



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Policies and Procedures

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Revision Date

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Subject: Sustainability

1.0 Purpose:

In adopting this policy, Simon Fraser University renews its commitment as a signatory (1991) to the principles espoused in the Talloires Declaration. The purpose of this policy is to highlight sustainability as an institutional priority for all University activities, providing a foundation on which SFU may establish itself as a leading institution in the transition to a sustainable society.

This policy provides a framework within which other policies and procedures may be developed that demonstrate responsibility and due diligence on the part of the University and that educate and assist members of the University community to understand and fulfill their responsibilities to practice sustainability.

SFU implements this policy mindful of the need to balance ecological, social and economic imperatives in an open and transparent decision-making process.

2.0 Definitions:

Sustainability is most commonly defined as "improving the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems" (*Brundtland Report, 1987*). Since the concept of sustainability applies to long-term objectives achieved by short- and medium-term actions, the term has application within virtually all spheres of activity.

Talloires Declaration – Composed in 1990 at an international conference in Talloires, France, this is the first official statement made by university administrators of a commitment to environmental sustainability in higher education. The Talloires Declaration is a ten-

3.1.4 SFU will work to develop and adopt environmentally sustainable practices and processes in all its operations.

3.2 Leadership in Teaching and Researching Sustainability

3.2.1 SFU will strive to be in the forefront of sustainability research and education and will use its institutional capability to promote sustainability within and beyond the University.

3.3 Leadership in Evaluating Success

3.3.1 SFU is committed to assessing the sustainability impacts associated with its activities and will consult with the community in developing and reporting specific targets, priorities and timetables for achieving its sustainability objectives.

3.4 Leadership in Community Sustainability

3.4.1 SFU will seek and develop o

Appendix II

Terms of Reference: Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The SFU Sustainability Advisory Committee was formed in 2004 with responsibility to initiate and execute a Sustainability Program at SFU. The committee was designated within the portfolio of the Vice-President, Finance and Administration. In 2007, the Chief Facilities Officer/University Architect and the Director Special Projects in the Vice-President Legal Affairs office, assumed responsibilities as Co-chairs for the Committee. The Committee includes students, faculty and administrative and management staff representatives.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) – Terms of Reference

The SAC:

- Provides advice and counsel to the Vice-President, Finance and Administration and, through the Vice-President, Finance and Administration, to Senior Administration on all matters related to University sustainability;
- Reviews and develops performance goals around sustainability practices (in collaboration with the Vice-President, Finance and Administration and with individuals at the University who have operational responsibility for implementing and achieving them and/or expertise helpful in establishing them), and proposes these goals to Senior Administration for adoption;
- Invites input from internal stakeholders regarding the continuous improvement of the University's Sustainability Goals;
- Promotes sustainability programs and initiatives and participates in advancing the message of sustainability throughout the University among faculty, students and administrative and support staff.

Composition and Membership

Co-chairs: Chief Facilities Officer/University Architect
Director, Special Projects, Office of the President

(3) Student representatives: a mix of graduate and undergraduate students appointed by the Vice-President, Finance and Administration (or Chair). Students will be appointed based on their ability to bring energy, commitment to and knowledge of sustainable practices and related issues to the work of the Committee. Appointments will be for 1 year (2 appointments) or 2 years (1 appointment).

(1) Sustainable SFU representative: may be a graduate or undergraduate student, an alumnus/alumna, or another interested member who has demonstrated commitment to sustainability and has been connected with SFU affairs in some way. Those interested may submit an expression of interest to the Chair stating their experience and qualifications. Appointment will be for two-years, and can be renewed by mutual agreement.

(3) Faculty representatives: to be invited by the Vice-President, Finance and Administration (or Chair) in consultation with the Faculty Deans. Invitations will be issued on the basis of demonstrated commitment to

The committee will identify goals and priorities for each year, chosen for their potential to serve as steps toward comprehensive long-term goals. Individual Task Forces will be struck as deemed necessary, with the number and composition of these to change as the Committee's activities change. The initial Task Forces set up in 2007 include the following:

- Task Force to Draft a Sustainability Policy for SFU
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