

2009-2010 Priority Goals of the Environmental Caucus

I. Ponderosa 2.0--The Curricular Arm of the Environmental Caucus

- Support both the campus adoption of and begin the implementation of the Global Learning Recommendations of the President's Task Force on Global Engagement which establishes three University Student Learning Outcomes that will be addressed by all undergraduate major programs, the Liberal Studies Program, and in the co-curriculum.
- Convene a student-focused forum to identify what important issues and questions should be addressed and how to create the opportunities to meet them.
- Case Studies of Change: Dialog – Knowledge – Power
 - Develop and provide continuing education workshops for faculty on issues of sustainability/teaching sustainability.
 - Establish ten to twelve First Year Seminars in residential learning communities in partnership with related graduate programs that can be showcases that address issues of sustainability, linkages to community, plus a structure of care for our students.
 - Advocate for the allocation of 10% of each faculty member's load to interdisciplinary teaching, courses, or programs.

II. Environmental Identity Action Team

- Continue to improve *Green NAU* website as an inter-disciplinary communications tool for creating a culture of sustainability at NAU.
- Carry out a *Green NAU* marketing campaign in conjunction with University Marketing and others.
- Utilize *Green NAU* as central location for student internship and volunteer opportunities in the community, working with Landsward, CEFNS, and others.
- Establish a communications plan to increase reporting about NAU and the environment (first focus is on environmental research).
- Work with EMSA to develop materials and messaging to recruit students with strong environmental and sustainability interests.
- Work closely with Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit and others to develop strong ties with governmental organizations, NGOs, and tribes to share resources and broaden our impact.

III. Student Environmental Caucus

- Continue to develop Student Environmental Caucus as communication body for student environmental organizations, while encouraging student leader participation in the Environmental Caucus
- Support the effort to establish the student Green Fund
- Incorporate education on environmental sustainability into new student orientation and other student programs (including student orientation film).
- Develop contests related to environmental sustainability, such as a recycling contest or energy competitions in student dorms

IV. Advocacy for ACUP Climate Commitment Action Team

- Complete and submit a climate action plan which highlights both overarching goals and specific strategies that could be employed over the next ten years to reach those goals.
- Develop a mechanism, e.g. campus committee or multi-disciplinary course, to involve students in the implementation of the campus climate action plan.
- Initiate the submission of NAU's yearly ACUPCC reporting requirement.
- Support and guide students involved in passing the student Green Fund.

V. Water Action Team

- Conduct education and outreach both on and off campus regarding local water use issues and NAU's role in water sustainability.
- Develop relationships with departments, colleges, and student groups to involve them directly in efforts to use water wisely on campus and to support and learn from their efforts toward greater water sustainability.
- Grow relationship with off-campus organizations also working on issues of local and regional water use.
- Support NAU's efforts to expand the number of filtered water bottle refill stations available to students/the public and Dining Services.
- Support and expand efforts to include permaculture landscaping on campus.
- Support inclusion of increasingly efficient systems to reduce and/or reuse wastewater in new NAU buildings.

VI. Sustainable Environmental Practices

- Collaborate with Capital Assets and Residence Life grounds departments to develop strategies and action plans to facilitate the reduction and elimination of toxic herbicides and pesticides.
- Educate the NAU community on the harmful environmental and human health effects of herbicides and pesticides, and encourage collaboration with NAU's academic departments to evaluate and improve alternative methodologies.
- Encourage landscape planning that addresses the sustainability, maintainability and environmental impact of the resulting landscape.
- Propose and facilitate land-based practices and projects on campus that demonstrate sustainable methods while expressing the university's ecological and educational values, and respecting the local natural aesthetic.
- Investigate the locations and uses of hazardous materials on campus, their related management and safety practices, and availability of information on their environmental and health hazards.
- Propose ways of reducing the use of hazardous materials, replacing hazardous materials with non-hazardous counterparts, improving management and safety practices, and making public information easily accessible.