

Western Kentucky University Sustainability Committee

Western Kentucky University is seeking to integrate principles of sustainability into University academics, operations, and culture. To advance this effort, support from university stakeholders is crucial. The creation of a formal advisory committee is an important step in institutionalizing a culture of sustainability at WKU. It articulates the concept as a campus priority, promotes continuity and momentum, and offers opportunity for collaboration and communication.

Many individual members of the campus community, including students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni are intensely interested and supportive of WKU's efforts toward sustainability. These individuals offer knowledge, talent, skills, and personal commitment and such a group formed into a working committee would greatly facilitate the implementation and broaden the application of campus sustainability initiatives.

The WKU Sustainability Committee has the purpose of creating and advancing a culture of sustainability within the WKU community through education, research, operations, and community partnerships.

The WKU Sustainability Committee's goals and objectives are to:

- 1) Engage the campus in an ongoing dialogue and sustainability at WKU;
- 2) Establish common understanding of sustainability and stewardship from which policy can proceed;
- 3) Develop guiding principles to advance sustainability at WKU;
- 4) Integrate sustainability into existing programs in education, research, and operations;
- 5) Change campus energy use behavior and create campus conservation efficiencies; and
- 6) Reduce energy consumption.

The WKU Sustainability Committee will be advisory to the President and report to the Vice President for Campus Services and Facilities. It will be chaired by the WKU Sustainability Coordinator.

Membership is intended to represent a broad cross section of University stakeholders, to encourage commitment from the greater campus community, and to facilitate the accomplishment of the above objectives. Members shall serve an initial three-year term. The Committee charge and its composition shall be evaluated in July of 2011. The Committee may utilize subcommittees or ad hoc working groups to address specific initiatives. Meetings will be held quarterly and will be open to the public to provide a forum for the greater community members and opportunity for education and awareness.