We’re All in this Together, So Now What?
Sustainability at Texas A&M

Kelly Wellman, Sustainability Director
November 13, 2015
What if it's a big hoax and we create a better world for nothing?

- Energy independence
- Preserve rainforests
- Sustainability
- Green jobs
- Livable cities
- Renewables
- Clean water, air
- Healthy children
  etc. etc.
What is Sustainability?
What is Sustainability?

Meeting the needs of the present without sacrificing future generations ability to meet those same needs...

Environmental Sustainability

Economic Sustainability

Social Sustainability
Sustainable Society

ENVIRONMENTAL
Sustainable Society

ENVIRONMENTAL

SOCIAL
Sustainable Society

ENVIRONMENTAL

SOCIAL

ECONOMIC
SUSTAINABILITY

- LGBTQ Rights
- Racial Justice
- Living Wage
- Sea Level Rise
- Deforestation
- Wildlife
- Gender Equality
- Education
- Consumption
- Energy
- Water
- Immigration
- Slavery
- Income
- Poverty
- Climate Disruption
- Food
- Health
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Transportation
- Built Environment
- Green House Gas Emissions
- Waste
- Recycling
- Pollution
- Housing
- Environmental Justice
- Renewable Energy
- Air Quality
- Bio-Diversity Loss
Why is it Important?

DECLINING
resources and ecosystem services

INCREASING
demand for resources and ecosystem services

Adapted from the Natural Step
PARTNERSHIPS

- Sustainability & Environmental Management Committee
  Represents students, faculty, & staff

- Sustainability Coalition

- Student Organizations
  Environmental Issues Committee, One Love, Emerging Green Builders, NAEP, EPIC, Eco Reps

- Operational Partners
RECYCLING
MATERIAL PROFILE

Total 14,767 Tons
140+ material recovery locations

Recycled materials:
- paper
- cardboard
- plastic
- aluminum cans
- ink/toner cartridges
RECYCLING PROGRAM

1000 TONS

1000 Cows

1000 tons of recycled material annually from buildings

10 COWS
20,000 LBS
TRADITIONAL
RECYCLING PROFILE

Cardboard [42%]
Plastic [6%]
Aluminum [2%]
Glass [1%]
Paper [49%]

Total 1,052 Tons
RECYCLING DROP OFFS

• Accessible 24/7
• Paper, OCC, aluminum, plastic 1-7
• Four drop off locations:
  • Southside - The Commons
  • Northside – Lot 32
  • Garden Apartments
  • Adriance Lab Rd (West Campus)
COMBINED HEAT & POWER
Campus Size vs. Energy Consumption
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Energy Consumption per GSF reduced by 45 Percent over 11 Year Period (FY02 - FY13)
$162 Million in Purchased Energy Cost Avoidance

Requires Continuous Optimization and Improved Operational Efficiency
ENERGY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

• Full implementation in FY12
• Six Energy Stewards
• Stewards actively foster improved relationships and customer service in assigned campus buildings
ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

CAR SHARING

- Rent by hour or day
- 24/7 vehicle access
- Gas & insurance included
- Membership fee

http://www.zipcar.com/universities/texas-a-and-m

RIDE SHARING

- Free Membership
- Split the cost
- Spare the air
- Share the ride

http://www.zimride.com/tamu/
BIKE FIX IT STATIONS

- 6 stations
- Can perform basic repairs
- Outdoor Recreation Center
  - Bike clinics
  - Hub Do-It Yourself Fix-It
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

U.S. BUILDINGS IMPACTS ON RESOURCES

- 39% of total energy use
- 68% of total electricity consumption
- 38% of total CO2 emissions
- 12% of total water consumption
Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LEED BUILDINGS

• Gold Certified
  • Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building (ILSB)
  • Texas A&M Transportation Institute

• Silver Certified
  • Mitchell Physics
  • Emerging Technologies and Economic Development (ETED)
  • Agricultural Headquarters Building

• Designed to Gold
  • Cox-McFerrin Center for Aggie Basketball

• Designed to Silver
  • Memorial Student Center
  • YMCA
Foundational Statement

We work to respect, protect, and preserve the financial, environmental, and people resources that make Texas A&M and our community so great, not only for today, but also for future generations of Aggies.
INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT GOALS

1. Reporting and Progress
2. Education and Outreach
3. Aggie Green Fund
SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN

Sustainability 12

1) Management of Climate Change
2) Purchasing of Sustainable Goods and Services
3) Optimization of Energy Use
4) Sustainable Food and Dining
5) Management of Water Resources
6) Waste Management
7) Sustainable Land Use
8) Use of Green Building Practices
9) Utilization of Alternative Transportation and Fuels
10) Improving Social and Economic Factors
11) Education and Research
12) Management and Funding Support
2012 Biennial Report –
http://sustainability.tamu.edu/documents.aspx

2014 Biennial Report –
http://sustainability.tamu.edu/documents.aspx
PRINCETON REVIEW FINDINGS

2104 Survey - 14,000+ applicants (9,955) and their parents (4,170)

• If you (your child) had a way to compare colleges based on their commitment to environmental issues (from academic offerings to practices concerning energy use, recycling, etc.), how much would this contribute to your (your child’s) decision to apply to or attend a school?
SUSTAINABILITY TRACKING ASSESSMENT RATING SYSTEM

- Transparent process
- Self-reporting
- Positive reward scoring
- Apples to apples
- Save time on surveys - other reports can use this data
STARS 2.0

Categories

- Academics
- Engagement
- Operations
- Planning & Administration
- Innovation
STARS RATINGS
PEER INSTITUTIONS VISION 2020

SCORE

100
85
65
45
25

STARS
PLATINUM

STARS
GOLD

STARS
SILVER

STARS
BRONZE

Reporter

stars

aashe

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
Texas A&M University
Stars Performance

Stars Score

Year Submitted

2012

2015

2018

Platinum

Gold

Silver

Bronze

47.51
STARS RATINGS
PEER INSTITUTIONS VISION 2020

- **PLATINUM**
  - 66.74
  - 68.32
  - 68.80
  - 70.01
  - 70.07
  - 71.18
  - 78.45

- **GOLD**
  - 50.16
  - 54.63
  - 55.88
  - 59.10
  - 59.14
  - 62.51
  - 64.54

- **BRONZE**
INTERNERSHIP TEAMS
INTERNSHIP TEAMS

Campus Engagement
WHY SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION?

1. Make TAMU more aware of sustainable practices in everyday life!
2. Reduce the overall consumption of TAMU
3. Make sustainability a tradition and create a culture of sustainability
SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION

1. Communication & Participation
2. Recycling & Waste
3. Kitchen
4. Energy
5. Purchasing
6. Transportation
7. Meetings
8. Social Sustainability
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication &amp; Participation</th>
<th>Recycling &amp; Waste Minimization</th>
<th>Kitchen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take the pledge</td>
<td>No personal printers</td>
<td>Community appliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability signage</td>
<td>No individual trash cans</td>
<td>Bring a reusable cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow on Social Media</td>
<td>Use rechargeable batteries</td>
<td>Use office dishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make a sustainability team</td>
<td>Recycle paper, plastic, aluminum, and glass</td>
<td>Unplug appliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend sustainable events</td>
<td></td>
<td>Use environmentally friendly soap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>Purchasing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk or bike during the day</td>
<td>Switch off power strips</td>
<td>Use recycled paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use teleconferencing</td>
<td>Use LEDs</td>
<td>Buy local food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpool with coworkers</td>
<td>Turn off computers</td>
<td>Reduce canned beverages purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride the Aggie Spirit</td>
<td>Use natural light</td>
<td>Avoid bottled water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No space heaters</td>
<td>Use EPEAT appliances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<th>Meetings</th>
<th>Social Sustainability</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish environmental goals</td>
<td>Complete Climate Assessment</td>
<td>Use recycled paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go paperless</td>
<td>Participate in Big Event</td>
<td>Buy local food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring a reusable mug</td>
<td>Attend seminars or workshops</td>
<td>Reduce canned beverages purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit food leftovers</td>
<td>Complete Developing Cultural Competence</td>
<td>Avoid bottled water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No single-serve containers</td>
<td>Become an Aggie Ally</td>
<td>Use EPEAT appliances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEPS TO YOUR CERTIFICATION

1. Designate an office liaison
2. Complete the checklist
3. Make changes or improvements
4. Schedule an audit
EARN YOUR STARS

1 Star
SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION
Charter Member

2 Star
SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION
Charter Member

3 Star
SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION
Charter Member

4 Star
SUSTAINABLE OFFICE CERTIFICATION
Charter Member

25% 50% 69% 85%
SOC OFFICES

Pilot Offices
• Energy Stewardship Office
• Environmental Programs
• Residence Life Admin
• VP for Administration

Recent Offices
• Texas Target Cities
• Human Resources
• College of Agriculture – Office of the Dean
• Environ. Health & Safety
AGGIE GREEN FUND

• Awarded $272,000+ in first year
• Awarded $334,700+ in second year
• Awarded $268,200+ in third year
• Awarded $233,400+ in fourth year
• Awarded $258,800+ in fifth year
• Total awards - $1,367,100+
SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT: ALL IDEAS WELCOME!

"CHANGE YOUR CAMPUS, CHANGE YOUR WORLD"

ABSTRACTS DUE: NOV 30TH
TAKE THE PLEDGE

http://sustainability.tamu.edu/take-the-pledge.aspx
THE PLEDGE

Waste
Energy
Transportation
Social Sustainability
Water
Food
Participation
WHAT ARE SOME ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE?
Lost Generation
IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO
QUESTIONS?

Creating a Culture of Sustainability

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