



# Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

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## Strategic Plans that Incorporate Sustainability

Institutions that AASHE staff have identified as having particularly strong emphasis on sustainability within their strategic plans are highlighted.

### Ball State University - [Strategic Plan 2001-2006](#)

One of 6 Goals is to "promote a learning climate that values civility, diversity, multicultural awareness, appreciation of the arts, healthy and productive living, and environmental sustainability."

### Bates Technical College - [2005-2010 Strategic Plan, Goals, & Objectives](#) (pdf)

One objective is to "Implement environmental stewardship and sustainability principles and practices in the development and management of the College facilities."

### Calvin College - [A Five-Year Plan, 2002-2007](#)

"Establish campus standards for both environmental stewardship and environmental health and safety, and develop a monitoring system to assess their impact" is a strategy.

### Central College - [Strategic Planning Documents](#) (pdf)

"To promote and model appreciation of our natural environment and stewardship of its limited resources" is one of 15 campus-wide goals

### Coastal Carolina University - [Strategic Plan 2006-2011](#) (pdf)

Establishes the following goal: "Develop and maintain a sustainability program that promotes the use of environmentally sound development and management practices campus wide and the incorporation of sustainability across the curriculum."

### Dartmouth College - [Forever New: A Strategic Vision for Tomorrow](#) (pdf)

Establishes the following goal: "We must continue to make environmental concerns a significant priority in our decision making, to lead in the implementation of environmentally sustainable practices, and to place Dartmouth at the forefront in the exploration of issues related to the preservation of a healthy biosphere."

### Dickinson College - [Strategic Plan II: FY 2006-2010](#)

Sustainability is a Defining Characteristic in Dickinson's Strategic Plan. The Plan states "The College must serve as a living example of sustainability in all arenas" and sets as an objective "Create a campus culture that is committed to environmental sustainability at all levels."

### Emory University - [Where Courageous Inquiry Leads... Strategic Plan: 2005 – 2010](#)

## Member Spotlight



**Furman University** (Greenville, SC) is our current spotlight campus. Furman is committed to the principles of environmental sustainability, from academics and the classroom to construction and maintenance, from student involvement and the extracurricular to the natural and physical components that make up the campus. [Learn more](#)

[Spotlight your campus](#)

## Top Resources

[AASHE Digest 2006](#)

[New Energy for Campuses Report](#)

[AASHE Bulletin](#)

[Campus Sustainability Policy Bank](#)

[Campus Sustainability Profiles](#)

[Campus Global Warming Commitments](#)



(pdf)

Sustainability is a Strategic Initiative. The Plan states that "Emory values the continuing existence of a healthy, safe, and environmentally sustainable campus that enhances individual health, community well-being, positive teaching/learning experiences, and environmental stewardship."

**Florida Gulf Coast University** - [Strategic Plan for 2005-2010](#) (pdf)

One of 5 Strategic Imperatives is to "Serve as an intellectual center for southwest Florida through research and service, while contributing to the economic growth, environmental sustainability, and cultural richness of the region." In addition, the plan states that "Integral to the University's philosophy is instilling in students an environmental consciousness that balances their economic and social aspirations with the imperative for ecological sustainability."

**Frederick Community College** - [Strategic Plan 2004-2005](#) (pdf)

Goal 9 is to "Model environmental responsibility in the community."

**Furman University** - [Engaging the Future: A Strategic Plan for Furman: 2004-2006](#)

One of 4 major Strategic Goals and Initiatives is "To strengthen our commitment to the environment by promoting sustainability through educational programs, campus operations/construction practices and public awareness initiatives."

**Georgia Institute of Technology** - [The Strategic Plan of Georgia Tech](#)

States that "Georgia Tech values its position as a leading public research university in the United States and understands full well its responsibility to advance society toward a proper, fair, and sustainable future." Further, "Social responsibility and sustainability should continue to be imbued through Georgia Tech's entrepreneurial spirit." Proposes to "Develop the campus in a way that supports the larger aspirations of the Institute by encouraging the development of a sustainable campus community, creating distinctive architecture and open spaces, and setting standards for others to emulate in the new century. Build facilities using environmentally responsible design and practices."

**Grinnell College** - [Strategic Plan Implementation Document](#) (pdf)

"Further environmental stewardship of and by the College and its members including limiting use of fossil fuel energy, increasing native planting program, replacing energy-inefficient facilities, prioritizing efficient use of space and energy in new construction projects, and reducing the amount of waste generated on campus" is a tactic for implementing the strategic plan.

**Hollins University** - [Strategic Plan: Women Who Will Make a Difference](#)

"Environmental Sustainability" is 1 of 4 "hallmarks of the Hollins education" and a "Strategic Priority."

**Illinois State University** - [Educating Illinois 2003-2010](#)

Action 10 is to "Enhance a Healthy, Safe, and Environmentally Sustainable Campus."

**Illinois Wesleyan University** - [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

One strategy is to "Infuse the values of citizenship, social responsibility, environmental sustainability, and globalization into our community at Illinois Wesleyan University." Another strategy is to "Adopt effective conservation and renewal programs to control operating costs, promote environmental sustainability, and preserve our physical assets in a sound fiscal manner." "[C]reating a sustainable campus" is described as an IWU mission priority.

**Michigan Technological University** - [The Michigan Tech Strategic Plan](#)

States that " We will attract exceptional faculty and students who will develop, understand, apply, manage and communicate science and technology all with the goal

## Featured Events

[Washington International Renewable Energy Conference \(WIREC\), March 4-6, 2008](#)

[2008 Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference, March 31-April 2, 2008](#)

[AASHE 2008, November 9-11, 2008](#)

[View the AASHE calendar](#)

of a prosperous, sustainable world." Further, "Increase interdisciplinary initiatives to expand knowledge and address societal needs and integrate sustainability into all our endeavors."

**Mount Holyoke College** - [Plan for 2010](#) (pdf)

"Environmental Education and Stewardship" is one of 4 emphases for the College.

**Oberlin College** - [A Strategic Plan for Oberlin College](#) (pdf)

"Move toward Environmental Sustainability" is one of 7 Strategic Directions. The plan lays out several strategies to help achieve this.

**Oregon State University** - [A Strategic Plan for the 21st Century](#) (pdf)

"Understanding the origin, dynamics, and sustainability of the Earth and its resources" is one of five multidisciplinary thematic areas in which the University will prioritize its academic resources and investments.

**Prescott College** - [A Strategic Plan for Prescott College](#) (pdf)

One of 8 goals is "To achieve campus facilities that are socially responsible and environmentally sustainable." In addition, to reach its Leadership goal, the plan calls for campus leaders to "uphold Prescott College's commitment to social and environmental sustainability."

**Ramapo College of New Jersey** - [2002 - 2012: Enhancing Institutional Excellence](#) (pdf)

Sustainability is a Long Range Goal. Specifically, "By the year 2012, Ramapo College will be recognized nationally for its sustainability actions, facilities, and programming."

**Skidmore College** - [Engaged Liberal Learning: The Plan for Skidmore College: 2005-2015](#) (pdf)

In discussing its goal of preparing every Skidmore student for informed, responsible citizenship the plan acknowledges "the deep connection between our commitment to responsible citizenship and our institutional behavior itself - especially in the realm of environmental awareness." The plan also sets a goal of becoming "an environmental leader in our local community, state, and where possible in our nation, a worthy role model for our students, alumni, and staff." Toward this end, the plan states that "every expansion, renovation, and purchase should be viewed, in part, through the lens of environmental impact."

**St. Olaf College** - [Sustaining the Mission: The Strategic Plan for St. Olaf College](#)

One of St. Olaf's Visions for the Future is to "foster economic and ecological sustainability."

**SUNY Cobleskill** - [Strategic Plan 2004 - 2011](#)

One of the University's strategies for improving its image, reputation and visibility is to "Establish SUNY Cobleskill as a Sustainable Institution." To achieve this strategy, the plan calls for the University to "Demonstrate sustainable practices where feasible (e.g. straw bale house, conversion of animal and cafeteria waste and biofuels to energy, campus plan for conservation and recycling)," among other things

**University College of the Fraser Valley** - [UCFV Strategic Plan](#)

States that "We place a high value on environmental, social and economic sustainability in all our endeavours" and one strategy is to ensure that "management and development of facilities reflects the value of sustainability."

**University of British Columbia** - [Trek 2010: UBC's Vision](#)

Sets "Ensure that the principles of sustainability as expressed in UBC Policy #5 ("Sustainable Development") are incorporated into all levels of strategic planning and university operations" as a goal. Another goal is to "Model UBC as a responsible,

engaged, and sustainable community, dedicated to the principles of inclusivity and global citizenship."

**University of California, Berkeley** - [New Century Plan](#)

A Sustainable Campus is one of 10 Strategic Goals. The Plan states that "Capital investment shall embody the principles of responsible, sustainable design."

**University of California, Davis** - [The UC Davis Vision: The Campus' Strategic Plan](#)

"Transformation to a more sustainable campus in terms of energy consumption, resource utilization, waste generation and environmental impact" is an Indicator of Achievement

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** - [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

States "We will transform the campus into a learning laboratory for demonstration of sustainable technologies while we develop curricula to prepare students with skills required to tackle the challenges of a sustainable society." Also sets a number of more specific goals related to sustainability.

**University of Victoria** - [A Vision for the Future](#) (pdf)

Sets "To develop a campus plan that integrates our physical facilities into our unique natural setting, promotes sustainability in planning and operations and is driven by academic priorities" as an objective for the University.

**Wesleyan University** - [Engaged with the World: A Strategic Plan for Wesleyan University, 2005-2010](#) (pdf)

Establishes "Strengthen and Develop Environmental Stewardship" as a goal for the University

**Western Illinois University** - [Higher Values in Higher Education](#)

Establishes "To improve the university's commitment to environmental sustainability" as a goal for the University.

**Whitworth College** - [Strategic Plan: 2005-2010](#)

One of the Principles and Values for facilities planning states "We desire to be responsible stewards of God's creation and to protect our local and global environment, including but not limited to the use and development of the campus grounds, energy allocations, materials-selection and purchasing procedures, building design, recycling and waste management. We value a 'sustainability' mindset, not only for decisions regarding Whitworth physical facilities and activities, but as an important value to pass on to Whitworth students."

*Please email additions, updates and suggestions for improving this resource to [resources@ashe.org](mailto:resources@ashe.org).*