A Decade of Sustainability – 2020 Vision

PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 2010

In 2020, Indiana University will celebrate its bicentennial. In 2010, the IU Office of Sustainability’s Campus Sustainability Advisory Board and its seven Working Groups developed the following “2020 Vision” for the IU Bloomington campus sustainability initiative:

“Indiana University is an international campus sustainability leader recognized for innovation and excellence in academic programs, research, campus environmental quality, campus operations and community outreach that facilitate and demonstrate the path to a more sustainable future.”

Dozens of goals to achieve that vision were distilled to the following “20 Goals for 2020:"

Leadership

1. Continuously increase the quantity, quality, and diversity of participation in campus sustainability initiatives.
   Over 200 volunteers serve on the Campus Sustainability Advisory Board, its seven Working Groups, 22 Student Sustainability Council organizations and 24 Green Teams. The Fall Energy Challenge involved over 18,000 building occupants and thousands attended sustainability events during Themester 2010: sustain.ability – Thriving on a Small Planet. Our mailing list includes over 1000 participants and you can sign on here: http://visitor.constantcontact.com/email.jsp?m=1102498799524

2. Infuse sustainability into the culture, core values and administrative decision-making process.
   The 2010 Campus Master Plan states, “Environmental sustainability will play a crucial role in the development and improvement of Indiana University’s Bloomington Campus.” This has been demonstrated in recent LEED-certified construction projects and work on an Integrated Energy Master Plan.

3. Achieve the Platinum rating on the AASHE national Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System.
   Before the end of the year we will submit our AASHE STARS survey, which indicates we will initially certify at the Silver level, with plans for continuous improvement through Gold and Platinum levels by 2020.

Academic Programs

4. Provide internationally recognized degree programs in environmental and sustainability studies at undergraduate, graduate & doctoral levels.
   A new Ph.D. minor in sustainable energy science was introduced this semester. http://homepages.indiana.edu/web/page/normal/14925.html
   Other degree programs are under development.
5. Make sustainability literacy and engagement a component of the educational experience for all IU graduates. *Sustainability has been incorporated into over 200 courses and it was the focus of Semester 2010: sustainability - Thriving on a Small Planet. All incoming freshmen this summer were exposed to sustainability concepts through readings and the greening of the orientation experience.*

**Energy, Atmosphere and Built Environment**

6. Reduce overall campus greenhouse gas emissions by 30%. *The Campus Master Plan provides recommendations to achieve a 30% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2020 primarily by making buildings more energy efficient. IUB is beginning the process of identifying buildings for up to $15 million in Qualified Energy Savings Projects that will pay for themselves from energy savings. Four Campus Energy Challenges have heightened awareness of energy and water use on campus and resulted in savings of 2,753,850 kWh of electricity, 6,061,365 gallons of water, 4,392,252 pounds of CO2 emissions and $199,469 in avoided electricity costs.*

7. Reduce energy consumption in campus buildings by 20%. *See note above.*

8. Reduce campus potable water use by 40%. *Campus total water usage has decreased by 24% since 2004, although the campus floor space has increased over 380,000 square feet in that time period. This saved the University $3,560,000.*

9. Create a plan to phase out coal combustion on campus. *An Integrated Energy Master Plan process is underway to study overall campus energy use and make recommendations for energy conservation and potential for alternatives to current heating, cooling and electrical systems.*

10. Derive 15% of total energy use from renewable sources. *Renovations to Briscoe Quad and Tulip Tree Apartments will include solar photovoltaic and solar hot water systems.*

11. Fully meter all buildings with smart meters. Make utility information available to users. *This goal will be substantially complete with the installation of new digital, radio-read meters in virtually all large campus buildings by July 1.*

12. Implement an internal audit/recommissioning team to provide for continuous improvement in building energy and resource effectiveness. *A retrofit team has been established by Physical Plant and they have made improvements to two buildings on campus already.*

13. Certify at least 20 existing buildings using the USGBC LEED for Existing Buildings rating system. *The Indiana Memorial Union was chosen as a pilot to determine the feasibility of certifying existing buildings on campus using LEED for Existing Buildings - Operations and Maintenance.*
Transportation

14. Reduce demand for single occupancy vehicles on campus by 20%.
   Zipcar car sharing was implemented on campus to encourage students to leave their cars at home. Zimride, a ride sharing system that utilizes online social network methods, has over 2000 members signed on to share rides.

Food

15. Purchase 20% of food served in university-owned facilities from local growers/producers that embody sustainable practices in food production. Residential Programs and Services Dining Halls report that they are already utilizing 15% local food in their menus.

Environmental Quality

16. Reduce campus solid waste by 40%.
   Electronic Waste Days diverted over 2 million pounds of electronic waste from the landfill in two years. The Hoosier-to-Hoosier Community Sale provided a way to divert truckloads move-out waste from the landfill while benefitting local charities. Waste and recycling systems are being consolidated on campus to provide better recycling at lower cost. A NoWaste web site has been created: http://www.indiana.edu/~nowaste/

17. Plant 12,000 trees and provide the funding, manpower, expertise and equipment necessary to maintain the health and beauty of campus forests. The first mass tree plantings have commenced utilizing volunteers. http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/14309.html

18. Restore the Jordan River from its origin to Indiana Avenue as described in the Campus Master Plan. A portion of the Jordan River has been restored and this tributary will play a central role in the improvements envisioned in the Campus Master Plan.

Funding

19. Raise $10 million for specific sustainability projects through events, grants and donations. Over $100,000 in cash grants and donations has been raised for campus sustainability to date. IUOS has also participated grant proposals for other units on campus pursuing their own sustainability initiatives. To participate: https://apps2.iu.iu.edu/og-prd/SelectAccounts.do?method=enter&amp;account=I321U02046&amp;campaignCode=BOD0174-10

20. Develop additional sustainable funding for the Office of Sustainability programs and internships as needed to meet these goals. This has been essentially accomplished and has proven to be a good investment for the University as every dollar spent so far on campus sustainability has returned two dollars of benefits!