

CSUN's Sustainability Initiative (CSUN-SI)

We are CSUN faculty and administrators from multiple disciplines who seek to further green our campus and the community by educating our students, and providing opportunities for research, professional practice, community interaction, and service learning. We define sustainable development as that which "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland Report, 1987). We argue that a decision is sustainable when it takes appropriate account of economic, environmental, and social equity factors.

More specifically, we intend to:

- **Establish a multi-college Institute of Sustainability** - This institute will serve as the umbrella to coordinate and organize CSUN's research, teaching, and community outreach.
- **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. It will offer on-going research, teaching, and service opportunities.
- **Reorganize the undergraduate curriculum and initiate graduate certificates and graduate programs** around sustainability issues – We seek 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 periodically and assist CSUN's formal efforts to green the campus.

Brundtland, G (ed) (1987). Our Common Future: The World Commission on Environment and Development, Oxford: Oxford University Press.