

**Ball State University  
Unit-level Sustainability Planning**

*[as mandated in Goal IV\_F of the 2007-2012 Ball State University Strategic Plan]*

A Sustainability Plan

for the

Department of Computer Science  
College of Sciences and Humanities

Submitted to  
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Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

31 November, 2010

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## Achievements to Date

The following are our short-form question responses within the categories of Governance and Administration, Operations, Curriculum and Research, and Community Service and Outreach. In developing these short-form responses, we are pleased to report significant achievements in these areas and have identified opportunities for further development/transformation.

[Provide brief descriptions for each affirmative or goal response]

### **Governance and Administration**

**Y N Goal**

1. The unit has standing committees to address issues of sustainability.

**Y N Goal**

2. The unit gives assigned load and/or a staff position dedicated to sustainability initiatives.

**Y N Goal**

3. The unit has established policies that encourage sustainability initiatives.

**Y N Goal**

4. The unit has sustainability integrated into its mission statement.

**Y N Goal**

5. The unit maintains active membership in organizations engaged in promoting sustainability.

**Y N Goal**

6. The unit encourages and rewards research related to sustainability.

**Y N Goal**

7. The unit encourages and rewards the integration of sustainability issues into course material.

**Operations****Y N Goal**   1. The unit purchases/uses Energy Star Office and Telecommunications Equipment.**Y N Goal**   2. The unit has policies to restrict paper use.**Y N Goal**   3. The unit uses recycled paper.**Y N Goal**   4. The unit recycles all materials accepted by the university system.**Y N Goal**   5. The unit has appropriate recycling bins throughout its offices.**Y N Goal**   6. The unit has policies that encourage the use of teleconferencing capabilities to limit travel.**Y N Goal**   7. The unit specifies hybrid electric vehicles for travel.**Y N Goal**   8. The unit shows preference for sustainable lodging for professional travel.**Y N Goal**   9. The unit uses washable dinner/service ware for its meetings/receptions.**Y N Goal**   10. The unit purchases/uses remanufactured office furniture.  
We aren't allowed to purchase any office furnishings.

**Y N Goal**

**11.** The unit purchases/uses sustainable materials for office furnishings.  
We aren't allowed to purchase any office furnishings.

**Y N Goal**

**12.** The unit discourages the use of single-occupant automobile travel.  
It is silly to put a second person in a vehicle if only one person needs to travel. Obviously, if two people need to travel to same event we can't afford to pay for separate transportation.

**Y N Goal**

**13.** Classroom, Office and/or Restroom lighting for the unit is controlled by occupancy sensors.

**Y N Goal**

**14.** The unit's thermostats are set to minimize energy use for heating and cooling.

**Curriculum****Y N Goal**

**1.** The unit has courses dedicated to issues related to sustainability.

**Y N Goal**

**2.** The unit has courses with sustainability content.

**Y N Goal**

**3.** The unit has courses in which students are encouraged to address sustainability issues in their assignments.

**Y N Goal**

**4.** The unit recognizes sustainability courses from other departments as legitimate electives for credit in its programs.

**Y N Goal**

**5.** The unit has dedicated sustainability courses that can be taken for credit as part of a major or minor outside of the unit.

**Research**

**Y N Goal**  
   1. Members of the unit have conducted research on issues of sustainability in their discipline.

**Y N Goal**  
   2. Members of the unit have published on issues of sustainability in their discipline.

**Y N Goal**  
   3. Members of the unit attend conferences that address issues of sustainability.

**Y N Goal**  
   4. Members of the unit belong to associations dedicated to sustainability issues.

**Y N Goal**  
   5. The unit has hosted workshops on issues of sustainability.

**Y N Goal**  
   6. The unit has hosted conferences on issues of sustainability.

**Community Service and Outreach**

- | <b>Y</b>                 | <b>N</b>                            | <b>Goal</b>              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
1. The unit engages in public and/or outreach activities that address issues of sustainability.
- 
- | <b>Y</b>                 | <b>N</b>                            | <b>Goal</b>              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
2. The unit is in partnership with others in the community in the pursuit of sustainability.
- 
- | <b>Y</b>                 | <b>N</b>                            | <b>Goal</b>              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
3. The unit participates in community events that address issues of sustainability.
- 
- | <b>Y</b>                 | <b>N</b>                            | <b>Goal</b>              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
4. The unit has initiated community endeavors in pursuit of sustainability.

## **Existing conditions as baseline (data as available)**

In preparing our short-form responses to the questions in the previous section, we accumulated the following data sets. These comprise the numerical underpinnings specific to our department.

### **A List of Academic Offerings**

#### **Topical Sustainability Lectures**

*None*

#### **Topical Sustainability Modules**

*CS230 routinely discusses power consumption of computers as an issue in computer architecture.*

*CS446 routinely discusses computer virtualization and its ability to reduce power consumption.*

#### **Sustainability Courses**

*None*

#### **Sustainability Programs**

*None*

#### **Sustainability Concentrations**

*None*

#### **Sustainability Degree Offerings**

*None*

#### **Sustainability Immersive On-and Off-Campus Experiences**

*None*



**Existing conditions as baseline (data as available)**

**A List of Faculty, Staff and Student Activities**

**Professional Academic Organizations**

*None*

**Professional Staff Organizations**

*None*

**Student Associations and Clubs**

*None*

**Hybrid Fleet Vehicle Use**

*We use hybrid vehicles from transportation when they are appropriate.*

**Hybrid Electric Shuttle Bus Use**

*None*

**Bicycling**

*We have a staff member and a faculty member who routinely bicycle to work.*

**Carpooling**

*None*

**MITs Bio-Diesel Bus Use**

*None*

**Conference Travel; Carbon Offset Purchases (and others...)**

*None*

**Existing conditions as baseline (data as available)**

**A List of Operational Commitments in the Building(s) We Occupy**

**Building Use: Lamps, Occupancy Sensors, Waterless Urinals**

*The department has installed occupancy sensors in most offices.*

**Material Use/Recycling: Paper, Water, Cartridges, Cans, Glass, Wet Garbage**

*The department minimizes use of paper by promoting use of e-mail and the web.*

*The department uses paper with significant post-consumer content.*

**Food Use/Recycling: Local Sourcing, Washable Dinnerware**

*The department uses washable dinnerware at all events.*

## **Goals**

Given our assessment of where things stand, we have identified the following goals for our unit.

### **Governance and Administration**

*None*

### **Operations**

*None*

### **Curriculum**

*None*

### **Research**

*None*

### **Community Service and Outreach**

*None*

## Implementation

We have aligned specific action items with the 5-year cycling of the Strategic Plan and anticipate being able to move forward in the respective categorical areas, as described below.

2008	Action Items	Resource Needs
	<p><b>Governance and Administration</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
	<p><b>Operations</b></p> <p><i>Policies &amp; practices related to operations were fully in place in 2007.</i></p>	
	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
	<p><b>Research</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
	<p><b>Community Service and Outreach</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	

2009	Action Items	Resource Needs
<b>Governance and Administration</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Operations</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Curriculum</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Research</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Community Service and Outreach</b>		
<i>None</i>		

2010	Action Items	Resource Needs
<b>Governance and Administration</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Operations</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Curriculum</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Research</b>		
<i>None</i>		
<b>Community Service and Outreach</b>		
<i>None</i>		



2012 Action Items	Resource Needs
<p><b>Governance and Administration</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
<p><b>Operations</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
<p><b>Research</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	
<p><b>Community Service and Outreach</b></p> <p><i>None</i></p>	