Update
FALL 2018
The University of Texas at Austin met important benchmarks since adopting the Sustainability Master Plan two years ago. Consistent effort by members of the campus community has led to UT Austin’s third STARS Silver rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (June 2018), and UT is on track for STARS Gold by 2020. The President’s Sustainability Steering Committee is updating the campus sustainability policy and connecting staff and faculty to sustainability decision making on campus.

A fundamental aspect of sustainability is culture change, from the institution to the individual. UT is committed to integrate sustainability into the student experience as attested by a new Living Learning Community (Housing and Dining, 2017), graduate student networking around sustainability research (Sustainability on Tap, 2017), the development of curriculum linked to sustainability (funded by the Mitchell Foundation), and a renewed interest in campus as a living lab. The launch of Plant Texas 2050 illustrates the university’s commitment to collaborative faculty research and grand challenges like large scale resiliency.

Conservation efforts continue across campus: UT met its 20% reduction in demand-side energy consumption two years early; zero waste efforts are growing with Athletics at the forefront (Green Sports Alliance Innovator of the Year, 2018); campus achieved SITESv2 Gold certification for the 16-acre Health District; and the Water Creek Framework Plan should be finalized by the end of this year. UT surpassed 3.5 million square feet of LEED-certified green building space, and new building and purchasing standards are currently being developed for campus.

After spurring much of the sustainable change on campus with over three million distributed in awards, the Green Fund continues to be vital for launching environmental and broader sustainability projects and research. At the same time, UT is pursuing external corporate and foundation partners to diversify funding.

Any good plan—like this one—envisions goals for a desired future that seem unattainable at the moment. Several goals require ongoing conversation. Examples are defining and incorporating sustainability deeper into academic life and—building on recent successes in conservation—maintaining our focus on water conservation, energy efficiency, zero waste, and food recovery. Perhaps the biggest aspiration in this plan is cultivating civil discourse across campus around what some see as a challenge to UT’s traditional identity: the university’s role and responsibility in the classroom, lab, and machine room relative to climate change.

To learn more and get involved, please check sustainability.utexas.edu

The addition of Dell Medical School to the University of Texas at Austin expanded the number of LEED Gold-certified buildings on campus and transformed 16 acres into a SITES-certified landscape that promotes well-being for patients, students, staff, and faculty.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direction</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
<th>On Target for 2020</th>
<th>Challenge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Executive Commitment</td>
<td>Recharged President's Sustainability Steering Committee (HCP 3-1010) update launched Fall 2018</td>
<td>Report on Living Lab programs</td>
<td>Establish unit-level strategic plans to incorporate sustainability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Culture of Excellence</td>
<td>Reported sustainability progress every two years (Master Plan Update Fall 2018)</td>
<td>Deepen integration of sustainability into facilities development process</td>
<td>Establish unit-level strategic plans to incorporate sustainability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Model Institution</td>
<td>Achieved STARS Silver in 2018</td>
<td>Deepen collaboration with UT Staff Council and Sustainability Staff Roundtable</td>
<td>Increase participation in national sustainability networks</td>
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<td>Experience and Culture</td>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>Sustainability Living Learning Community (Fall 2017) Green Fund continued</td>
<td>Support inclusion of sustainability topics into first-year interest group (F1XG)</td>
<td>Include sustainability for all incoming students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Supported graduate professional networking opportunities (Sustainability on Tap since Fall 2017)</td>
<td>Increase the number of green jobs on campus</td>
<td>Increase visibility and convenience of sustainability infrastructure specific to graduate student facilities</td>
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<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Create programs where faculty and their departments are incentivized to innovate on and with campus</td>
<td>Introduce sustainability in orientation (pilot Summer 2018)</td>
<td>Include sustainability for all incoming students</td>
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<td>Staff</td>
<td>Continued staff and faculty connection to sustainability decision-making via President's Sustainability Steering Committee and Faculty and Staff Councils</td>
<td>Develop new employee sustainability training programs</td>
<td>Assess pursuit of a Baldridge Award (potentially by 2020)</td>
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<td>Community</td>
<td>Feature sustainability in publicity, messaging, website, social media about events open to the public (Explore UT in 2018)</td>
<td>Support HealthPoint Wellness program</td>
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<td>Opportunity and Affordability</td>
<td>Wellness</td>
<td>Promoted and supported the tobacco-free campus policy</td>
<td>Support HealthPoint Wellness program</td>
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<td>Livelihood</td>
<td>Expanded telecommute and flexible policies</td>
<td>Evaluate innovation in lowering employee cost of living</td>
<td>Expand communications on the university budget and benefits available to staff and faculty</td>
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<td>Food</td>
<td>Expanded access to sustainability grown produce (Farm Stand; Farm to Work) Continued student-run campus gardens (MicroFarm) Responded to food insecurity on campus (Food Pantry)</td>
<td>Implement media campaign to promote compelling options within five miles of campus</td>
<td>Increase availability of healthy beverage options</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Established bike sharing (B-Cycle, Spring 2018)</td>
<td>Improve bike/pedestrian interactions on and around campus</td>
<td>Increase availability of healthy beverage options</td>
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<td>Curriculum</td>
<td>Targeted course development awards to experiential learning and living lab methods</td>
<td>Implement media campaign to promote compelling options within five miles of campus</td>
<td>Increase availability of healthy beverage options</td>
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<td>Teaching and Research</td>
<td>Living Laboratory</td>
<td>Define and evaluate existing undergraduate programs that exemplify living lab experiences Create undergraduate research opportunities within university operations, facilities or administration</td>
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<td>Research Impact</td>
<td>Promoted research in sustainability (Panel Texas 2050) Expanded Green Labs program</td>
<td>Cultivate media attention to non-traditional energy research</td>
<td>Evaluate conservation and mitigation strategies for field research</td>
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<td>Faculty Support</td>
<td>Cultivate media attention to faculty in sustainability fields</td>
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<td>Develop funding pool for faculty innovation in sustainability teaching and research</td>
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<td>Civil Discourse</td>
<td>Develop seminar series on timely and challenging topics</td>
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<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Adopted new demand side strategic plan for energy and water conservation projects in existing buildings Early achievement of 2020 goal of 20% reduction in energy consumption per square foot</td>
<td>Adopt energy conservation and purchasing policies</td>
<td>Conserve major campus events to zero-waste</td>
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<td>Water</td>
<td>Developed standards for design, installation and maintenance of cisterns on campus Develop solar array installation standards Evaluate increasing non-potable water for irrigation</td>
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<td>Conserve major campus events to zero-waste</td>
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<td>Resource Recovery</td>
<td>Right size exterior solid waste and recycling infrastructure</td>
<td>Right size interior solid waste and recycling infrastructure</td>
<td>Expand food waste avoidance, donation programs and organics diversion campus wide</td>
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<td>Purchasing</td>
<td>Supported use of the university’s purchasing impacts in classrooms and other academic settings Made purchasing data available for research purposes</td>
<td>Evaluate standards for environmentally preferred products and vendor standards for waste minimization, material recyclability or compostability, takeback and reuse</td>
<td>Expand food waste avoidance, donation programs and organics diversion campus wide</td>
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<td>Fleet</td>
<td>Continue to inventory and measure consumption and carbon impact of fleet vehicles Support purchasing strategies for high efficiency vehicles</td>
<td>Integrate LEED v4 and SITES pre-regulates into campus standards</td>
<td>Adopt LEED goal for major campus renovations</td>
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<td>Buildings</td>
<td>Adopted LEED v4 Silver as new campus standard</td>
<td>Integrate LEED v4 and SITES pre-regulates into campus standards</td>
<td>Develop green certification procedures</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Landscape</td>
<td>Achieved STARS/G2 Gold for Health District (first in Texas) Tree Campus USA award for 10th year Water Creek Framework Plan (anticipated Dec 2018)</td>
<td>Improve storm-water management practices to reduce erosion and improve water quality</td>
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<td>Partnerships</td>
<td>Internal</td>
<td>Continued Green Office program Expanded Zero-Waste Athletics events for football, baseball and softball</td>
<td>Develop incentives for collaboration between academic and non-academic departments Evaluate reducing water and electricity usage within Athletics facilities</td>
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<td>External</td>
<td>Received challenge gift from BASF Continued support for the Texas Regional Alliance on Campus Sustainability</td>
<td>Leverage existing public and private partnerships to support sustainability initiatives and research Pursue new corporate and foundation partnerships</td>
<td>Expand UT Outreach programs focused on sustainability</td>
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