

## Annual Sustainability Report 2024

4/17/2024

Dear Members of the General Faculty Committees & Councils,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the Annual Sustainability Report for the year 2024. This report encapsulates our commitment to fostering a culture of sustainability within our university community and outlines the progress made, action items identified and completed, as well as the budget allocated for future projects.

### **Progress Overview**

Throughout the past year, the Sustainability Committee has been diligently working towards achieving our sustainability goals. Our efforts have been guided by our commitment to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability. Here's an overview of the progress made:

2023/2024 Committee Meetings (February 14<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup>)

### **Identified Action Items**

1. Water Filling stations
  - a. Future goal is the implementation of water filling stations across the campus to address the pressing need to reduce plastic waste by providing accessible alternatives for students, faculty, and staff to refill reusable water bottles, promoting sustainable hydration practices university-wide.
2. Additional Recycling Bins
  - a. A comprehensive audit was conducted to identify additional requirements for signage and recycling receptacles in all campus buildings, aiming to enhance recycling awareness and streamline the process, ensuring easy access to recycling facilities for all members of the university community.

### **Completed Action Items**

1. Energy Efficiency Enhancements: Identified opportunities for improving energy efficiency across campus buildings.
  - a. We have successfully replaced fluorescent lights with energy-efficient LED lights in the majority of campus buildings, significantly reducing energy consumption and contributing to our sustainability goals.

2. Waste Reduction Strategies: Developed and implemented waste reduction strategies, including recycling programs and composting initiatives.
  - a. Compost piles located on the university grounds are utilized to transform organic waste into nutrient-rich compost, fostering sustainable landscaping practices and supporting the cultivation of healthy soils for campus green spaces.
  - b. A new recycling dumpster strategically placed on the university grounds facilitates convenient and efficient recycling efforts, encouraging the responsible disposal of recyclable materials across campus.

### **Budget Allocation**

Future Projects:

- Water Filling Stations: 97 at Durant, 9 MCC, 4 at Aviation \$150,000
- 40 recycling bins: \$25,000

### **Members**

James Sutton (Chairperson) (1<sup>st</sup> year), April Lehrling (1<sup>st</sup> year), Kevin Eppler, Gingerlei Waddell, Galina Shleykina (1<sup>st</sup> year), and Mark Bisson

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the Sustainability Committee remains committed to advancing sustainability efforts within our university community. We are proud of the progress made thus far and are dedicated to continuing our work towards a more sustainable future. We extend our gratitude to all members of the university community for their support and participation in these endeavors.

Sincerely,



James Sutton

Chairperson