



Environmental Sustainability Charter

ABSTRACT

Through this Charter the University aims to demonstrate leadership in sustainable development in the university sector, thereby providing an enabling environment for campuses that foster sustainable values and principles to students and staff.

To ensure that the university continuously improves its environmental performance against the current understanding of sustainability, this Charter mandates that a Sustainable Master Plan is created and updated every five years and ratified at the highest of University Leadership. This Master Plan will provide a framework for sustainable and responsible practices, activities and operations at [University name].

RATIFIED

Approved by [insert committee], [meeting number], [date], agenda [page].

DATES

Approved: [01-01-2013]

Takes Effect:[01-01-2013]

Due for Review: [01-01-2023]

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Sustainable Campus Master Plan

CONTENTS

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Charter Tennets

PURPOSE

This Charter demonstrates the University's commitment to the support of sustainability in accordance with environmental legislation and principles. This Charter states the University's intent for environmental sustainability. Environmental is understood as including the built, natural and socio-political spheres.

SCOPE

This Charter will be implemented with help of [Sustainability Steering Committee] to ensure the University meets environmental legislation and regulatory obligations. It mandates the establishment, continual updating and

implementation of a framework for environmental sustainability and responsible practices, activities and operations on all the University's campuses.

THIS CHARTER APPLIES TO ALL STAFF, FACULTY, STUDENTS, VISITORS, SUPPLIERS AND CONTRACTORS AT THE UNIVERSITY. CHARTER TENNETS

The University will comply with all applicable environmental legislation, standards and agreements.

The University will be committed to the continuous improvement of its environmental performance and will promote best practice on its campuses. In addition to environmental performance, best practise is considered to include transparency in governance through accountable reporting of positive and negative performance.

The University will become a committed leader in sustainability, and will foster a culture of sustainable and responsible values amongst its staff and students. The University recognises the responsibility to practice and promote behaviour that supports activities which contribute to sustainability within the local, national, and international communities. The University will maintain an active role within national and international bodies related to campus sustainability via representation and commitment to the activities and policies of those bodies.

Education, knowledge and research in sustainable development will be utilized to build best practice in campus sustainability, both nationally and internationally. Sustainable and responsible culture will be created and promoted across the University's community. Sustainability and its related principles will be integrated with the University's academic mission, teaching, consultancy and community engagement.

The University acknowledges that the understanding of these principles, practices and related activities is transient and relative to local, socio-economic aspects and a dynamic understanding of the environmental, socio-political and economic challenges. To ensure that related responses are continuously relevant, the University will produce a Sustainability Master Plan that is concurrent with understanding.

THE SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN

The Sustainability Master Plan will set and communicate clear quantifiable long term and incremental objectives and targets for a minimum of 20 years to reduce environmental impact and use of resource. The Sustainability Master Plan will identify alternative and sustainable courses of action to minimise the environmental impact of the University. Reporting structures will be clearly defined with set periods of reporting as relevant to the key performance indicators selected which will include aspects of penetration of communication and understanding of relevant stakeholders, financial aspects as well as the environmental performance indicators themselves. These courses of action will be tracked against the targets set for the established key performance indicators with regular reporting through the structures indicated in the Sustainability Master Plan. These structures will include current, independent auditing and validation.

The Sustainability Master Plan will be reviewed every five years and updated according to the understanding of sustainability at that time taking into consideration the results of the reporting. The Sustainability Master Plan will be drawn up by representatives of all relevant stakeholders and ratified at the highest level of University leadership.

The Sustainability Master Plan will mandate responsibility to the different stakeholders for the various aspects of delivery against the objectives and targets.

The Sustainability Master Plan will include clear financial decision making criteria and parameters for the related activities and how reporting against these will be undertaken.

The Sustainability Master Plan will include a clear communication strategy so that all stakeholders are aware of its existence, the progress of activities and their required involvement. The strategy will include methods of measuring awareness and how reporting against these will be undertaken

VERSION CONTROL

Date:

Version:

Amendment: