

2020 MITCHELL SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM



FIVE YEAR PROGRESS SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN

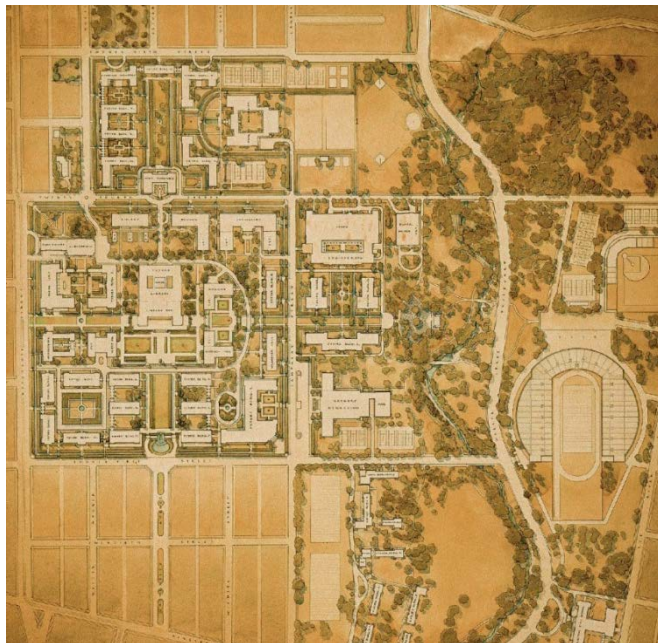
Summary of progress on goals, strategies adopted in 2016 UT Austin Sustainability Master Plan

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UT Austin Sustainability History

- 1930 – Switched off coal for power generation
- 2002 – Campus Environmental Center founded
- 2007 – President's Sustainability Steering Committee
- 2008 – Campus Sustainability Policy
- 2009 – Commitment to high-performance, green building
 - First Director of Sustainability hired, Office created
- 2011 – Natural Resources Conservation Plan
- 2012 – Campus Master Plan
- 2014 – Landscape Master Plan
- 2015 – East Campus, Medical District Master Plans
- 2016 – *Sustainability Master Plan*



Development Plan for UT Austin, Paul Cret (1933)

President's Sustainability Steering Committee

The PSSC recommends policies and practices to the University administration that reflect and expand the University's commitment to sustainability and stewardship of the environment; ensures the campus policy is in alignment with UT System policy; monitors implementation of the campus Sustainability Master Plan; and supports implementation of a communications plan for both internal and external audiences.

First chartered in 2007 by President William Powers



Office of Sustainability (2010)

- Collaboration focused
- Work across operations, academics, and engagement
- Major programs:
 - President's Sustainability Steering Committee
 - Campus Environmental Center plus
 - Green Fund
- Major Events:
 - Campus Sustainability Week (October)
 - Earth Month / Earth Week (April)



The University of Texas at Austin
Office of Sustainability



CAMPUS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
STUDENT-LED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION AT UT AUSTIN



GREEN FUND



2016 Sustainability Master Plan



Goal Areas

- Leadership
- Experience and Culture
- Opportunity and Affordability
- Teaching and Research
- Conservation
- Partnerships

2016 Sustainability Master Plan

- Develop as an in-house effort with existing resources
 - Only use consultants for specific tasks
- Use expertise of staff and feedback from the campus community to shape and inform the Plan
 - Public participation is vital, but we don't need to start from square one
- Review through President's Sustainability Steering Committee and Campus Master Plan Committee
- Adopted by President Fenves, Sep. 2016



Overview

- Five year progress report on UT Austin Sustainability Master Plan for each goal and strategy
- Initial recommendation for evolution into 2020 Master Plan



Structure

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Undergraduate	Integrate sustainability into the first-year experience	Create a sustainability focused living learning community within the Division of Housing and Food Service	New living learning community admits students by 2018	Achieved



- One slide per Plan Area
 - Area goals and strategies and outcomes as adopted
 - Office of Sustainability status and STARS marker
 - Major highlights since 2016 are bulleted
-
- Office of Sustainability initial recommendation on goal and strategy for 2020 Plan

Leadership

Executive Commitment
Culture of Excellence
Model Institution



Leadership: Executive Commitment

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Executive Commitment	Sustainability is integral to the identity of UT Austin	Recharge the President's Sustainability Steering Committee		Achieved
		Update the Campus Sustainability Policy (HOP 3-1010)	Adopt new Campus Sustainability Policy by 2018	Achieved
		Explore opportunities to connect sustainability with research and academic goals	Deliver PSSC Faculty report to the Provost on Living Lab Program by 2018	Missed Target

- PSSC recharged by President Fenves and President Hartzell
 - Policy update approved 2019, not yet through UT Legal
 - Discussions ongoing regarding Living Lab efforts
-
- Update for 2021 Plan

Leadership: Culture of Excellence

Area	Goal	Strategy	Outcome	Status
Culture of Excellence	Create and foster a culture of sustainability excellence among university stakeholder groups	Report every two years on sustainability progress, comprehensively review and update every five years	First implementation report by 2018	Achieved
		Deepen integration of sustainability into facilities development process		Ongoing
		Establish sustainability commitments at the dean/vice president/upper administrative/prominent campus leaders		No Progress
		Support unit-level strategic plans to incorporate sustainability	Guide for integration of sustainability into unit-level strategic plans by 2020	No Progress

- Plan Progress Report in 2018 online, shared with external groups
 - Facilities leadership engaged with STARS and LEED
 - Little engagement with administration beyond STARS and PSSC
-
- Refocus in 2021 Plan

STARS: Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System

LEED: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for new buildings

Leadership: Model Institution

Area	Goal	Strategy	Outcome	Status
Model Institution	UT Austin is recognized as a leader in sustainability among public research universities	Apply for internal and external awards	Achieve STARS Gold by 2020	Achieved
		Present at and host conferences		Ongoing
		Increase participation in national sustainability networks	Serve in leadership roles in higher education sustainability organizations	Ongoing
		Maintain and improve performance on higher education ranking systems for sustainability	Maintain Princeton Review Green College Honor Roll status	Achieved
		Increase contributions to trade, academic and specialty publications covering sustainability achievements	Obtain additional awards and recognitions, including internal	Ongoing
		Expand and support collaborative work generated by UT Staff Council and Sustainability Staff Roundtable		Ongoing



- STARS Gold achieved in April 2020, reflected in other ratings
 - Office and other staff actively participate beyond campus
 - Staff Council Sustainability Committee is active
-
- Update, refocus for 2021 Plan

Experience and Culture

Undergraduate

Graduate

Faculty

Staff

Community



Culture: Undergraduate

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Undergraduate	Integrate sustainability into the first-year experience	Create a sustainability focused living learning community within the Division of Housing and Food Service	New living learning community admits students by 2018	Achieved	★
		Support inclusion of sustainability topics into first-year interest group (FIGs)	First year students demonstrate awareness of sustainability	Ongoing	
		Introduce all first year students to sustainability during student orientation	Mandatory sustainability session during student orientation by 2018	Missed Target	★
	The values and culture of sustainability are evident throughout the undergraduate experience	Expand co-curricular opportunities to learn about sustainable lifestyle choices	Increased number of students served by sustainability programs by 2020	Ongoing	
			Increased positive student response to sustainability related topics	Ongoing	
		Evaluate contribution of sustainability programs to student success	Students to demonstrate basic sustainability literacy and knowledge	Ongoing	
		Enhance student influence on campus sustainability decisions and programs		Achieved	
		Increase the number of green jobs on campus	Track contribution of on-campus jobs and internships to career placement	Ongoing	
		Support events to showcase students' contributions to campus and scholarship around sustainability		No Progress	
		Nominate more students for local and national sustainability awards and fellowships		Ongoing	
		Continue the Green Fee program		Achieved	★

Culture: Undergraduate

- Sustainability Living Learning Community (LLC) established Fall 2018 in Whitis A, supported primarily by UHD staff
 - Increase in Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) with sustainability
 - Optional orientation session for sustainability launched in summer 2017, ongoing, supported by multiple units
 - Increase in Student organizations focused on sustainability
 - Student Government formally expanding sustainability interest
 - Green Fund renewed by President Fenves for Fall 2016
-
- Discontinue

Culture: Graduate

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Graduate	Encourage graduate-level engagement with sustainability to add value to the university experience	Enhance graduate student influence on campus sustainability decisions and programs	Increase positive graduate student response to sustainability topics	Achieved
		Support graduate level symposium with professional networking opportunities	Host symposium event by 2018	Missed Target
		Increase visibility, utility and convenience of sustainability infrastructure specific to graduate student facilities		No Progress
		Expand co-curricular opportunities for graduate students to apply sustainability in their careers through professional study, internships and certifications related to sustainability	Increase placement for graduate students engaged in sustainability research or activities	Ongoing
		Identify funds to support graduate research and employment in sustainability		Ongoing

- Graduate appointments to PSSC and Green Fund
 - Sustainability-On-Tap events provide peer networking
 - Professional network events ongoing with Texas Career Engagement
-
- Discontinue

Culture: Faculty

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Faculty	Faculty have professionally beneficial opportunities to apply ideas and research to university activities	Create programs where faculty and their departments are incentivized to innovate on and with campus	Increase number of faculty utilizing university operations, facilities or administration to teach students and/or conduct research	Ongoing
		Investigate additional funding for student green jobs created by faculty		No Progress

- Increasing number of faculty reaching out to university operations and facilities staff both seeking and offering collaboration
 - No significant efforts on additional funding for faculty creation of green jobs for students
-
- Discontinue, refocus for 2020 Plan in Education section

Culture: Staff

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Staff	UT Austin is a clear employer of choice in Central Texas	Foster stronger working relationships with UT Staff Council		Achieved
		Assess pursuit of a Baldrige Award	Apply for the Baldrige Award by 2020	No Progress
	Sustainability is a point of pride for employees	Develop new employee sustainability orientation and training programs	Utilize surveys to gauge increased levels of sustainability awareness	Ongoing
			Complete or initiate sustainability literacy program by 2020	No Progress
		Develop staff and faculty awards program recognizing exceptional contributions to a sustainable campus	Award the first employee recognition honors by 2018	No Progress
		Continue staff and faculty connection to institutional decision-making on sustainability		Achieved
		Invest in convenient access to sustainability infrastructure		Ongoing



- UT Staff Council consistently advocates sustainability initiatives
 - Staff are represented on the PSSC and Green Fund
-
- Discontinue, refocus for 2020 Plan in Culture section and connect to FAS Strategic Plan

FAS: Financial and Administrative Services, employing majority of non-faculty staff on campus

Culture: Community

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Community	Parents, alumni and visitors experience a culture of sustainability when visiting campus	Invest in convenient access to sustainability infrastructure		Ongoing
		Create a sustainability brand that is appropriate and clear to external audiences	Campus visitor opinion about the university and the physical campus reflects awareness and support of university sustainability initiatives	Ongoing
		Feature sustainability in publicity, messaging, websites, social media and collateral about events open to the public		Ongoing

- Primary infrastructure is zero-waste related, ongoing
 - Sustainability is associated with UT brand, but not strongly
 - Publicity for achievements steadily increasing
-
- Discontinue

Opportunity and Affordability

Wellness

Livelihood

Food

Mobility



Opportunity: Livelihood

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Livelihood	Staff and faculty are supported in their pursuit of quality of life	Expand communications on the university budget and benefits available to staff and faculty	Increasing understanding and trust of university budget process by 2018	No Progress
		Evaluate innovative investments in lowering employee cost of living	Report from the Office of Sustainability to CFO	Missed Target

- University budget process continues largely in siloes
 - While conversations have started, little progress beyond existing employee benefit and discount programs
-
- Refocus for 2020 Plan, move to Systems

Opportunity: Wellness

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Wellness	UT Austin continues to be a model healthy campus	Support Human Resources and HealthPoint Wellness strategic plan	Report on the state of campus wellness by 2018	Missed Target	★
		Support the Division of Student Affairs strategic plan to promote wellness among students	Adopt campus wellness strategy by 2020	Ongoing	
		Increase opportunities for physical activity programs		Ongoing	★
		Promote green spaces for mental health		Ongoing	
		Promote and support the tobacco-free campus policy		Achieved	
		Support implementation strategy for ideas generated by Dell Medical School's Model Healthy Campus		No Progress	

- Various programs in Wellness Network continue to grow
 - Green space in Dell Medical District planned for mental respite
 - Model Healthy Campus initiative was discontinued
-
- Discontinue or refocus for 2020 Plan, move to Systems section

Opportunity: Mobility

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Mobility	Increase accessibility of alternative commuting options	Implement media campaign to promote the best commute options within five miles of campus	New media campaign by Fall 2017	No Progress	
		Evaluate creative funding mechanisms for faculty and staff commuting alternatives		No Progress	
		Evaluate and communicate alternatives to single occupant vehicle commutes of more than five miles	Decrease number of single occupant vehicle commuters	Ongoing	
		Expand UT shuttle access to reduce crowding		No Progress	
		Expand car sharing programs		Ongoing	★
		Expand telecommute and flextime policies	Establish new telecommuting and flextime policy by 2018	Achieved	★
	Increase safety and efficiency of all modes on campus		Develop transportation demand management strategy by 2020	No Progress	
		Expand availability of bikes and/or bike sharing program for campus community	Achieve Bike Friendly Campus Silver rating by 2018	Achieved	★
		Improve bike/pedestrian interactions on campus	Register 20,000 bicycles by 2020	Ongoing	★
		Create media campaign about inter-modal safety	New media campaign by Fall 2017	No Progress	
		Improve access for people with mobility disabilities		Ongoing	
		Provide appropriate and convenient facilities on campus for people who bike or walk to work	Develop report on distribution of facilities across campus by 2018	Missed Target	

Opportunity: Mobility

- B-Cycle bike sharing launched in 2018
 - New campus Flexible Work Arrangements policy adopted in 2019
 - A RFP for a Transportation Demand Management Plan was fielded in 2017, but was not pursued by university
 - Addition of a dedicated bike lane on Clyde Littlefield enabled campus to achieve Bike Friendly Campus recognition
 - Bike infrastructure has not been significantly expanded, bike registrations have remained steady
 - No broad evaluation of alternative commuting support facilities
-
- Update, refocus for 2020 Plan, move to Systems

Opportunity: Food

Area	Goal	Strategy	Outcome	Status
Food	UT Austin has a visible commitment to a food system that supports personal health and community services	Increase availability of local food choices at campus food service locations	Report on the state of the UT Austin food system by 2017	Missed Target
		Expand access to sustainably grown produce		Achieved
		Increase the number and variety of healthy and plant-based food offerings on campus	Utilize surveys to gauge awareness about healthy food options	Ongoing
		Develop language for food vendor contracts emphasizing availability of healthy foods and food recovery		Ongoing
		Increase availability of healthy beverage options		No Progress
		Continue student-run campus gardens		Achieved
		Evaluate food insecurity in the campus community	Report on food insecurity by 2018	Achieved



- Interest and options for local and sustainable food has increased despite lack of report or formal institutional directive
 - Farm Stand, Micro-Farm and UHD gardens all continue success
 - Food insecurity concerns led to creation of UT Outpost
-
- Update, refocus for 2021 Plan

Teaching and Research

Curriculum

Living Laboratory

Research Impact

Faculty Support

Civil Discourse



Teaching/Research: Curriculum

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Curriculum	Students achieve sustainability literacy regardless of major	Explore opportunities to link enrollment goals, academic achievement, retention rates and graduation rates to broader planning and sustainability goals	Increase in number of new course degree offerings that emphasize sustainability	Ongoing
		Develop a sustainability course flag	Provide colleges access to a voluntary sustainability flag by 2020	Missed Target
		Continue course development awards program	20,000 students benefit from courses created by the Course Awards 2020	Ongoing
		Continue development of undergraduate degree options		Ongoing
	Enhance professional skill development as part of the curriculum	Integrate professional certification preparation into course syllabi in existing programs	Publish inventory of courses related to professional certifications by 2018	No Progress
		Identify additional professional certification opportunities		No Progress



- Two new degrees established, course offerings continue growth
 - Increase in comprehensive learning outcomes continues
 - No progress on professional skill development
-
- Refocus, prioritize for 2021 Plan

Teaching/Research: Living Lab

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Living Lab	Leverage UT Austin facilities as a living lab for teaching sustainable practices	Charge PSSC with expanding existing ad hoc undergraduate programs into formal living lab program	Deliver report to the Provost on a living lab program by 2018	Missed Target
		Target course development awards to living lab methods and learning outcomes once determined		Ongoing
		Create undergraduate research opportunities within university operations, facilities or administration	Measure improvement of campus facilities and processes as a result of research and classroom work	Ongoing



- No report produced, but increase in ad hoc engagements
 - Mitchell Foundation supported course development award criteria include living lab considerations
 - Benefits to facilities utilized in the educational mission are measurable at project level, but not at institution level
-
- Prioritize for 2021 Plan, connect to Vertically Integrated Projects

Teaching/Research: Research

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Research Impact	Promote research in sustainability fields	Cultivate attention to non-traditional energy research		Achieved
			Increase amount of research in alternative energy and sustainability fields	Ongoing
	Practice research with efficiency	Grow the Green Labs program	Achieve 100 participants in the Green Labs program by 2020	Achieved
		Decrease chemical inventory	Lower chemical volumes in labs	Achieved
		Evaluate conservation and mitigation strategies for field research	Report on field research mitigation recommendations by 2019	No Progress



- Planet Texas 2050 major non-traditional research initiative and Energy Institute embraced the energy transition
 - Green Labs continues and evolves with corporate support
 - No progress on enhancing field research
-
- Refocus for 2020 Plan

Teaching/Research: Faculty Support

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Faculty Support	Faculty are supported in their teaching and research of sustainability	Cultivate attention to faculty in sustainability fields	Increase in media attention for faculty in sustainability	Ongoing
		Develop funding pool for faculty innovation in sustainability teaching and research	Develop new funding source for faculty development by 2019	No Progress
		Create a visiting scholar program focused on sustainability and cross-college collaboration	New visiting scholar program by 2018	No Progress

- Office focused newsletter and online stories to faculty in sustainability
 - No progress on new faculty funding sources
 - No progress on new visiting scholar program
-
- Discontinue

Teaching/Research: Civil Discourse

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Civil Discourse	Be a model of civil dialogue on scenarios in sustainability	Develop seminar series on financial diversification and divestment	Launch a new scholarly series by 2018	No Progress
		Develop seminar series on environmental impact of fracking on UT lands		No Progress
		Develop process for student-driven seminar series topics		No Progress

- While a new academic discussion series did not materialize, these issues and the interest in engaging in civil discourse toward action in these two issues continues to grow
-
- Refocus area for 2020 Plan, perhaps overlay with Living Lab

Conservation

Energy

Water

Resource Recovery

Purchasing



Fleet

Buildings

Landscape



Conservation: Energy

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Energy	Offset campus space growth and related energy plant load growth envisioned in the Campus Master Plan	Implement new demand side strategic plan for energy and water conservation projects in existing buildings	Adopt demand side portfolio management by 2017	Achieved	
			Adopt revolving fund by 2017	Missed Target	
		Create a energy funding process to accelerate investment in energy and water conservation in an optimal manner	Achieve 20 percent reduction in energy use per square foot by 2020	Achieved	
			Adopt energy conservation and purchasing policies by 2017	Missed Target	
	Demonstrate leadership in renewable energy investments	Expand lab equipment efficiency program	Adopt lab efficiency plan by 2020	Achieved	
		Explore PPAs with Austin Energy and other providers	Create 2 MW of renewable generation with Austin Energy by 2020	No Progress	
		Purchase wind power at Austin Energy supplied facilities		No Progress	
		Develop standard for solar installations on campus	Adopt solar system standard by 2018	Missed Target	

- Demand side goals achieved and restated in 2018
 - Revolving fund, purchasing policy conversations ongoing
 - No progress on renewables investments
-
- Update, refocus for 2021 Plan, connect to Emissions Planning

Conservation: Water

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Water	Demonstrate leadership on water efficiency in utility, irrigation and building consumption	Develop standards for design, installation and maintenance of cisterns on campus	Adopt cistern system campus standard by 2018	Achieved	★
		Continue research on opportunities for switching irrigation zones to non-potable sources	Achieve minimum irrigation water system by 2020	Missed Target	
		Investigate expansion of recovered water system for making up evaporative losses in cooling tower	Reduce by half the potable water used in cooling towers by 2020	Achieved	★
		Update water fixture standards	Adopt new fixture standard by 2018	Ongoing	
		Evaluate reduction of once-through water use in labs		Ongoing	
		Establish baselines of campus equipment's utilization of water	Conduct feasibility analysis of expanded water recovery by 2020	Missed Target	
		Evaluate feasibility of net zero water buildings on campus		No Progress	

- Some progress in adoption of new campus standards
 - Continued utility shift to non-potable water sources
 - Irrigation system highly efficient
-
- Update for 2020 Plan

Conservation: Resource Recovery

Area	Goal	Strategy	Outcome	Status	
Resource Recovery and Waste	Demonstrate leadership in both reduction and diversion of waste	Right size solid waste and recycling infrastructure	Adopt resource recovery plan by 2017	Ongoing	★
		Develop reuse/recycle programs for special and/or not readily recyclable materials	Achieve a Zero Waste Campus by 2020	Missed Target	
		Develop programs to encourage highest and best use of materials	Achieve 50 percent per capita reduction in waste by 2030	Ongoing	★
		Convert major campus events to zero waste		Ongoing	
		Expand food waste avoidance, donation programs and organics diversion campus wide	All food service locations participate in a food recovery program by 2020	Missed Target	
		Promote UT Austin as a national model for waste diversion for a research university by 2020		No Progress	
		Reduce hazardous waste generation in labs	Adopt reduction plan by 2017	Ongoing	



- Progress is slow and steady, missed targets don't imply no progress
 - Athletics is a zero waste leader, but unclear future
 - Greatly impacted by regional and macro-market conditions
-
- Update, refocus for 2021 Plan

Conservation: Purchasing

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
Purchasing	Purchasing policies reflect and reinforce campus sustainability values and initiatives	Adopt standards for environmentally preferred products from Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council and others	Create new content for Handbook of Operating Procedures by 2018	Missed Target	★
		Evaluate adoption of major vendor standards for waste minimization, including eliminating air and water pollutants, in manufacture and delivery of products	Report analysis of major vendor standards to the Chief Financial Officer by 2018	Missed Target	★
		Evaluate adoption of standards on material recyclability or compostability, takeback and reuse		Ongoing	
		Adopt State Energy Conservation Office and Energy Star requirements for laboratory, kitchen and office equipment		No Progress	★
		Host conference on sustainability with major vendors		No Progress	
			50 percent increase in contracts with sustainability considerations by 2020	Missed Target	
		Support opportunities for study of the university's purchasing impacts in teaching and research	Make purchasing data available for research purposes by 2019	Ongoing	

- Progress is slow, missed targets don't imply no conversation
 - Major opportunities to improve
-
- Update, expand for 2020 Plan, new Purchasing leadership

Conservation: Fleet

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Fleet	Reduce carbon impact of campus fleet	Continue to inventory and measure consumption and carbon impact of fleet vehicles	Show decrease in carbon impact of overall fleet every year through 2020	Missed Target 
		Support purchasing strategies for high efficiency vehicles		Ongoing
		Adopt a no idling policy		No Progress 
	Centralize the campus fleet	Incentivize strategic replacement of outdated vehicles with more efficient vehicles	Present a centralized fleet plan to Chief Financial Officer by 2018	Missed Target

- High efficiency and electric vehicles still optional
 - Fleet emissions remain level
 - Fleet plan drafted, but stalled
-
- Refocus for 2020 Plan

Conservation: Buildings

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Buildings	Enhance campus while accommodating growth	Continue to pursue the 2012 Campus Master Plan goals	Report on growth patterns by 2020	Missed Target
	Continue investment in high performance buildings	Integrate LEED v4 and SITES pre-requisites into campus standards	Adopt campus standards that reflect high performance objectives by 2018	Achieved
		Adopt LEED v4 Silver as new campus standard	Adopt LEED v4 Silver as new campus capital project standard by Fall 2016	Achieved
		Develop green custodial procedures		Achieved
			Adopt LEED goal for major campus renovations by 2017	Missed Target
		Investigate LEED Lab program bridging operations and academics	Certify at least one LEED Existing Building by 2020	Missed Target
		Develop standards for evaluating actual building performance	Adopt energy performance modeling standard by 2018	Missed Target



- Custodial Services won award for efficiency in 2019
- Strong commitment to LEED in new construction (4 buildings underway), not yet in major renovations

-
- Update, refocus for 2020 Plan

LEED: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design international building performance rating system

Conservation: Landscape

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Landscape	Enhance resiliency, ecosystem service functions and beauty of the campus landscape	Integrate 2014 Campus Landscape Master Plan into campus standards	Adopt new standards based on Campus Landscape Master Plan and SITES pre-requisites for capital and major renovation projects by 2018	Achieved
		Improve stormwater management practices to reduce erosion, improve water quality and reduce runoff		Achieved
		Evaluate standards on campus trees	Adopt new standards for trees	Achieved
	Restore Waller Creek as a natural campus amenity	Collate existing initiatives into a plan for Waller Creek	Adopt plan for Waller Creek by 2019	Achieved



- New storm water management standards based on SITES in 2020
 - Tree standards adopted in 2018, strong commitment remains
 - Waller Creek Framework Plan adopted in 2017
-
- Update, refocus for 2020 Plan, update Landscape Master Plan

Partnerships

Internal

External






Partnerships: Internal

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status
Internal	Interdepartmental collaborations around sustainability will be expanded and celebrated	Develop incentives for collaboration between academic and non-academic departments	Increased recognition and resources for interdepartmental collaborations	Ongoing
		Continue and expand Green Offices program		Achieved
		Collaborate on award and grant applications		No Progress
	Texas Athletics will be a leader in collegiate athletics sustainability	Increase number of Zero Waste Athletic events including hosting a Zero Waste football game	Achieve Zero Waste at all Athletics events by end of calendar year 2017	Ongoing
		Educate and collaborate with all stakeholders to implement Athletics sustainability initiatives	Achieve Zero Waste in day-to-day Athletics by 2020	Missed Target
		Implement building automation software at all Athletics facilities	Reduce energy consumption by 20% in Athletics facilities by 2020	Missed Target
		Seek sponsorship, grants and corporate support of sustainability initiatives and activities	Create an Athletics unit-level sustainability plan	Ongoing
		Determine the feasibility of reducing water and electricity usage within Athletics facilities		Ongoing



- Green Offices continues, slow progress on strengthening collab.
- Athletics remains a campus leader, scale of operations is challenging
- Update for 2021 Plan

Partnerships: External

Area	Goal	Strategies	Outcome	Status	
External	UT Austin contributes to achieving the sustainability goals of the City of Austin and other governmental entities in Central Texas	Establish regular communications to collaborate around energy, water and recycling achievements	Report on town-gown sustainability by Fall 2018	Missed Target	
		Explore specific collaboration opportunities with various City of Austin departments		Achieved	
		Collaborate with City of Austin and Rocky Mountain Institute on transportation demand management		No Progress	
		Seek partnership opportunities on grant applications		Achieved	
	UT Austin's corporate and foundation partners' sustainability interests are recognized through their investments in the university	Leverage existing corporate partnerships to support sustainability initiatives and research	External funding for campus sustainability doubles by 2020	Achieved	 
		Pursue new corporate partnerships that enhance the campus sustainability experience		Achieved	
		Promote foundation partnerships that enhance the campus sustainability experience		Achieved	
	Share expertise and opportunities within higher education to advance sustainability	Continue collaborations within Central Texas higher education institutions	UT Austin is a recognized leader in sustainability among peers	Achieved	
		Continue support for Texas Regional Alliance for Campus Sustainability with staff time		Achieved	
		Establish presence and regular communications with other national higher education institutions		Ongoing	
	Regional K-12 institutions view UT Austin as a destination for sustainability education	Expand UTeach programs focused on sustainability		No Progress	
		Seek working relationships with regional independent school districts on their sustainability efforts and planning	Grow sustainability opportunities for K-12 students by 2020	No Progress	
		Incorporate sustainability outreach and engagement into Explore UT programming		No Progress	

Partnerships: External

- Office of Sustainability and Resource Recovery continue to work closely with City of Austin peer departments, ad hoc faculty collaborations, no institutional directive or reporting
 - Rocky Mountain Institute drastically cut back initiative
 - Significant growth in corporate and foundation interest and investment in campus sustainability
 - University staff are active collaborators with higher education peers
 - Little growth in K-12 initiatives beyond existing HSCT
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- Update, expand for 2020 Plan

Commitments

Area	Strategies	Status
Leadership	Many of UT Austin's peer institutions have made public commitments to greenhouse gas and carbon emission reductions. Various factors lead to these commitments, including student pressure, government regulation, as well as research opportunity, competitive distinction and a recognition that universities should lead by example in both the science and commitment to action in response to climate change. Over the next several years, UT Austin will evaluate establishing greenhouse gas reduction goals in alignment with both UT System policy and the other goals in the Sustainability Master Plan.	Achieved
Livelihood	Commuting habits are shaped by where people live. Residential choice includes many factors, most of which are outside the scope of influence of the university. However, recognizing the direct relationship between compensation, residential choice and mobility, the university will launch a study and conversation on affordable housing for the students and staff of UT Austin.	No Progress
Energy	Investigate feasibility of avoiding the need for another thermal energy plant (estimated at \$100M) to support campus growth envisioned in the Campus Master Plan	Ongoing
Water	Investigate feasibility of an on-campus wastewater treatment facility. While certainly a major capital investment, the anticipated cost of potable water, reclaimed water and wastewater fees will increase in coming decades.	Ongoing
Resource Recovery	Investigate opportunities to maximize diversion and returns to the university. This should include but not be limited to expanding current routes, investing in technological improvements to existing infrastructure, and separating recyclable materials into commodities. All of this contributes to the goal that UT Austin becomes a nationally recognized leader in resource recovery.	Ongoing
Athletics	Investigate the feasibility of including green building features into existing Athletic facilities and all major facility renovations	Ongoing
Partnerships	Building on the success of Texas CityLab, housed in the School of Architecture, and the many innovative internships and professional experiences championed by various faculty, we will seek to expand the living lab concept to include academic opportunities in the surrounding City of Austin and Central Texas region.	Achieved



2020 MITCHELL SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM



2021 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UPDATE

New factors

PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY STEERING COMMITTEE

New Factors for 2020-21

Academic Demand

Climate Change

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

COVID-19

Future of Mobility

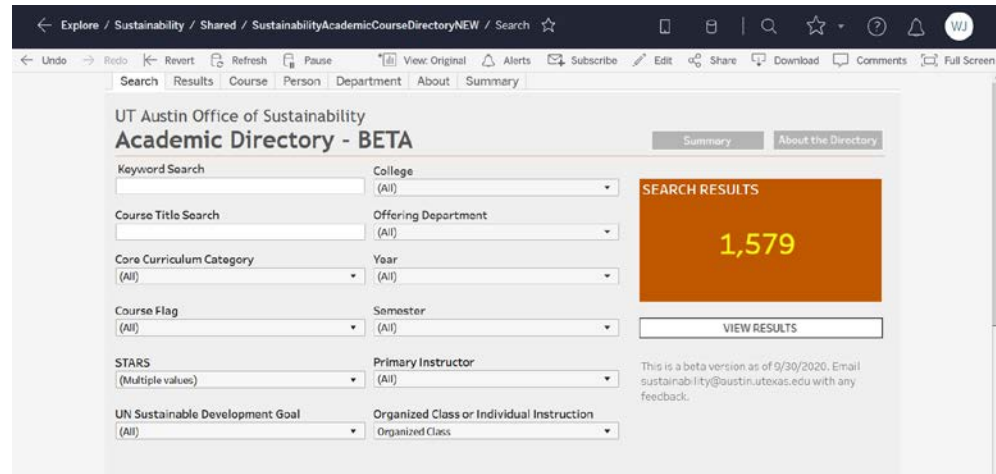
Public Health



Photo: Jamie Hwang, Daily Texan

Academic Demand

- Ongoing, organic growth in number of courses with some focus on sustainability and equity issues
- New BA-Sustainability Studies now over 300 students since 2017
- Increased pressure from students for content



The screenshot shows a web application titled "UT Austin Office of Sustainability Academic Directory - BETA". It features a search interface with various filters and a results summary.

Search Interface:

- Keyword Search:** A text input field.
- Course Title Search:** A text input field.
- Core Curriculum Category:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Course Flag:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- STARS:** A dropdown menu with "(Multiple values)" selected.
- UN Sustainable Development Goal:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- College:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Offering Department:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Year:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Semester:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Primary Instructor:** A dropdown menu with "(All)" selected.
- Organized Class or Individual Instruction:** A dropdown menu with "Organized Class" selected.

Search Results Summary:

- SEARCH RESULTS:** 1,579
- VIEW RESULTS:** A button to view the search results.

Footer: This is a beta version as of 9/30/2020. Email sustainability@austin.utexas.edu with any feedback.

Climate Change / Emissions Planning

- National and international interest in climate change commitments greater than five years ago
- Increased interest from students, staff and faculty
- Increased focus from research units
 - Planet Texas 2050
 - Energy Institute

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

- Ongoing, overdue national discussion is prompting several campus discussions
- High interest in moving past conversations to actions
- Clearly distinct and separate from conventional sustainability, but also several intersections with sustainability planning worth exploring

COVID-19

- Still somewhere closer to the middle of the pandemic than the end, but anticipation of near- and long-term impacts well underway
- Campus operations
- Daily commuting, air travel

Future of Mobility

- COVID-19 will have ongoing, possibly permanent, impact on the number of students, staff, faculty commuting daily to campus
- While years ahead, Project Connect will increase mass transit capacity to campus
- Ease of mobility to/from campus is linked to accessibility of housing that is affordable to students, staff and faculty

**METRO***project***connect**

Public Health

- Dell Medical School has greatly increased the university connection to public health issues across the region
- Public health issues are often correlated to structural inequity and environmental justice issues

2020 MITCHELL SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM



2021 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UPDATE

Summary of initial framework

PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY STEERING COMMITTEE

Initial Framework for 2021 Update

Values and Equity

STARS

Engagement with Curriculum

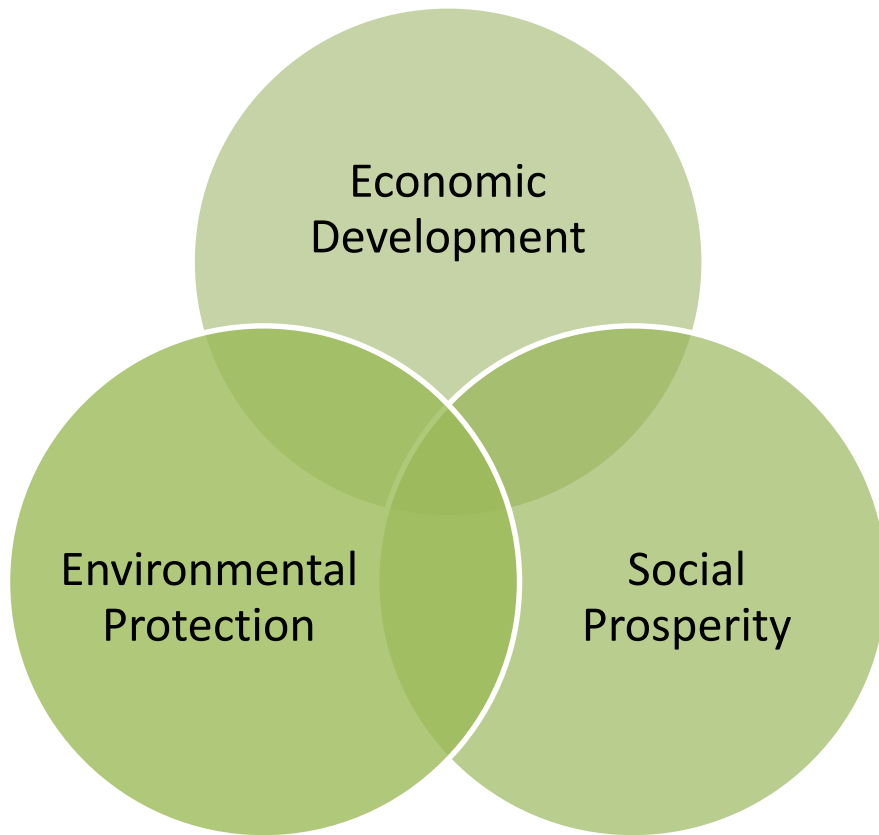
Student Perspective

Emissions Planning

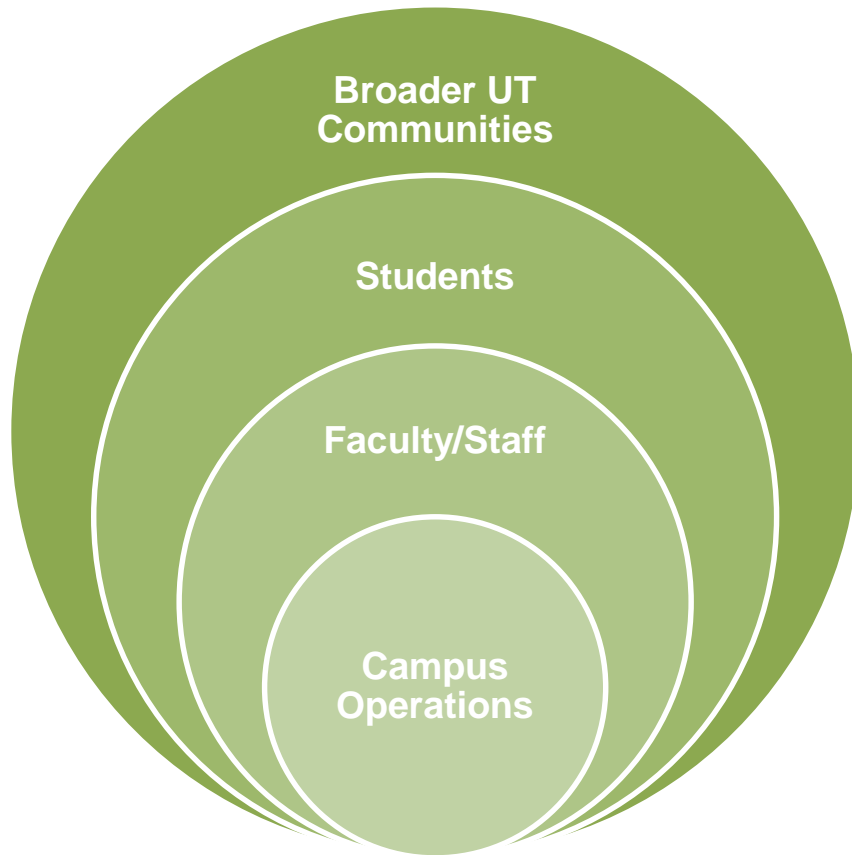


Photo: Kathryn Gatliff, Office of Sustainability

A Comprehensive View of Sustainability



A Stakeholder View of Sustainability at UT

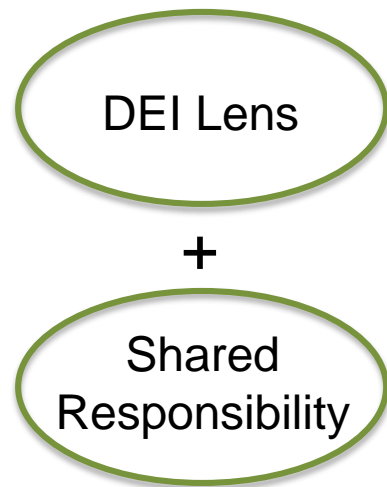


Guiding Values

2016 Sustainability Plan



2021 Discussion in Progress



Foundation for performance measurement

- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
- Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)
- Almost 200 doctoral/research institutions are rated



STARS

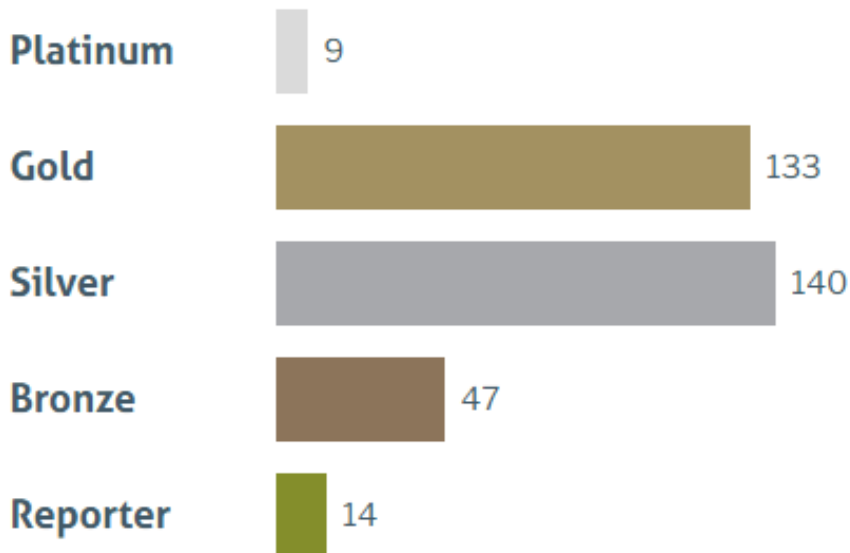
Created by and for higher education and designed to ensure participation has multiple benefits

- Gain international recognition for sustainability efforts
- Generate new ideas
- Engage campus community
- Create baseline for continuous improvement
- Inform strategic planning and budgeting
- Integrate sustainability into curriculum
- Make real progress towards sustainability
- Be part of a global community of STARS institutions

STARS

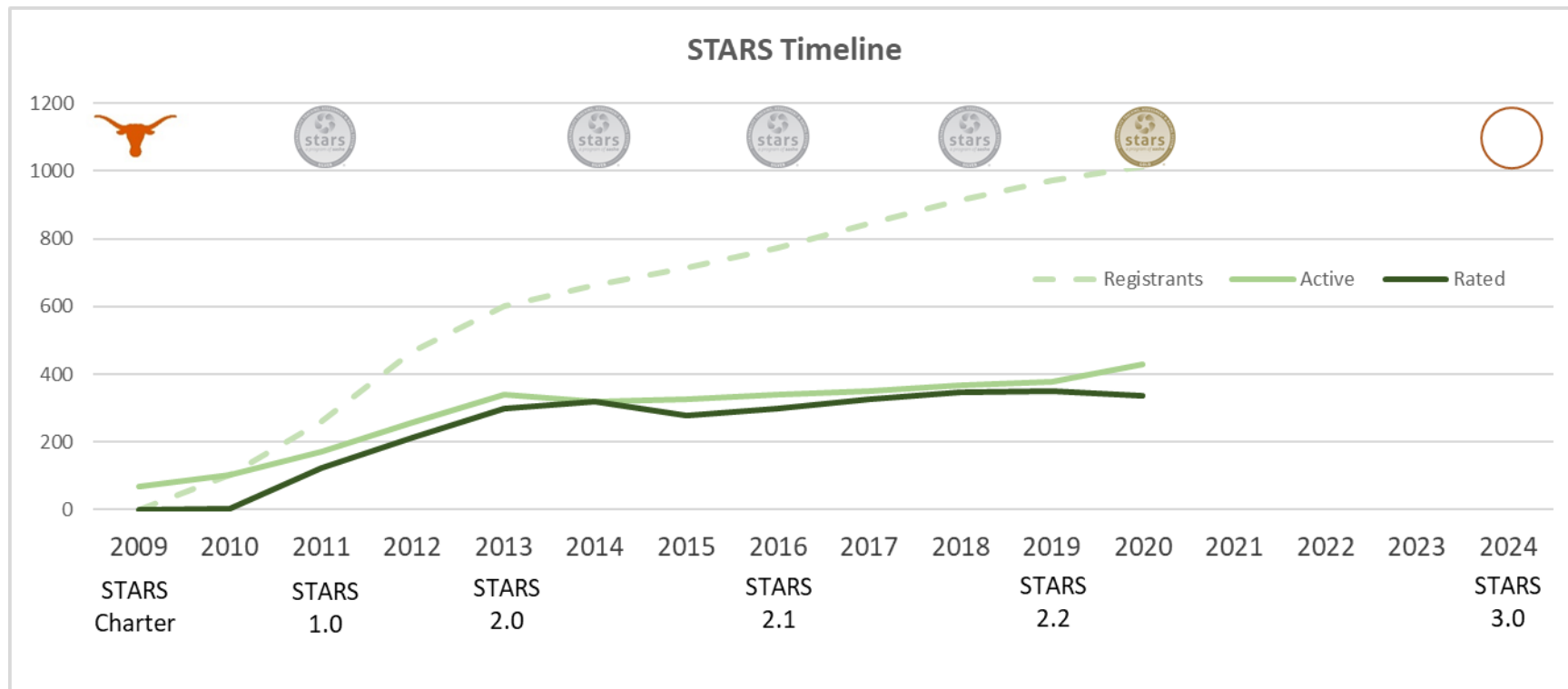
- Enables meaningful comparisons over time and across institutions using a common set of measurements
- Facilitates information sharing about higher education practices and performance
- Builds a stronger, more diverse sustainability community on-campus

Current Ratings



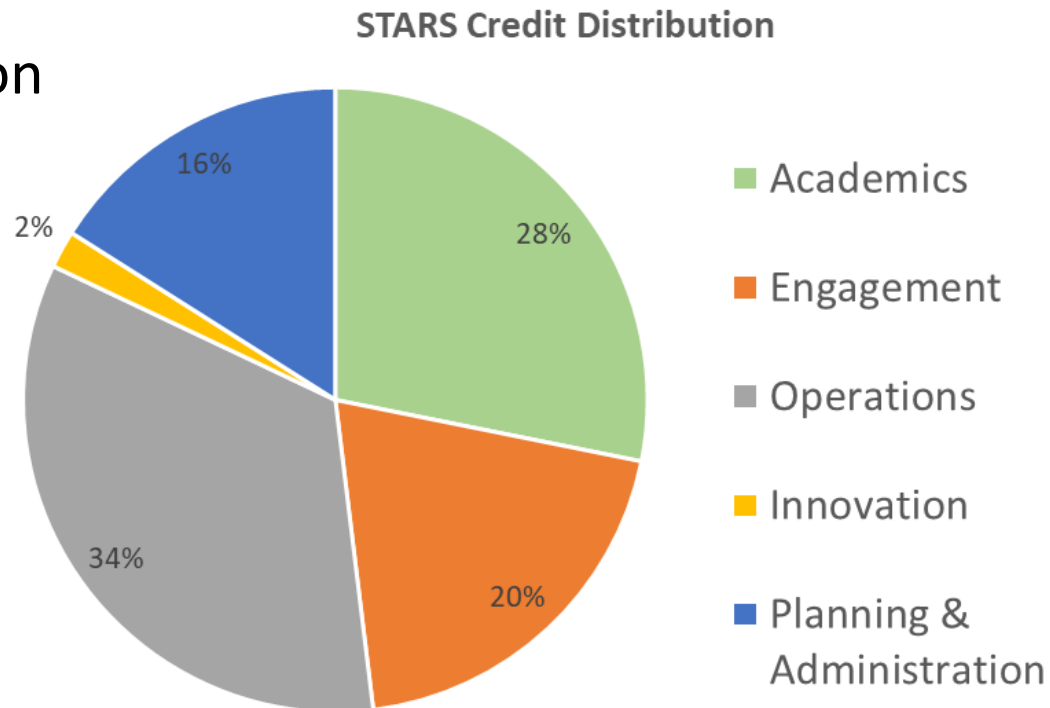
STARS

STARS Timeline



STARS

- Comprehensive evaluation
- More than operations



Next Steps

Continue to gather feedback online for the Sustainability Plan

December-January

- Small working groups to refine value and approach to equity, and drafting initial goals and strategies drawing on STARS and subject matter experts

February-March

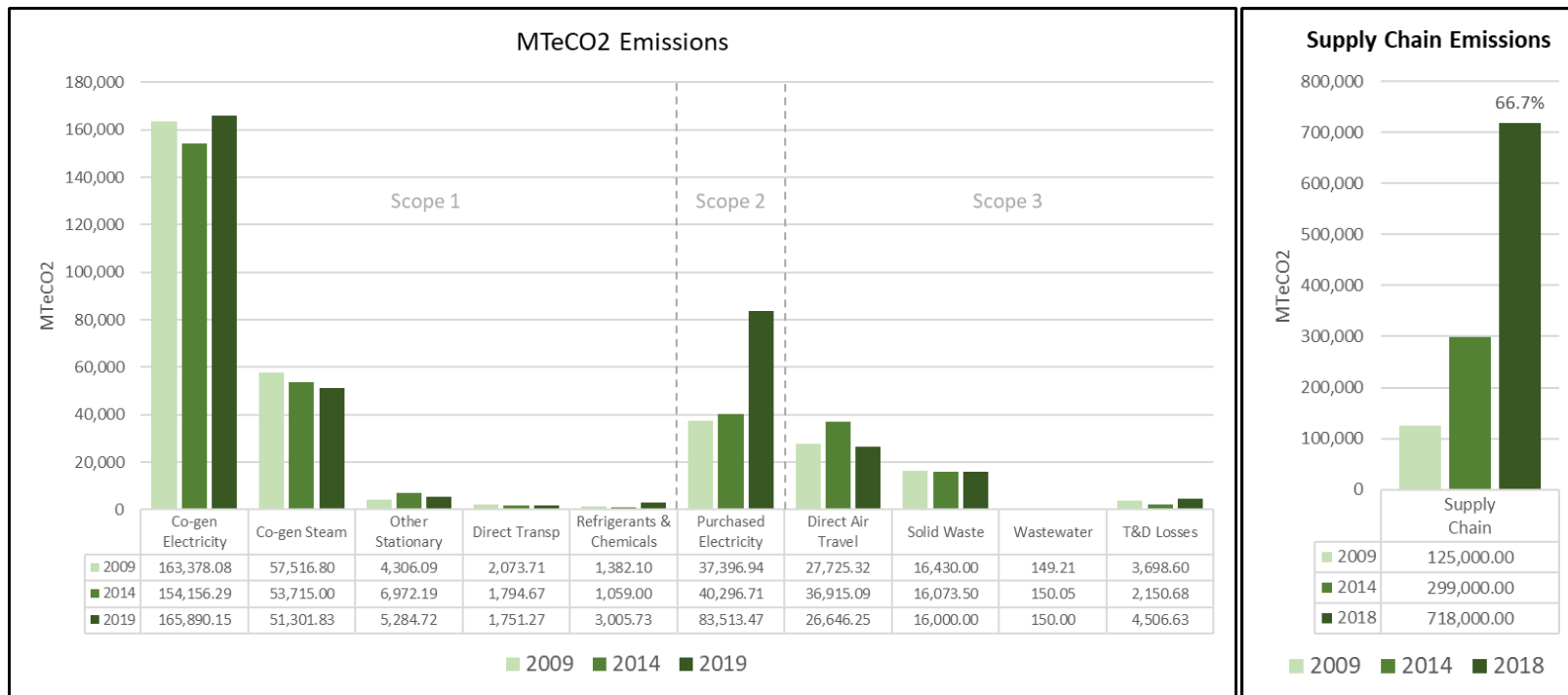
- Presentations and feedback from stakeholder groups,
- Refining of goals and strategies

April

- Finalizing draft for President's Office



Emissions Planning: 2019 Inventory



Emissions Planning: 2021

Prompted by a question at Faculty Council in January 2020, President Fennes charged the PSSC with providing recommendations on potential goals and strategies to address greenhouse gas emissions with the following deliverables:

- Review sources of emissions from 2019 GHG Inventory
- Forecast future emissions based on university growth
- Propose strategies that are both technically and financially feasible
- Develop further activities and a timeline

THE PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY STEERING COMMITTEE
PRESENTS:

MITCHELL SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 4



The University of Texas at Austin
Office of Sustainability



THE CYNTHIA & GEORGE MITCHELL FOUNDATION