



Facilities Management Sustainability Standards and Statement of Intent

Objective: To provide overarching direction and support towards implementing sustainability projects and practices on the campus of Southern Utah University

As a commitment to address climate change and other ecological pressures, Facilities Management is dedicated to supporting sustainability projects as they relate to the best practices of maintaining a university campus. Sustainability is a component of many conversations as campus improvements are planned. Both one-time projects and ongoing operational practices are reviewed regularly for opportunities to implement more sustainable solutions on campus to be applied as resources permit

Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to establish a consistent and effective approach to addressing the key issues and concerns surrounding the subject of sustainability on campus as influenced by Facilities Management. This statement is not intended to speak for those entities outside of Facilities Management who have an impact or unique approach to sustainability on campus. Facilities Management embraces participation in sustainability solutions from any of the facets of the institution. Any initiative that has an impact on the physical facilities of campus must be coordinated with Facilities Management.

This statement defines sustainability as any practice, product, method, or solution that contributes to the preservation of financial, natural, and human-made resources. A primary objective is to reduce the consumption and disposal of those resources that are especially harmful to the wellbeing of the local and global environment and may contribute to global warming or other planetary ailments. All sustainability projects and practices are evaluated against the financial impact of implementing and maintaining the programs. A positive and relatively short return on investment is desirable. Projects with a return on investment longer than one year typically need other supporting benefits to be justified for financial investment.

Facilities Management at SUU will continue to monitor the progress of sustainable practices as they apply to higher education and will follow suit with those practices that have been established as especially impactful and effective. This Statement of Intent is to be construed as an ongoing commitment from Facilities Management that, as a department and influential force on campus, will continue to actively pursue sustainable solutions that make a real impact and exhibit judicious use of public resources.

Background

Students and others in the area of SUU expressed concern that SUU, as an institution, was not doing enough to curb the impact of human activity on climate change and environmental degradation. More than a decade ago, Facilities Management listened to this message and launched various initiatives to reduce energy consumption and boost sustainable practices related

recognize that projects follow a process and will be weighed against other priorities and financial commitments on campus.

General Project Guidelines

Before being reviewed by Facilities Management and other departments, following general guidelines