University of Washington:
Integrating Sustainability
Founded in 1861, the University of Washington is the oldest university in Washington State.

- **2007** – Former President Emmert signs the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)
- **2009** – UW Climate Action Plan (CAP) submitted to ACUPCC
- **2011** – CAP oversight charted 3 sub-committees to develop policies – reformation of the Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC)
- **2012** – Executive Order for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

Link to Climate Action Plan: [http://green.uw.edu/cap](http://green.uw.edu/cap)
A Climate of Change at the University of Washington

Link to Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7tC6Oxa4Ao
See more of the UW Sustainability Video Series: http://green.uw.edu/climate-of-change
The University of Washington fosters sustainability through an institutional approach that continually embraces multiple stakeholders as a part of the planning process.

Sustainability is a significant part of the University’s educational mission, due in large part to student demand, engagement and activism.

This focus on sustainability adds value in recruiting the best faculty, students and research support.

“We approach environmental problems from a multi-dimensional point of view, and we try to think about the full complexity of these issues, pulling connections and expertise from a variety of sources.”

- Dean Lisa Graumlich, College of the Environment
Campus Integration

Our campus’ strategy **brings together students, administrators, faculty, and staff** in addressing issues of sustainability.

The Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability office **coordinates information and facilitates initiatives within three campus locations, medical centers, and auxiliaries.**

The office also serves to **raise university-wide visibility of sustainability.**

“**Increasingly, the sustainability challenges we face today require connected, integrative solutions based on highly collaborative problem-solving research that spans disciplines and reaches across geographic boundaries.**”

- President Michael K. Young
Engaging Stakeholders

The University of Washington aims to engage all stakeholders in the decision making process through information and transparency. Our stakeholders can get involved through our resources and programs.

- Campus Sustainability Map
- Green Office & Green Lab Certification
- Peer-to-Peer EcoRep Program
- Sustainability Tracking and Assessment & Rating System (STARS)
- Climate Action Plan Outreach & Analysis
- Sustainability Snapshots
- Earth Day
- Sustainability Video Series

“It’s essential that students see the value of your sustainability efforts. They have to be engaged.”

- Richard Chapman, Associate Vice President, Capital Projects Office
Environmental Stewardship Committee

Represented by
- 6 administrative departments (including 4 VPs)
- 7 academic units (including four Deans)
- 4 students
- ex-officio members from UW Bothell & Tacoma campuses

Identifies opportunities for collaboration among academic and administrative units, and offers the campus as a learning lab. This committee reports to the President, Provost, and Senior Vice President.

“There’s no one leader when it comes to collaborative sustainability partnerships like this.”

- Charles Kennedy, Associate Vice President, Facilities Services

Link to ESC: http://green.uw.edu/esc
Commitment to Sustainability

• A 15% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020

• Reducing the University’s paper use by 30% and purchasing only 100% recycled paper

• Recognizing sustainable practices, offering advice on areas of improvement and encouraging sustainability competition and collaboration throughout offices, laboratories, Residence Hall rooms and Greek housing

“By making sustainability a priority in our daily operations and practices, we demonstrate in an authentic way our commitment to making a better world for us all.”

- President Michael K. Young

Link to Sustainability Lessons: http://green.uw.edu/climate-of-change/lessons
A central portal for sustainability at the University of Washington

Promotes sustainability research and projects of faculty, staff, and students

Provides recognition for sustainable activities on campus
With over 40 student groups focused on environmental and sustainability issues, students are involved with a variety of projects:

- Peer-to-peer EcoRep program
- Earth Day
- Climate Action Plan outreach & analysis
- Sustainability Snapshots
- Sustainability Videos
- Campus Sustainability Map
- Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS)

Over $1 million has been dispersed to 30+ student sustainability projects over 3 years.

Link to Student Groups: [http://green.uw.edu/env-students](http://green.uw.edu/env-students)
Campus Stakeholders – Staff and Faculty

- Staff and faculty can **participate in the development of a more sustainable campus** via administrative functions and direct involvement with sustainability.

- Green Teams and Green Certifications allow staff to **directly impact sustainability** in their workplace.

- Participation in committees for **planning and development of sustainability policy**

- Green Office and Laboratory certifications recognize leaders in **applied sustainability**.

Link to Green Certifications: [http://green.uw.edu/certification](http://green.uw.edu/certification)
The University of Washington has developed a Climate Action Plan working in concert with students, faculty and staff.

As a result of this plan, we have achieved:

- A 8% reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions since 2005
- A 58% waste diversion rate, saving $1.2 million in 2013
- A University population where 81% commute using alternative modes of transportation

“The most important thing we can do... is to focus on creating and sustaining a healthy living and work environment for students, faculty and staff.”

- Richard Chapman, Associate Vice President, UW Capital Projects

Link to Awards: http://green.uw.edu/awards
The University of Washington Smart Grid project’s goal is to gather information about the costs and benefits of a smart grid.

- Installation of more than 200 energy meters on campus buildings
- Data from this project is publicly accessible on an energy dashboard
- Tracks consumption and generation of renewable energy

Link to Dashboard: [http://dashboard.mckinstry.com/uw/](http://dashboard.mckinstry.com/uw/)
Link to UW Solar: [http://uwsolar.wordpress.com/](http://uwsolar.wordpress.com/)
The Campus Sustainability Fund provides grants to student-led projects in sustainability.

- Over $1 million granted to student projects, from installing solar panels to building a biodiversity green wall
- Managed by a student committee and two student employees

“Our on-campus research efforts also make us a public laboratory that can help incubate crucial sustainability breakthroughs that will help clean the sky, land and air for future generations.”

- Paul Jenny, Vice Provost, UW Office of Planning & Budgeting

Link to CSF: [http://csf.washington.edu](http://csf.washington.edu)
A combined effort of students, faculty and staff, the UW Farm is an educational, community-oriented resource that teaches about building productive and sustainable urban landscape.

• 54% of Housing and Food Service budget spent on locally processed/grown food, including food from the UW Farm

• Managed by students, faculty, and staff

• A project of the Campus Sustainability Fund

Link to UW Farm: http://blogs.uw.edu/uwfarms/
A student-led project to **convert used cooking oil from Housing and Food Services into usable biodiesel for UW’s fleet of vehicles and generators.**

- Managed entirely by students, with funding from the Campus Sustainability Fund
- Has grown from laboratory scale conversion of biodiesel to running large, dedicated converters

[Link to Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovauwkSaRvs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovauwkSaRvs)
[Link to Biodiesel Co-op:](#)
The University of Washington Sustainability Dashboard displays information on sustainability metrics and conservation targets in order to show the progress toward achievement of the goals outlined in the University's Climate Action Plan.

- Provides clear and transparent information about goals and progress in sustainability

Link to Dashboard: [http://green.uw.edu/dashboard](http://green.uw.edu/dashboard)