UI 2030 Sustainability Goals Framework Feedback

April 30, 2020

In February, 2020, the UI 2030 Sustainability Goals Task Force held two listening posts to gather feedback from the campus community regarding the development of new sustainability goals to be accomplished by 2030. Additionally, a Qualtrics survey was made available to collect feedback from those unable to attend a listening post. Below is a compilation of comments received from the listening posts and Qualtrics survey.

- Create climate toolkit with City of Iowa City/UI
- Get off coal ASAP
- Improve energy efficiency in dock areas - plastic curtains/automatic doors to prevent energy loss when doors are open
- Include Engie in carbon goals
- Create a smart power strip program to reduce energy consumption of electronic devices
- Set cooling temperature set point to 78 F instead of 75 F or lower, to reduce energy consumption
- Check out Zion National Park's rule of allowing only buses. What it would it take to increase Campus access to make it a "go-to" for faculty and staff to also use?
- Increase energy efficiency in labs via efficiency programs for freezers
- Switch to all renewable energy sources for the UI campus - roof space
- Add more vehicle charging stations
- Get ITS onboard on the committee, and also educate e-connectivity to reduce travel impact (exhaust, time) and promote campus meetings, classes, and events being tech-enabled. This will require training to use resources, easier job aides and investment in tech tools and services, including a campus intranet and web development to reduce paper. Our IT currently does not support desktop printers, and we haven't missed them. Could this be expanded? "
- Implement a "Shut the Sash"" campaign (e.g. http://uncgreenlabs.web.unc.edu/get-involved/shut-the-sash-campaign/, https://green.harvard.edu/programs/green-labs/shut-sash-program) for scientific fields.
- Spread awareness of turning off lights once you leave a room
- Increase use of fuel efficient vehicles
- Create an internal carbon-tax
- Add standardized sustainability statement language to course syllabi
- Organize and support sustainability coordinators in each college/unit
- Hold listening posts to encourage more voices
- Make the sustainability goals easily accessible to students and faculty, clearly promoting them so that others can take part in them.
- Add sustainability into centrally provided staff and faculty development programs, ranging from orientation/onboarding through leadership to model the way and embed into our culture.
- More access to natural light in offices.
- Encourage more telecommuting and remote working.
- Flexible work arrangements are great for engagement AND the environment. We have a program -- let's leverage it for sustainability too.
- Make IOWA known for making a difference -- cleaning up our own act today and preparing our students to lead in environmental policy, practice, and science.
- Remind our employees to keep sustainability in mind during holidays. Encourage them to use recycled products for decorations.
- Engage people who don't care about "sustainability." Maybe have required focus groups with people not necessarily interested in sustainability to offer feedback.
- More visual expressions of sustainabiltiy via public art.

- Press conference/City and UI co-statement for sustainabilty in 2030
- Create a place/resource to report sustainability issues
- Create/promote local foods passport as a product – physical and/or digital
- Create student sustainability handbook to connect sustainability resources at the UI, IC, and Coralville for students
- Increase student sustainability education - Success at Iowa module
- Consider presenting to the DSL at one of their monthly ""On Common Ground"" meetings about how sustainability can be incorporated into our division & departments.
- Advance sustainabilty by capitalizing on existing cultural phenomenons that we can grow (e.g., DM or The Wave)
- Faculty, staff, student training module on campus sustainability to promote uniform practices in admin roles for sustainability
- Have interactive displays that remind people that climate change is not in the future, it's here now. Make the development of something like that part of the student experience. Have a designated space where those kinds of things can be rotated in/out.
- Include UIHC union (and other UI staff unions) in discussions
- Create Town-and Gown partnerships (e.g., Kirkwood, the K-12 school district, and the city (recycling, park & rec)
- Needs to be a top down effort to get it into UI strategic plan as a pillar because that's what the colleges are using to develop their plans. Some colleges probably have trouble figuring out how sustainability is reflected in them.
- Consider a grass-roots campaign for fac/staff like programs UI Wellness does. Wellness Ambassadors are key in communicating self and/or team programs that challenge and incentivize behavior changes. One is a Bike to Work event in spring. UI Wellness also coordinates the annual UI HealthFair in Nov. This is a great way to reach staff from UI Health Care too.
- Collaborate with Campus Wellness teams to promote active transportation of students, staff, faculty to campus
- More bike lanes/paths on campus
- Work with FM to make biking to and around campus more appealing by offering more covered bike parking and bike fix-it stations in convenient locations around campus.
- Incentivize walking, biking, public transit to work and severely restrict driving. Pay employees a lot to not drive to work and convert parking lots to green spaces. If someone lives in Iowa City or Coralville they should have to pay a lot to park or not be allowed to park at all.
- Work with IC to develop accessible bike routes.
- Indoor bicycle storage, showers in buildings to encourage people to ride bikes, incentives through health insurance for folks who do walk or bike to work.
- Establish more cambus routes and increase the frequency of stops. Maintain free service or make payment of service really easy.
- Work with library for expansion of e-book selections, promote e-book use in coursework
- Change UIHC workflow to reduce paper usage. Currently, clinics print vaccine information sheets for each patient that is immediately discarded.
- Design contest for departments to design fun reusable campus envelops to promote creativity and the continued use of reusable campus mail envelopes
- Ensure the things that we claim to recycle are being recycled in a meaningful way
- Reduce single-use items at UIHC. Go back to items that can be sterilized (scissors, hemostats, forceps, laryngoscope handles/blades, gowns).
- Separate recycling from trash at Carver after sporting events
- Require all food packaging and serviceware to be sustainable (e.g., use reusable serviceware, if using compostable serviceware, it must be collected for composting.)
- Increase waste reduction and recycling awareness so people recycle correctly

- Increase recycling access at UIHC and other campus buildings. There are currently not enough recycling bins so recyclables get thrown away.
- Collect redeemable containers
- Implement Styrofoam recycling
- I would like to see UI implement collection and recycling bins for non-contaminated PPE (ex: hair bonnets, disposable lab coats).
- Reduce plastic bag use
- Reduce single-use plastics
- Increase efforts to reduce food waste
- Increase campus composting opportunities, locations
- Implement liquid disposal and liquid sorting at waste stations on campus
- Reduce paper use – printing dollar allocations
- Provide resources for internships and fieldwork outside of OSE/UI
- Career fair for sustainability, networking opportunities
- Use FM energy district as a living learning lab.
- Seek out student leadership (CSIL in the Division of Student Life) and the Pomerantz Career Center to advertise jobs in sustainability, and the College of Education programs.
- Develop some 1 credit courses to encourage non-sustainabilty focused people to take those courses.
- Establish a sustainability alumni network
- Connect students and projects with employers
- Offer flex meals with less packaging
- Offer more vegan flex meals
- Include/expand sustainable food options
- Evaluate campus de-icing practices
- Evaluate, reduce, eliminate pesticide and fertilizer use
- Get Fitwel or WELL certified across the entire campus, not just building-by-building. This would align nicely with the amazing work of the staff in getting the buildings LEED certified.
- Allocate funding to maintain a vibrant indoor ecosystem; such funding could provide potted plants to UI buildings/offices, and there could be a series of free workshops by area nurseries/horticulturists about plant care.
- More native prairie grasses
- Include and promote that sustainability is a component of capital projects
- Improve or require sustainability language in contracts, purchasing
- Establish more green roofs, including all buildings on pentacrest during rennovations.
- Create goal related to design and construction. Review UI design standards with Design and Construction staff and encourage incorporation of sustainability. There are many opportunities for the incorporation of sustainable strategies that are no longer required for projects with the departure from LEED and should apply to all projects such as low VOC paint, refrigerant mgmt., construction recycling, low carbon PCC, etc. Select design professionals may incorporate into project design but the most effective to reach all projects is to include basic sustainability provisions as a written standard as part of UI Design Standards and Procedures that consultants are contractually bound to follow.
- Garden to grow food for the dining halls or food pantries.
- Assess building's current carbon footprint and retrofitting when necessary.
- Conduct an environmental impact study on top 200 suppliers, like Michigan State
- Switch to bamboo paper towels and toilet paper. I work at the College of Dentistry; we have so many sinks in the school, probably hundreds.
- University employee retirement funds (401k, etc.) divest from fossil fuels. A helpful website is fossilfreefunds.org

- Acquire sustainability funding. P3 money