



# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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Jean Larson, Ph.D., Chair  
University of Florida Faculty Senate  
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Dear Dr Larson

This is to share with the Faculty Senate an interim report from the UF Sustainability Task Force to President Charles Young. The report, "Implementation Proposals for High Priority Recommendations," was requested by President Young during a meeting October 10, 2002 between STF Co-chairs, UF Vice-presidents, Dr. Young, and Faculty Senate Chair Jean Larson. Since that time, the STF has been gathering data, deliberating, and finalizing the attached report.

Highlights of the requested presidential actions that may be of interest to the Faculty Senate include:

### Education

- Send a letter to Deans, Directors, and Department heads (DDD) declaring enhanced sustainability education as consistent with the goals and mission of the university and encouraging its integration into curricula. [*The STF report identified over 125 existing courses with sustainability-related content; available at [www.sustainable.ufl.edu](http://www.sustainable.ufl.edu)*]

### Land Management

- Authorize the Ecology Conservation and Stewardship Committee (ECOS) to coordinate all related programs, develop a "manage for no net loss of biodiversity" policy on UF's campus, and bring related recommendations to the Vice-president for Finance and Administration.
- Direct the ECOS to develop plans to expand coordination/implementation of the policy to all UF lands.

### Transportation

- Assess interests, priorities and funding opportunities for faculty-oriented route services.
- Request Shands and UAA to consider funding pre-paid transit for their employees that access the campus.

### Investments

- The President should appoint a committee representing various groups to make recommendations concerning: (a) adoption of Global Reporting Initiative transparency standards for investment disclosure; and (b) investment policies that incorporate sustainability options. [*There are numerous organizations affiliated with UF that have investment portfolios: the UF Foundation, the UF Research Foundation, the University Athletic Association, Shands Hospital, the various faculty practice plans and, in the future, UF itself. Each of these investment pools has different goals, needs and strategies.*]

### Community Outreach and Integration

- Direct that a task force evaluate sites for a Community Resource Center\* such as the Community Design Center or the Business Incubator
- Direct that a Community Resource Center be created in the appropriate location(s)
- Evaluate possible enhancements to the community section of UF's web site and, where appropriate, implement those enhancements

\* *A Community Resource Center is a staffed location where community members may research and be referred to personnel, information, or activities relevant to community affairs. In short, an Ombudsman office.*

### Organizational Policies and Practices

- Request the Faculty Senate to work with the Provost to develop suggested revisions to the mission to include specific reference to sustainability concerns, including an institutional commitment to diversity.

The Sustainability Task Force continues to detail implementation options for the 34 remaining recommendations transmitted to the President in its Final Report of July 2002. Any input from the Faculty Senate is welcome and encouraged.

Please feel free to contact me or any member of the task force with any questions or comments you may have. It has been a pleasure to serve the Faculty Senate, the President, and the entire University of Florida.

Respectfully yours,

Dave Newport  
Staff to the UF Sustainability Task Force