

**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

Directorship of _____
Department of History
College of Sciences and Humanities
Vice-Presidency of Academic Affairs

Submitted to
Dr. Terry King
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

31 January, 2008

[on or before]

Table of Contents

Achievements to Date..... 3

Existing conditions as baseline (data as available) Error! Bookmark not defined.

A List of Academic Offerings.....Error! Bookmark not defined.

A List of Faculty, Staff and Student Activities.....Error! Bookmark not defined.

A List of Operational Commitments in the Building(s) We OccupyError! Bookmark not defined.

Goals Error! Bookmark not defined.

Implementation Error! Bookmark not defined.

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

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

Y N Goal

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

Y N Goal

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

Y N Goal

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

Y N Goal

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

Y N Goal

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

Faculty are rewarded when their publications integrate sustainability within the broader context of historical research.

Y N Goal

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

The department offers a course, HIST 204 (American Environmental History) that integrates issues of sustainability into its content. The course also carries credit for NREM 204.

Operations**Y N Goal** **X** **1.** The unit purchases/uses Energy Star Office and Telecommunications Equipment.**Y N Goal** **X** **X** **2.** The unit has policies to restrict paper use.

The department informally monitors paper usage through service center distribution activity.

Y N Goal **X** **3.** The unit uses recycled paper.**Y N Goal****X** **4.** The unit recycles all materials accepted by the university system.**Y N Goal****X** **5.** The unit has appropriate recycling bins throughout its offices.**Y N Goal****X** **6.** The unit has policies that encourage the use of teleconferencing capabilities to limit travel.

The department regularly uses teleconferencing in its search processes for vacant positions.

Y N Goal **X** **7.** The unit specifies hybrid electric vehicles for travel.**Y N Goal** **X** **8.** The unit shows preference for sustainable lodging for professional travel.**Y N Goal** **X** **9.** The unit uses washable dinner/service ware for its meetings/receptions.**Y N Goal** **X** **10.** The unit purchases/uses remanufactured office furniture.

Y N Goal

X **11.** The unit purchases/uses sustainable materials for office furnishings.

Y N Goal

X **12.** The unit discourages the use of single-occupant automobile travel.

Y N Goal

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

Y N Goal

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

Curriculum

Y N Goal

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

The department offers HIST 204, American Environmental History, on an annual basis.

Y N Goal

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

The department offers HIST 204, American Environmental History, on an annual basis.

Y N Goal

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

The department offers HIST 204, American Environmental History, on an annual basis.

Y N Goal

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

HIST 204, American Environmental History, is also offered as NREM 204.

Y N Goal

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

NREM 204 (HIST 204), American Environmental History, qualifies for credit on the minor in Natural resources.

Research

Y N Goal

- X 1. Members of the unit have conducted research on issues of sustainability in their discipline.

Former Provost Warren Vander Hill, a History Professor, started the teaching of American Environmental History. Research has been conducted on human-bee-environmental interaction and the production of mead, as well as the impact of grain in history. Also, a member of the unit was involved with Green-2 and BSU's purchase of hybrid cars.

Y N Goal

- X 2. Members of the unit have published on issues of sustainability in their discipline.

An article on the bee-human-environmental interaction appeared in ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment. A poster session involving a member of the unit was also presented at the American Society for Environmental History.

Y N Goal

- X 3. Members of the unit attend conferences that address issues of sustainability.

There has been unit participation in Green-2 and the conferences of the American Society for Environmental History and the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. Retired unit member and former Provost Warren Vander hill also spearheaded many of BSU's Green Initiatives, including the Greening of the campus conference.

Y N Goal

- X 4. Members of the unit belong to associations dedicated to sustainability issues.

American Society for Environmental History and Association for the study of Literature and the Environment.

Y N Goal

- X 5. The unit has hosted workshops on issues of sustainability.

Y N Goal

- X 6. The unit has hosted conferences on issues of sustainability.

Community Service and Outreach

Y N Goal

X 1. The unit engages in public and/or outreach activities that address issues of sustainability.

In the past, unit members have participated in the Sierra Club, Redtail Conservancy, Indiana Nature Mapping and the White River Watershed Project, as well as COTE and Green-2.

Y N Goal

X 2. The unit is in partnership with others in the community in the pursuit of sustainability.

See 1 and 4.

Y N Goal

X 3. The unit participates in community events that address issues of sustainability.

See 1 and 4.

Y N Goal

X 4. The unit has initiated community endeavors in pursuit of sustainability.

The Provost Emeritus Warren Vander Hill established the Greening of the Campus, the Green Programs and COTE. All have interacted with the broader community.

Strategic Plan for Sustainability Department of History

Year 1: 2007-2008

1. Inform faculty about the sustainability initiative at Ball State and the role that the department can play in it.
2. Include a sub-field in Environmental History as one of the preferred areas for a vacant position search in the History of the Early Republic.
3. Increase Awareness of the recycling practices and conservation measures in the department.

Year 2: 2008-2009

1. The Advisory Committee will adopt a statement on sustainability for department review and approval.
2. The department will approve, or approve with revisions, the statement on sustainability that was approved by the Advisory Committee.
3. Continue to use teleconferencing in job searches.

Year3: 2009-2010

1. Implement the items in the approved statement on sustainability approved in 2008-2009.
2. Continue to encourage students and faculty to participate in “green” initiatives on campus such as the Greening of the University conference.

Year 4: 2010-2011

1. Implement a policy approved in 2009-2010.

Year 5: 2011-2012

1. Implement a policy approved in 2010-2011.