

Introduction

The world is facing an environmental crisis. Because the missions of institutions of higher education are education and research, these institutions should participate in the process of finding solutions to the environmental, social and economic issues regarding sustainability. As one of these institutions with a global population, the University of Houston would like to begin participating in the dialogue about sustainability; how it is defined, what it means for the campus, how to measure the university's efforts, and then translate these measurements into a comprehensive Campus Sustainability Strategic Plan.

Vision

Our vision is for UH to be an environmentally aware and sustainable community. We are committed to balancing economic, social and environmental factors to help ensure that we meet our present needs, while enabling future generations to benefit from our enlightened stewardship.

Sustainability Task Force Mission

Our Task Force mission is to promote the goal of building a more sustainable campus and community by fostering a culture through education that leads the community to be environmentally literate and aware of its environmental impact. We will disseminate this knowledge to the campus community; and once the campus is educated, change behavior to create a campus culture of sustainability.

Our role

The Sustainability Task Force was created to:

- Educate the campus and the community about sustainable practices
- Review benchmarking initiatives of our peer institutions and continuously strive to implement practices which are ecologically, environmentally, socially and fiscally sound
- Recommend those practices that address the UH sustainability mission

The Task Force will be comprised of representatives from the campus community including faculty, staff and students. We will establish three working committees: The Executive Committee, the Policy & Planning Committee and the Education & Marketing Committee.