari	Mechanical Engineering
Kristy Michaud	Political Science
Michael Neubauer	Mathematics
Kyriakos Pontikis	Family and Consumer Sciences
S.K. Ramesh	Engineering and Computer Science
Philip J. Rusche	Education
Elizabeth Say	Humanities
Paula Schiffman	Biology
Michael Spagna	Education
Matthew Terhune	Social and Behavioral Sciences
Renate Wigfall	Health and Human Development

Core Team:

Hedy Carpenter	Graduate Studies, Research & Int'l Programs
William Jennings	Business and Economics
Nancy Kurland	Management
Diane Stephens (Chair)	Academic Resources and Planning
Ashwani Vasisht	Urban Studies and Planning
Deone Zell	Management

CSUN Greening Project: An Initial Proposal and A Call for Participation

The University campus is in the process of formalizing a set of initiatives aimed at strengthening sustainability practices within CSUN. There are four broad initiatives proposed within the Greening Project:

- **Establish a multi-college Institute for Sustainability** - This institute will serve as the umbrella to coordinate and organize CSUN's research, teaching, and formal University implementation efforts to green the campus.
- **Initiate a footprinting protocol** - This protocol will assess impacts campus operations have on the environment, in terms of carbon emissions, resource consumption, waste generation, water footprint and other ecological variables. And it will also offer on-going research, teaching, and service opportunities for faculty and students across the campus.
- **Reorganize the undergraduate curriculum and initiate a Graduate Certificate Program** focused around issues of sustainability
 - Identify existing graduate and undergraduate courses that pertain in some way to issues of sustainability, perhaps with the ultimate objective of establishing a GE Concentration in Sustainability that might become a required component of the GE curriculum,
 - Initiate a new sustainable development-focused graduate-level certificate and specialization program, perhaps through the Tseng College of Extended Learning, and which would include carbon market management, green business practices, green manufacturing and engineering, as well as global change and ecological planning,
 - Develop a set of Student Learning Objectives for General Education courses that serve to ensure students are well grounded in the principles and practices of sustainability thinking, and to help organize interdisciplinary efforts to teach sustainability from diverse perspectives and with multiple objectives.
- **Form a stakeholder-based Campus Task Force to direct sustainability-related activities and events on campus** - This Task Force would be broadly constituted from faculty, staff, students and community members. It would meet on a periodic basis and would coordinate efforts to green the campus and the University body on an everyday basis.

We will be seeking active participation from faculty, staff and students interested in all these sustainability-related initiatives. **But first, please respond to [a brief survey](#) to help build a database of research and teaching expertise.** To help us create a database of expertise and to ensure a participatory process for the Greening Project, we need to know what faculty are already doing. We invite faculty to complete the survey at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=6PqQDDHB_2bLvEkE_2buRTC_2fBw_3d_3d

Background Information

Resource material for the CSUN Greening Project is compiled at a [Campus Sustainability Resources web page](#) <http://www.csun.edu/~vasishth/Campus_Sustainability_Resources.htm>; this website will be periodically updated as the Greening Project unfolds.

The broad-ranging campus wide set of initiatives have been triggered by the research and pedagogical interests of faculty at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (Dr. [Ashwani Vasishth](#)) in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Dean [Stella Theodoulou](#)), and at the Department of Management (Dr. [Nancy Kurland](#) and Dr. [Deone Zell](#)) in the College of Business

and Economics (Dean [William P. Jennings](#)). The effort seeks to better integrate research, teaching and implementation practices across the campus, with assistance from the Office of the Provost, Academic Resources, and the Dean of the College of Business and Economics.

[Diane Stephens](#), Director, Academic Resources, is facilitating the **Greening Project**.

Dr. [William P. Jennings](#), Dean, College of Business and Economics, is facilitating discussion amongst the various deans about the formation of the **Institute for Sustainability**.

The **Footprinting Protocol** will be directed by an interdisciplinary committee of faculty, staff, and students which is expected to emerge within the next few months.

The **Curriculum Reorganization and the Graduate Certificate Program** will be directed by an interdisciplinary committee of faculty and students which will also take shape within the next few months. This will be based, in part, on a **survey of faculty** being conducted by Dr. [Zell](#), Dr. [Kurland](#), and Dr. [Vasishth](#).

The **Task Force** initiative will take shape within the next few months as well, and will be based on a strongly participatory approach.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Dr. [Ashwani Vasishth](#) at (818) 677-6137, Dr. [Deone Zell](#) at (818) 677-4500, Dr. [Nancy Kurland](#) at (818) 677-4440, or [Diane Stephens](#) at (818) 677-5929.