

## 2017-2018 Assessment Cycle PRES\_Sustainability Office

### Mission (due 12/4/17)

#### University Mission

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette offers an exceptional education informed by diverse worldviews grounded in tradition, heritage, and culture. We develop leaders and innovators who advance knowledge, cultivate aesthetic sensibility, and improve the human condition.

#### University Values

We strive to create a community of leaders and innovators in an environment that fosters a desire to advance and disseminate knowledge. We support the mission of the university by actualizing our core values of equity, integrity, intellectual curiosity, creativity, tradition, transparency, respect, collaboration, pluralism, and sustainability.

#### University Vision

We strive to be included in the top 25% of our peer institutions by 2020, improving our national and international status and recognition.

#### College / VP and Program / Department Mission

##### Mission of College or VP-area

*Provide the mission for the College or VP-area in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2017-2018."*

##### Mission of Program / Department

*Provide the program / department mission in the space provided. The mission statement should concisely define the purpose, functions, and key constituents. If none is available, write "None Available in 2017-2018."*

We aim to raise awareness of our environmental impact, educate in sustainable best practices, reduce resource consumption and waste production, and instill environmental ethic and values in our students, faculty, and staff.

#### Attachment (optional)

*Upload any documents which support the program / department assessment process.*

### Assessment Plan (due 12/4/17)

#### Assessment Plan (Goals / Objectives, Assessment Measures and Criteria for Success)

##### Assessment List

Goal/Objective	Finalize and launch the Strategic Sustainability Plan.(Imported)
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);
Standards/Outcomes	
Assessment Measures	

	<b>Assessment Measure</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Attachments</b>
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Officially launch by January 31, 2018.	Dates_Goals_Graphic2.pdf Sustainability_Strategic_Plan_2017_20.pdf
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Begin Department distribution and meetings in February 2018.	

Goal/Objective	Utilize campus grounds, facilities, and operational systems for interdisciplinary project-based learning, applied research, and hands-on partnerships to prepare tomorrow's leaders and develop innovative solutions to sustainability challenges.(Imported)																	
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Goal/Objective	Cultivate a healthier, more resilient campus community and mitigate our negative environmental impacts affecting both our current generation and future generations by fully institutionalizing sustainability principles and best practices into all areas of university operations and development.(Imported)		
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	Indirect - Benchmarking	Spring 2018: Create Design and Construction and Building Operations Task Forces.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Spring 2018: Develop sustainable purchasing guide.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Summer 2018: Analyze fleet and potential funding for replacing existing vehicles with more efficient vehicles.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Summer 2018: Increase participation in ink and toner cartridge recycling to 100% of departments.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Summer 2018: Complete installation of air quality sensors through LEaRN EPA Smart City partnership.	
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	Indirect - Benchmarking	Fall 2018: Determine baseline for commuter modal split, and determine specific plan for optimization.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Fall 2018: Formalize “power down” initiative for all semester breaks and weekends.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Fall 2018: Develop and formally adopt sustainable design and construction guidelines and policies.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Fall 2018: Develop and formally adopt sustainable building operation and maintenance guidelines and policies.	

Goal/Objective	Educate, inspire, and foster students' development into change agents who are informed and capable of implementing thoughtful, effective solutions to the environmental, social, and economic challenges we face at the local, national, and global scales.(Imported)
Legends	PO - Program Objective (academic units);
Standards/Outcomes	
Assessment Measures	

	<b>Assessment Measure</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Attachments</b>
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Research: Increase visibility of sustainability research	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Research: Recognize students, faculty, researchers, staff, and alumni that lead sustainability practices and research.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Curriculum: Increase sustainability-focused and –related academic course offerings in every academic college.	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Curriculum: Increase formally recognized academic programs that focus on sustainability:	
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Research: Host annual Communities of Interest forum for the public to highlight our faculty and research staff's research and encourage the adoption of sustainability solutions beyond our campus	

Goal/Objective	Lead the discussions and initiatives that will increase awareness and inspire positive, active involvement from the entire University community and Acadiana region.(Imported)																	
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### Program / Department Assessment Narrative

The primary purpose of assessment is to use data to inform decisions and improve programs (student learning)

and departments (operations); this is an on-going process of defining goals and expectations, collecting results, analyzing data, comparing current and past results and initiatives, and making decisions based on these reflections. In the space below, describe the program's or department's overall plan for improving student learning and/or operations (the "assessment plan"). Consider the following:

- 1) What strategies exist to assess the outcomes?
- 2) What does the program/department expect to achieve with the goals and objectives identified above?
- 3) How might prior or current initiatives (improvements) influence the anticipated outcomes this year?
- 4) What is the plan for using data to improve student learning and/or operations?
- 5) How will data be shared within the Program/Department (and, where appropriate, the College/VP-area)?

### Assessment Process

#### STRATEGIES:

Benchmarking has already begun in most areas with a combination of qualitative and quantitative data. We will annually compare new data sets to the benchmark to assess our progress.

#### EXPECTATIONS:

Our vision is for the entire University community to become more aware of our impacts on the environment and our community, at the institutional level and at our own personal level. We fully believe that in doing so, we will all become more conscientious and responsible, and the University will become stronger and more resilient.

#### USE OF DATA AND COMMUNICATIONS OF DATA:

Achieving the objectives and reaching the goals set forth in this plan will require the University to redouble our commitment to engaging all of our stakeholders in our progress. Our success will be determined by our ability to effectively work across campus departments and campus boundaries. Several operations goals, such as reducing our energy and water use, can only be met if we communicate monthly about performance. We will utilize multiple communication strategies, such as blogs, emails, website dashboard, and direct communication on a monthly basis once we receive our utility bills. Other areas of the plan follow a seasonal or academic calendar, such as the number of "sustainability courses" and recognition for sustainability research. Progress in these areas will be communicated as appropriate, with a goal of at least annual reports.

## Results & Improvements (due 9/15/18)

### Results and Improvement Narratives

#### Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Finalize and launch the Strategic Sustainability Plan.(Imported)

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Assessment Findings		

Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Officially launch by January 31, 2018. been met yet? Met	The Sustainability Strategic Plan was officially launched July 1, 2018.	Compressed_Sustainability_Strategic_Plan_2018_21_Final.pdf Dates_Goals_Graphic2_2018_2021_01.jpg	- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring : The Sustainability Strategic Plan will guide our efforts through summer 2021.
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Begin Department distribution and meetings in February 2018. been met yet? Not met	The Office of Sustainability is putting together formal training programs to formally establish a Green Office and Green Lab program. We plan to launch this fall.	Dates_Goals_Graphic2_2018_2021_01.jpg	- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The delayed launch of the Sustainability Strategic Plan delayed this target. We are now on track to meet this target according to the strategic timeline. The target can be found in the Fall 2018 section in

					red, signifying it is an Engagement strategy.
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**Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Utilize campus grounds, facilities, and operational systems for interdisciplinary project-based learning, applied research, and hands-on partnerships to prepare tomorrow's leaders and develop innovative solutions to sustainability challenges.(Imported)**

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		re and make improvements by 2020. been met yet? Not met	green. We are currently on track. We have successfully secured funding for the first three projects through the University Annual Fund at the University Foundation. This fall we launched the first project with our composting pilot project at Cade Farm. We are utilizing home football games as our food waste collection source.		years.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Spring 2018 Develop submission process. been met yet? Not met	This target was moved to Fall 2018 because of the delayed launch. We are on track to meet the new target.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: This target was moved to Fall 2018 because of the delayed launch. We are on track to



					meet the new target.
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Summer 2018 Identify potential funding sources to support initiative. been met yet? Met	We have identified a potential funding source. The University Advancement Division and President Savoie have agreed to dedicate a portion of the donations made to the Foundation's University Annual Fund to the Living Lab initiative. This will be an ongoing source of funding we all hope to grow.	UAF_Update_062018.docx		
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018 Announce Request for Proposals. been met yet? Not met	We plan to announce by the end of the semester, as outlined in the strategic timeline.			

**Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Cultivate a healthier, more resilient campus community and mitigate our negative environmental impacts affecting both our current generation and future generations by fully institutionalizing sustainability principles and best practices into all areas of university operations and development.(Imported)**

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	<p>Indirect - Benchmarking</p>	<p>Has the criterion Spring 2018 Ban purchasing of polystyrene containers. been met yet? Met</p>	<p>We have banned the purchase of polystyrene (styrofoam) containers, effective August 2018. However, as expected this will take some time to fully implement. Sodexo has been notified and is complying. However, 3rd party contractors, such as Zeus and McCallister's, are not.</p>	<p>Dates_Goals_Graphic2_2018_2021_01.jpg</p>	<p>- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will have to continue to monitor this change in purchasing. We plan to make it part of our Green Office and Green Lab training, as well as our Zero Waste Events Guide.</p>
	<p>Indirect - Benchmarking</p>	<p>Has the criterion Spring 2018: Determine baseline for single-use food beverage containers and utensils. been met yet? Not met</p>	<p>This target was pushed back because of the delayed launch of the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are working with Sodexo to meet this target this fall.</p>		<p>- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: This target was pushed back because of the delayed launch of the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are working with Sodexo to meet this target this fall.</p>
	<p>Indirect - Benchmarking</p>	<p>Has the criterion Spring 2018:</p>	<p>This target was pushed back</p>		<p>- Assessment Process:</p>

		Install 1 new rain garden on campus with volunteers. been met yet? Not met	because of the delayed launch of the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are working with the Ecology Center to plant the bioswale in October.		Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The bioswale will be planted in October as outlined in the updated strategic timeline.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Spring 2018: Create Design and Construction and Building Operations Task Forces. been met yet? Not met	This target was pushed back because of the delayed launch of the Sustainability Strategic Plan.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The task forces will be created in fall 2018 as outlined in the updated strategic timeline.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Spring 2018: Develop sustainable purchasing guide. been met yet? Not met	The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We have begun developing the purchasing guide, but it is not finalized. We will finalize it in time for the launch of the Green Offices and Green Labs		- Assessment Process: Results Discussed / Shared: We will finalize it in time for the launch of the Green Offices and Green Labs program this fall.

			program this fall.		
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Summer 2018: Analyze fleet and potential funding for replacing existing vehicles with more efficient vehicles. been met yet? Not met	The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Summer 2018: Increase participation in ink and toner cartridge recycling to 100% of departments. been met yet? Not met	The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this and will utilize the Green Office and Green Lab program to increase participatio

				n.
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Summer 2018: Complete installation of air quality sensors through LEARN EPA Smart City partnership. been met yet? Not met	We have met with the partners and established sites for the sensors. However, the program has stalled. We will continue to do our part in launching the program.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring:
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Summer 2018: Pilot classroom scheduling optimization effort to reduce occupied areas in building automation been met yet? Met	We did this for the summer of 2018. There is a large working group that is meeting in October to institutionalize this effort.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to work towards improving this function of the university.
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018: Plant native landscaping along coulees to support pollinators, reduce mowing & runoff. been met yet? Not met	The plants have been propagated and will be planted the first week of October with students.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: It was determined that it would be better to plant in October, once the temperatures have cooled.
Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018: Determine	We are currently developing a survey to		- Assessment Process: Continuous

		baseline for commuter modal split, and determine specific plan for optimization. been met yet? Not met	distribute to students, faculty, and staff. We are working with Transportation Services.		monitoring: The survey should be released this semester.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018: Formalize "power down" initiative for all semester breaks and weekends. been met yet? Not met	We have utilized previous breaks as pilots for this program, and will be rolling out the initiative for Thanksgiving break.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: This will be launched according to the updated strategic timeline.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018: Develop and formally adopt sustainable design and construction guidelines and policies. been met yet? Not met	The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success changed: The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Fall 2018: Develop and formally adopt	The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching		- Assessment Process: Targets / Criteria for Success

		<p>sustainable building operation and maintenance guidelines and policies. been met yet? Not met</p>	<p>the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.</p>		<p>changed: The target was pushed back because of the delay in launching the Sustainability Strategic Plan. We are currently working on this.</p>
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**Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Educate, inspire, and foster students’ development into change agents who are informed and capable of implementing thoughtful, effective solutions to the environmental, social, and economic challenges we face at the local, national, and global scales.(Imported)**

<p>Goal/Objective</p>	<p>Educate, inspire, and foster students’ development into change agents who are informed and capable of implementing thoughtful, effective solutions to the environmental, social, and economic challenges we face at the local, national, and global scales.(Imported)</p>													
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<p>Standards/Outcomes</p>														
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	<b>Assessment Measure</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Attachments of the Assessments</b>	<b>Improvement Narratives</b>
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Research: Increase visibility of sustainability research been met yet? Met	Through Living Lab projects, working with the Office of Communications and Marketing, and use of social media, there are more visible examples of sustainability on campus.		
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Research: Recognize students, faculty, researchers, staff, and alumni that lead sustainability practices and research. been met yet? Met	This has been partially met. We have begun highlighting the research work through our Office of Communications and Marketing, our website, and social media. We will continue to do so. We also have plans to establish an award to coincide with the Distinguished Faculty awards.		
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Curriculum: Increase sustainability-focused and – related academic course offerings in every academic college. been met yet? Met	We have increased programs related to sustainability and sustainability programs. We are currently performing our annual course inventory and will have results within a month.		
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Curriculum: Increase formally recognized academic programs that focus on sustainability: been met yet? Met	We now have a Master's in Environmental Resources Sciences. We are working on establishing a Minor and Major in Sustainability Leadership.		
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Research: Host	We plan to host one in November.		- Assessment Process:

		<p>annual Communities of Interest forum for the public to highlight our faculty and research staff's research and encourage the adoption of sustainability solutions beyond our campus been met yet? Not met</p>			<p>Continuous monitoring: We plan to make this annual November event.</p>
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**Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Lead the discussions and initiatives that will increase awareness and inspire positive, active involvement from the entire University community and Acadiana region.(Imported)**

<p>Goal/Objective</p>	<p>Lead the discussions and initiatives that will increase awareness and inspire positive, active involvement from the entire University community and Acadiana region.(Imported)</p>																													
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		Increase sustainability awareness and participation in working towards achieving our goals in the Strategic Sustainability Plan been met yet? Met	related to sustainability through Freshmen Week, Move-In Day, and athletics.		monitoring: We plan to continue increasing programming in several other areas and through Green Office and Green Lab programs.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Community Engagement: Increase sustainability engagement beyond campus grounds and work with our partners to translate sustainability awareness into action that will improve our community, region, and state been met yet? Met	Through The Big Event, Plan Lafayette Week, football game zero waste efforts, and many other events we have continued to reach beyond campus to improve our communities.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This is an ongoing effort.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Communications and Outreach: Develop a dynamic Office of Sustainability website. been met yet? Met	This is partially met. We have further developed our website and we are continuing to develop it.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We have several more initiatives in the works.
	Indirect - Benchmarking	Has the criterion Communications and Outreach: Distinguish notable examples of campus sustainability projects throughout our physical environment been met yet? Not met	Lack of funding and a change in leadership in the Office of Communications and Marketing has delayed this.		- Resources / Resource Allocation (for Administrative Units): We will need additional funding to make this feasible.

## Reflection (Due 9/15/18)

### Reflection

**The primary purpose of assessment is to use data to inform decisions and improve programs and operations; this is an on-going process of defining goals and expectations, collecting results, analyzing data, comparing current and past results and initiatives, and making decisions based on these reflections. Recalling this purpose, respond to the questions below.**

#### 1) How were assessment results shared in the program / department?

*Please select all that apply. If "other", please use the text box to elaborate.*

Distributed via email (selected)

Presented formally at staff / department / committee meetings (selected)

Discussed informally

Other (explain in text box below)

#### 2) How frequently were assessment results shared?

Frequently (>4 times per cycle) (selected)

Periodically (2-4 times per cycle)

Once per cycle

Results were not shared this cycle

#### 3) With whom were assessment results shared?

*Please select all that apply.*

Department Head (selected)

Dean / Asst. or Assoc. Dean

Departmental assessment committee (selected)

Other faculty / staff (selected)

#### 4) Consider the impact of prior applied changes. Specifically, compare current results to previous results to evaluate the impact of a previously reported change. Demonstrate how the use of results improved student learning and/or operations.

Getting the Sustainability Strategic Plan to its final approved form and to its launch was a monumental task for us. It required several departments to work together to collect data, share resources, and brainstorm what was possible with the available resources. Many of the defined objectives in this past cycle were not achieved because we delayed pursuing some until we could officially launch the plan. However, during this assessment cycle, we continued to evaluate where we were, gain more institutional support, and better plan for success. We are more confident that we will be able to reach our objectives and goals than we were a year ago.

#### 5) Over the past three assessment cycles, what has been the overall impact of "closing the loop"? Provide examples of improvements in student learning, program quality, or department operations that are directly linked to assessment data and follow-up analysis.

Finally getting to the point of having an official plan for sustainability that encompasses all areas of our institution is a direct result of closing the loop. We recognized early on that we would need a very detailed strategic plan for every area of our operations as we were going to successfully engage the entire University in making these changes. We now have a

public facing document that we can use to measure our progress on a semester basis for the next three years.

**Attachments (optional)**

*Upload any documents which support the program / department assessment process.*