

IX. ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

This Campus Sustainability Plan is a pioneering effort for Xavier University. The future includes putting this Plan into motion, reconsidering priorities and adding the fresh ideas that will ultimately emerge. The future will lean heavily on assessment of 1) campus conditions (including areas not well studied at present); 2) the efforts to improve sustainability; and 3) organizational support. Below we describe a number of approaches to assessment and how they might be applied.

Long-term Vision: To acquire and use sufficient information to guide and make understandable its sustainability efforts, planning and decision-making such that efforts, planning and decision-making are regularly refined and adapted and become part of the day-to-day operations of the University.

Goal: To establish the means to assess campus sustainability and provide information to students, staff and community that will inform operations, programming, and behaviors.

1. ACTION PLAN:

Short-term Goals (1-2 years)

- *Refine our data collection for the nd second Greenhouse Gas Inventory.*
- *Annually review the Campus Sustainability Plan to assess goals accomplished.*
- *Continue to provide educational opportunities, e.g., student internships.*
- *Establish a budget line beyond energy rebates for sustainability work, including increased support for energy conservation measures.*
- *Maintain a strong website for dissemination and use of information.*
- *Install dorm electric metering with eco-awareness campaign. This will help assess student interest and engagement in and awareness of energy conservation.*

Mid-term Goals (3-5 years)

- *Continue to annually review the Campus Sustainability Plan.*
- *Establish a budget line for sustainability work as well as increased revenue available for energy conservation measures.*
- *Produce an annual energy report for campus-wide discussion of conservation, consumption trends, investment choices, future plans and the importance of staff/student cooperation and innovation.*
- *Develop processes for external reporting to allow for independent review and for comparison with peer institutions.*
 - *This might include AASHE's "Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System" (STARS), the College Sustainability Report Card or National Wildlife Federation's National Report Card on Sustainability in Higher Education.*
 - *Continue to report campus greenhouse gas emissions to the ACUPCC.*

2. CHALLENGES AND FUNDING:

- The resources needed for this effort include labor, website and outreach materials. Labor could be provided by sustainability committee, the sustainability student interns, and the student sustainability board and, eventually, by the sustainability director and sustainability center.



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Increased support for the website will be a cost-effective and convenient tool for assessment in two ways. The website is an effective way to collect input from the campus community and to share results from assessment activities

