Sustainability Town Hall

planet blue
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Sustainability Town Hall
Andy Berki
Director, Office of Campus Sustainability

• Expanded OCS
  - customer service
  - efficiency
  - collaboration
• Presentations providing updates of President Schlissel’s initiatives
• Visit booths and identified staff to learn more!
Kevin Morgan
Energy Management

GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION
Goal: Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 25% from 2006 levels by 2025

- Expand use of Cogeneration at the Central Power Plant
- Fund for Renewable Energy Demonstration Projects
- Extend Energy Reduction Efforts Across Campus
- Seek Additional Methods for GHG Reduction
Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 25% from 2006 levels by 2025
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Central Power Plant Upgrade

Increasing the capacity of our combined heat and power plant will make a significant contribution toward the goal.

- Replace purchased electricity from the local utility which is predominantly coal fueled resulting in higher GHG emissions

- Status
- Improve efficiently of the electric and steam cycles through Co-Generation
Renewable Energy Demonstration Projects

Incentivize new and innovative approaches and connect to research capabilities on campus.

• $250,000 for students, faculty, and staff to design and implement demonstration scale projects.
• Small demonstration scale renewable energy generators.
• Provide interactive learning and research opportunities for the campus community.
• Must have a clearly defined budget, proposed schedule and outcome.

Competitive Bid Process:
• Proposals evaluated by a review committee
• Initial proposal should include:
  overall scope
  research/curriculum relationship
  contribution toward the GHG reduction goal
  anticipated benefits to the University community.
Extend Energy Reduction Efforts Across Campus

Plan for expanding Energy Management program

- Currently in the existing general fund buildings
- Effort has begun to expand to auxiliary units, including…
  - University Health and Hospital System
  - Michigan Athletics
  - Student Life
  - NCRC
  - others
- Sharing resources, best practices, tricks of the trade
- If you have questions or suggestions, reach out to us at

energyconservation@umich.edu
Seek Additional Methods for GHG Reduction

F&O efforts on campus

- Chiller plant optimization
- Lighting upgrades
- Ventilation optimization in lab buildings
- Stringent energy guidelines for new buildings & major renovations
- Infusing energy efficiency into building maintenance
- Educating occupants on energy efficient behaviors
WASTE REDUCTION
Goal: Reduce waste sent to landfills by 40% by 2025 from 2006 levels
Waste Bin and Signage Standardization

- Committee charged with determining standards for:
  - Bins
  - Signage
  - Labeling
  - Locations

• Labels & signs are being rolled out to campus.
• Bins will be retrofitted, moved, supplemented and/or replaced in the coming months.
  Project should be complete within 18 months.
Waste Bin and Signage Standardization
Zero Waste Football Stadium

• 2016 - Transition year / Phased approach
  Working with vendors to switch to compostable and recyclable packaging
  Feedback on quality, what works well, what doesn’t
  Stadium waste sort
  Challenge of contamination sneaking in

• 2017 Roll-out compost collection containers & communication on the Athletics website
Waste Stream Study for Health System

• U-M earned “Top 50 Greenest Hospitals” from Becker’s Hospital Review
• U-M Health System accounts for nearly half of University’s solid waste generation
• Unique waste stream creates a challenge as well as opportunities
• Waste Stream Study - to identify types and quantities of waste generated and provide recommendations on diversion.
  January - waste sort
  March - target date for obtaining report on findings
• Chris Victory - Sustainability contact
Composting Expansion & Zero Waste Program

- Expanding pre- & post-consumer composting in dining facilities
- Non-food service buildings - 37% compostable material
- Promoting an institutionalized and expanded zero waste events program
- President Schlissel’s Culture & Waste Reduction Committees:
  - “Implement university-wide organics composting program”
  - “Institutionalize composting for zero waste events, dedicated departments, and dining services.”
Composting Expansion & Zero Waste Program

• Expand existing program and services

• Increased resources for more technical and financial assistance
  - event coordinator resources
  - volunteer training
  - promotional materials/templates
  - support via website and zerowaste@umich.edu

• Target key stakeholders and events

• Encourage offices to establish ongoing composting service for regular events
Composting Expansion & Zero Waste Program

• Phase I:
  University Unions & MCatering

• Phase II:
  Efficiency and expansion in buildings with existing compost service

• Phase III:
  Sustainable workplaces

Targeting key stakeholders, high-profile and high-impact events
Composting Expansion & Zero Waste Program

• Plan to avoid waste
• Communication with vendor / caterer
• Before start = verify materials on site are compostable
• Train volunteers / educate attendees

Zero Waste Event Help: zerowaste@umich.edu
CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY
Emily Canosa, Sustainable Living Experience, Asst. Director

Guiding Principle: We will pursue stakeholder engagement, education, and evaluation strategies toward a campus-wide ethic of sustainability.

Renewed support for existing sustainability initiatives:

- Planet Blue Student Leaders
- Planet Blue Student Innovation Fund
- U-M Sustainable Food Program
- Student Sustainability Initiative
- Planet Blue Ambassadors Program
Sustainable Cultural Indicators Program (SCIP)

Monitoring the progress of creating culture of sustainability on campus since 2012

Comparing 2015 with 2012 data show:
  Increased awareness of sustainable food and waste prevention
  Increase in student involvement
  Campus community taking more actions to reduce waste

Verifies effectiveness of:
  Sustainable Workplace Certification Program
  Planet Blue Ambassadors
  Planet Blue Student Leaders

Work to be done!
  Raise awareness of what UM is doing in all areas of sustainability
  Promote better understanding of alternative modes of travel & benefits
  Communicate what U-M is doing to reduce carbon footprint of buildings

Look for a Record article this or next week to learn more!
Sustainable Living Experience

• Residential learning community in Oxford Houses
• Academic home is Program in the Environment
• Student gateway to sustainability and environmental justice
• Builds student connections with existing opportunities
• Open to incoming freshman regardless of academic focus
• Environmental Justice Learning Circles, perennial garden, Bio Station Retreat
• Application process for next year
• SLE First Year Seminar
Sustainable Food Updates

• Sustainable Food Systems Initiative and “Food Literacy for All” course
• “What’s on Your Plate?” Summer Bridge Scholars Campus Connection
• Fall 2017 Bicentennial theme semester course “UM and the Future of Food”
• U-M Sustainable Food Program minigrants and leadership development fund
• Approximately 250 attendees at the 2016 Harvest Festival
• Hoophouse installation at the Campus Farm to be completed this week
• New Campus Farm Manager, Jeremy Moghtader
• New University of Michigan Sustainable Food Program Manager, Alex Bryan
Please visit tables to learn more about these initiatives and to get involved!