



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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MEMORANDUM

October 4, 2004

TO: Les Thiele, Chair
UF Committee on Sustainability

FROM: Dave Newport, Director
Office of Sustainability,
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RE: Requested information

Attached please find a table of the "University of Florida High Priority Sustainability Recommendations, Action Items, and Fiscal Issues Work Sheet." The committee may want to use this as a discussion document/work sheet to qualitatively estimate the fiscal issues related to implementing each item. With the exception of the energy/greenhouse arena, a more rigorous quantification of the fiscal issues related to these items is beyond the scope of my office's present staffing and resources.

On the following pages, this memorandum summarizes information relayed from colleagues at other institutions and some published data related to the status, organizational positioning, funding, and breadth of environmental and sustainability-related personnel at peer institutions. These data are mostly anecdotal estimates collected in conversations with colleagues over the years. I did search and make some phone calls last week to reconfirm that no literature is available that would enhance these data.

As given in my previous report to the committee, here are the available data from the following schools. I have linked web addresses as available so committee members can browse their sites:

- [UF OOS](#)
 - 0.5 FTE director, 3 GRAs, 3 OPS
- [University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill](#)
 - ~5 FTE
- [Harvard University](#)
 - ~6 FTE staff
 - ~\$1.3-million annual savings since 2000
- [University of British Columbia](#)
 - 3 FT, 4 PT staff, 125 coordinators (volunteers)
 - \$5.4-million saved since 1998-99.

Additional anecdotal information:

- ◆ UT-Austin just hired a sustainability coordinator. She's got one year of funding--and is charged with empanelling a committee to find further funding.
- ◆ Portland State has two sustainability coordinators; one for operations, one for academics. They are both funded by F&A. <http://www.sustain.pdx.edu/>
- ◆ UNH has a robust Sustainability Office--with an endowment funding it in perpetuity. <http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/>
- ◆ Yale's one FTE is funded from a three-year, \$1-million fund from the Provost. This is a new position hired in July 2004.
- ◆ Dartmouth has three year funding for a new position that reports to the Provost. I've attached the advertisement that will come out in the *Chronicle* shortly.
- ◆ Brown's sustainability coordinator is tenured faculty that teaches in addition to managing the program. Foundation funding and internal funding provides operating funds. http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Brown_Is_Green/
- ◆ Tufts' program is about 15 years old--and one of the best. Their Climate program is very successful. Funded internally and externally; about \$1-million in foundation funding for a program that has saved the university substantial money. <http://www.tufts.edu/tie/tci/pdf/TCI-5-year-report.pdf>
- ◆ Penn State does extensive waste reduction/management/recycling operated by Physical Plant (www.opp.psu.edu). They channel the savings into social benefits that everyone supports. The Penn State article I clipped for you details a truly leading edge commitment by the administration. www.facilitiesnet.com/bom/Apr04/Apr04environment.shtml. I am waiting on my colleague there to send me a report very germane to your committee's deliberations called *Finance and Business Strategy for Environmental Stewardship*. An overview of their strategy may be found at <http://www.opp.psu.edu/f&benvstrategy/Old/2003/goals.htm>
- ◆ South Carolina's SUS funds Pat Jerman from the legislature to implement state mandated sustainability. Recent political changes may be threatening that very innovative and successful program. <http://www.sc.edu/sustainableu/>
- ◆ New Jersey's SUS is leading edge. Funded by the legislature/foundations/schools to implement aggressive sustainability goals in all state schools and community colleges. Probably the nation's best statewide program. <http://www.njheps.org/>
- ◆ Georgia Tech uses a Ray Anderson endowment from 1996 to fund their very robust operations, educational, and continuing education endeavors.

<http://www.sustainable.gatech.edu/> To my great chagrin, GT operates several continuing education courses about sustainability-related topics in Florida.

- ◆ Michigan is in the study-committee phase. No funding yet, but lots of on-campus push. However, UM's administration years ago implemented a green fleet policy, committed to climate mitigation measures, etc. <http://www.umich.edu/~usustain/>
- ◆ Middlebury has nothing short of total institutional commitment to sustainability. <http://web.middlebury.edu/offices/enviro/>
- ◆ Michigan State's person is tenured faculty with an EPA grant and a \$1.5 million endowment. <http://www.smep.msu.edu/aboutus.asp>
- ◆ Colorado's lead sustainability person is the EH&S director. He's very active on the EPA task force we are both members of.
- ◆ Florida Gulf Coast University is currently hiring an EH&S director who will do sustainability too.
- ◆ I don't know how Tulane's program is funded but they do a good job. <http://www.tulane.edu/~eaffairs/ceprojects.html>
- ◆ Emory's people are tenured faculty. John Wegner is taking an administration supported sabbatical to become the campus environmental officer.
- ◆ UCONN has a funded program--I don't know from where--that sounds permanent and very busy.
- ◆ UNC's sustainability coordinator Cynthia Shea (formerly of USF's Sustainable Communities Network) is hard funded as a result of an executive order. <http://sustainability.unc.edu/>
- ◆ Duke just hired a recycling/sustainability coordinator--fairly low level, with F&A funds.
- ◆ Wisconsin-Madison has an Environmental Management Coordinator in Facilities Planning that does some sustainability programming too. <http://www2.fpm.wisc.edu/campusecology/>

I have also attached an Excel file of sustainability-related personnel for your review. You may want to contact them for more institution specific information.

Finally, I do have some requests out for further information; as that data becomes available I will pass it along.

Encl: High Priority Recommendations Work Sheet
Sustainability contacts file
Dartmouth advertisement