

**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 *Modern Languages and Classics*

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

31 January, 2008

Table of Contents

Achievements to Date	3
Goals	8
Appendices	
List of Academic Offerings.....	10
List of Faculty, Staff and Student Activities.....	11
Sustainable Development with Dr. Marina Guntsche (course description).....	12

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.

Governance and Administration

Y N Goal

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

Our department faculty have formed a standing Sustainability Committee, consisting currently of three faculty and one staff member. We will add a student member to the committee.

Y N Goal

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

We do not provide assigned load but have asked the chair of our sustainability committee to serve as our de facto sustainability coordinator; this person brings to the faculty for discussion, requests received from students, staff and/or faculty colleagues that have implications for governance or administration.

Y N Goal

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

The departmental faculty are aware of the university's adopted statement on sustainability (www.bsu.edu/sustainability) and continue to encourage sustainability initiatives among the faculty colleagues, staff and students.

Y N Goal

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

The department integrated a statement on sustainability into its mission statement during our recent revision in Fall 2007.

Y N Goal

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

The department faculty, staff and students are aware of the university's Membership in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and everyone has been encouraged to logon to the AASHE Website (www.aashe.org) to make use of resources posted for member schools. Some MLC faculty already belong to organizations concerned with sustainability: a list is attached.

Y N Goal

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

Faculty engaged in such sustainability-related research as is relevant to our disciplines are recognized through the promotion, tenure and merit review procedures. Our revised promotion and tenure and merit documents will include a statement directly referring to sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

Faculty are encouraged to include sustainability content relevant to our disciplines in their course material; a list of current course offerings is appended.

Operations

Y N Goal

- X 1. The unit purchases/uses Energy Star Office and Telecommunications Equipment.

We will request information on Energy Star rated equipment through university purchasing.

Y N Goal

- X 2. The unit has policies to restrict paper use.

We encourage duplex photocopying and printing, use of electronic distribution of meeting agendas, minutes and related documents.

Y N Goal

- X 3. The unit uses recycled paper.

We use the 30% recycled content paper made available through central stores.

Y N Goal

- X 4. The unit recycles all materials accepted by the university system.

We use the university's co-mingled recycling waste system; several recycling containers are located prominently in our departmental administrative offices and in department hallways.

Y N Goal

- X 5. The unit has appropriate recycling bins throughout its offices.

Departmental offices have a dual waste receptacle for faculty and staff to separate garbage from co-mingled recyclable materials (paper, glass, plastics).

Y N Goal

- X 6. The unit has policies that encourage the use of teleconferencing capabilities to limit travel.

Several of our faculty have participated in service capacities with professional organizations using teleconferencing connection; the limited travel budget of our department necessitates this consideration.

Y N Goal

- X 7. The unit specifies hybrid electric vehicles for travel.

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to request hybrid electric vehicles when using the university fleet.

Y N Goal

- X 8. The unit shows preference for sustainable lodging for professional travel.

We may elect to set this as a goal in the next several years. Largely, we need to become more informed about the options before we can take action

Y N Goal

- X** 9. The unit uses washable dinner/service ware for its meetings/receptions.

In general, yes. We plan to request washable dinner/service ware for all future meetings and receptions.

Y N Goal

- X** 10. The unit purchases/uses remanufactured office furniture.

We do not purchase or use remanufactured office furniture.

Y N Goal

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

We do not purchase or use sustainable materials for office furnishings.

Y N Goal

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

We have held open discussions about the importance of sustainability and faculty are encouraged to carpool when possible for travels to conferences; this year we mandated carpooling for one in-state conference.

Y N Goal

- X** 13. Classroom, office and/or restroom lighting for the unit is controlled by occupancy sensors.

We will request that all restrooms, offices and classrooms be outfitted with occupancy sensors.

Y N Goal

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

We will ask facilities personnel to check our thermostat settings to assure efficient energy use.

Curriculum

Y N Goal

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

We will offer in Summer 2008 one(1) course dedicated to sustainability entitled "Educación para un Futuro Sostenible...Education for a Sustainable Future"—in conjunction with Teacher's College (see course description attached).

Y N Goal

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

Three(3) of our courses in the undergraduate curriculum address sustainability as part of the course content.

Y N Goal

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

Three(3) of our faculty have developed specific course assignments as part of their course offerings which address sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

Our faculty will consider allowing students to take the ID250 and/or ID400 as creditable to our current degree offering(s).

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.

While several of our courses might conceivably build in even large segments on sustainability and while we are participating in an interdisciplinary course on sustainability in the Monteverde Cloud Forest of Costa Rica in Summer 2008, we are unlikely to teach on a regular basis courses which are dedicated to sustainability.

Research

Y N Goal

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

It would not be common for faculty in our disciplines to research extensively on sustainability, but one of our part-time faculty members, Mrs. Sue Guillaud, has written a doctoral candidacy paper on "Teaching sustainable development in the language class."

Y N Goal

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

It would not be common for faculty in our disciplines to publish extensively on sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

Two(2) of our faculty attend conferences that address issues of sustainability. A list is appended. We recognize also that all BSU faculty are de facto individual members of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and encourage our department colleagues to register on the AASHE website (www.aashe.org) to obtain an individual password to use the members-only resources. Our major national organizations, the Modern Languages Association and the American Philological Association, regularly sponsor sessions on sustainability. We will encourage faculty to attend such sessions.

Y N Goal

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

Two(2) of our faculty currently belong to associations dedicated to sustainability issues. See the list of faculty and organizations attached. We recognize also that all BSU faculty are de facto individual members of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and encourage our department colleagues to register on the AASHE website (www.aashe.org) to obtain an individual password to use the members-only resources.

Y N Goal

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

Two(2) of our faculty have attended workshops on sustainability; a list is appended. We will encourage others to attend such workshops. The department will consider hosting a workshop for our faculty and staff on sustainability issues related to the department.

Y N Goal

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

We are not currently planning to host a conference 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.

We will encourage our faculty and students to participate in public and/or outreach activities that address issues of sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

We will encourage our faculty and students to partner with others in the community in the pursuit of sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

We will encourage our faculty and students to participate in community events that address issues of sustainability.

Y N Goal

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

Our department does not currently have plans to initiate community endeavors in pursuit of sustainability.

MLC Goals for 2007-2012

The MLC Sustainability Committee met and decided on these goals for the next five years (of necessity tentative):

2007-2008

- Form MLC committee to meet with other units in North Quad to discuss sustainability options for the North Quad renovation
- Rig up recycling containers in every classroom
- Request classrooms, restrooms be outfitted with occupancy sensors
- Have Facilities check thermostats
- Investigate adding ID 250 or ID 400 to department majors or minors
- Request info on Energy Star office equipment
- Purchase reusable biodegradable dinner/glassware for department use **Cost: \$200**

2008-2009

- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability module for course in his/her language area
- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability webquests for use in all language classes
- 95% conversion to recycled paper
- Investigate possibility of annual sustainability workshop for department faculty and staff (with faculty stipends) **Cost: \$750**
- Reduce paper use by 10%
- Purchase Second Life island for a virtual sustainability center. May also be used to provide virtual language practice for students, thus obviating need for non-recyclable materials **Cost: \$900 initial start-up/\$250 per mo. maintenance fees**
- Support visit by second faculty member to Monteverde Institute in Costa Rica, to investigate possibilities of required sustainability course in Latin American Studies program (Costa Rica may be site of new Ball State Center) **Cost: \$7,000**

2009-2010

- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability module for course in his/her language area
- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability module for FL Civilization, Culture classes
- Reduce paper use by 10%
- Continue to encourage faculty and student participation in sustainability organizations and community projects
- Annual sustainability workshop for department faculty and staff (with faculty stipends) **Cost: \$750**
- Additional travel funds for sustainability projects and conferences **Cost: \$3,800 (\$200/t-t fac)**

2010-2011

- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability module for course in his/her language area

- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability “eco-tourism” website for use in all language classes
- Reduce paper use by 10%
- Annual sustainability workshop for department faculty and staff (with faculty stipends)
Cost: \$750
- Continue to encourage faculty and student participation in sustainability organizations and community projects
- Additional travel funds for sustainability projects and conferences
Cost: \$3,800 (\$200/t-t fac)

2011-2012

- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability module for course in his/her language area
- 1 course assigned time to faculty member to design sustainability modules for study abroad programs
- Reduce paper use by 10%
- Annual sustainability workshop for department faculty and staff (with faculty stipends)
Cost: \$750
- Continue to encourage faculty and student participation in sustainability organizations and community projects
- Additional travel funds for sustainability projects and conferences
Cost: \$3,800 (\$200/t-t fac)

Course Offerings

Classics 105: Introduction to the Classical World

Main features of the civilization of the Greeks and Romans – their history, political institutions, art, literature, and philosophy. This class explores through lectures, readings, and audiovisual materials the nature of the ancients' contribution to Western civilizations.

Classics 304: The Ancient City

Life of the ancient city as mirrored in archaeological and literary sources. The concept of the city, its art and architecture, with special emphasis on Periclean Athens and Augustan Rome is studied.

Foreign Language 490: Sustainable Development

The course will introduce participants to the subjects of C.R. Tropical Ecology, Eco-tourism and the culture of Costa Rica. The students will learn about the huge diversity of Costa Rica by visiting different regions of the country. They will also experience the unique Costa Rican culture by living and sharing with families for about 10 days. To complement this part of the program students will be having Spanish lessons that will help improve the experiences with the families and the country in general.

In addition, participants will also learn about Eco-tourism in one of the best sites, "Monteverde". The students will be working in a project that will give them the chance to research and study the impacts of Tourism in a fast growing community like Monteverde.

See attached for a complete description of this course offering.

Modern Languages and Classics Faculty belonging to Sustainability Organizations/Attending Workshops

Dr. Ron Warner has been a member of the Hoosier Environmental Council for five years:
<http://www.hecweb.org/>.

Dr. Guohe Zheng participated in a BSU summer environmental workshop in summer 2007.

Mrs. Sue Guillaud belongs to the Unitarian Church which has agreed to follow seven principles; the seventh (last but not least) is to honor the Earth and the Web of Life. Mrs. Guillaud attended the University's "Lighten Up!" workshop as well as the "Greening of the Campus" conference. Mrs. Guillaud also hopes to participate in the upcoming "Focus the Nation" activities on January 31, 2008.



Educación para un Futuro Sostenible...Education for a Sustainable Future

**Ball State University
Sustainable Development
(May 13th—May 27th)**

This course will introduce participants to the subjects of C.R. Tropical Ecology, Eco-tourism and the culture of Costa Rica. The students will learn about the huge diversity of Costa Rica by visiting different regions of the country. They will also experience the unique Costa Rican culture by living and sharing with families for about 10 days. To complement this part of the program students will be having Spanish lessons that will help improve the experiences with the families and the country in general.

In addition, participants will also learn about Eco-tourism in one of the best sites, "Monteverde". The students will be working in a project that will give them the chance to research and study the impacts of Tourism in a fast growing community like Monteverde.

Day 1: Tuesday, May 13th (Arrival to Costa Rica)

AM- PM Pick up from the Airport
 AM- PM Check in Hotel in San José TBA
 AM- PM Depending on arrival time, can include excursion to Central Market, downtown San José
 AM- PM Orientation to the course and Costa Rican culture by MVI course
 instructor
 AM- PM Dinner
 Hotel TBA

Day 2: Wednesday, May 14th (Costa Rican biodiversity) San José – Monteverde

The *Instituto Clodomiro Picado* was created in 1970 as a national effort to counteract the problem of snakebite poisonings, a common danger in rural areas. The institute now produces five types of antiophidian serum, manufacturing about 55,000 vials annually for consumption in Costa Rica and to export. It also carries out extensive outreach activities to public understanding of snakes, poisonings, prevention and treatment. These efforts include snake exhibits, discussions, seminars, training technical staff at public and private institutions and physician seminars. More than 500,000 people have participated in these activities. Costa Rica presently has the lowest snakebite mortality rates in Latin America, and one of the lowest in the world.

7:00am Breakfast
 8:00am Check out Hotel TBA
 8:30am Visit to National Museum
 10:30am Visit the gold Museum
 12:00 pm Lunch
 1:30 pm Visit the *Instituto Clodomiro Picado*
 6:00 pm Dinner in route
 Late afternoon arrival to Monteverde.
 Hotel TBA

Day 3: Thursday, May 15th (Orientation to Monteverde)

The Monteverde zone is a rural highland where the main industries are dairy farming, coffee production and eco-tourism which co-exist adjacent to pristine, primary cloud forest reserves. In the last two decades, it has experienced rapid growth due to eco-tourism. Monteverde is world-famous for its role in creating the Monteverde Reserve complex, a collection of private and public preserves protecting more than 100,000 acres of endangered tropical forest. The largest reserves are the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, managed by the Tropical Science Center and *Bosque Eterno de los Niños* (Children's Eternal Rainforest), managed by the Monteverde Conservation League.

7:00 am Breakfast
 8:00 am Tour the Monteverde Institute's (MVI) facilities
 8:40 am Lecture by MVI director: "Monteverde environmental and social History"
 10:00 am Homestay Orientation
 11:00 am Open House with the MVI Staff
 12:00 am Potluck
 1:00 pm – Spanish Orientation
 3:00 pm
 3:30 pm Meeting with your homestay family.
 4:00 pm Leave with your family to your new home in Monteverde
 6:00 pm Dinner
Stay with families

Day 4: Friday, May 16th (Project Orientation)

The idea with this project is to get a general notion of positive and negative effects that comes with tourism through interviews, discussions, lectures and meetings with members of the Monteverde Community. Each student will have a journal to keep a summary of the activities, events or highlights that stand out during their time in Costa Rica.

Towards the end of their stay in Monteverde there will be an open discussion where the group will compare and exchange ideas about all the information accumulated by the different activities that were planned for this purpose.

7:00 am Breakfast
 8:30 am Project Orientation (potential project: Interviewing tourism stakeholders to identify their perspectives about economics in Monteverde)
 10:00 am Spanish
 12:00 pm Lunch
 1:30 pm Interview with the head of the local government
 3:00 pm Interview with the manager of AYA (Water Utilities)
 4:30 pm Wrap-up discussion
 6:00 pm Dinner
Stay with families

Day 5: Saturday, May 17th (Homestay day)

FREE MORNING

4:00 pm Video presentation "History of Monteverde" by Ulises Arce, local documentarian. Share activity with families
Stay with families

Day 6: Sunday, May 18th (Homestay day)

FREE

Stay with families

Day 7: Monday, May 19th (Exploring the Monteverde Cloud Forest)

The community of Santa Elena borders the Monteverde conservation area in the *Cordillera de Tilarán* of Central Costa Rica. Within this region of pristine cloud forest, three hundred and ten hectares (seven hundred and sixty five acres) have been permanently leased by the administration of the Santa Elena community High School of Monteverde. The original vision was to use this land for agricultural research and education in Monteverde. For a variety of reasons, however, the farming proved to be unsuccessful. In 1989, it was decided to modify the land into a cloud forest reserve. Together with Youth Challenge International, a Canadian based non-profit organization, the community established an eco-tourism reserve, which officially opened on March 1, 1992.

The reserve was created out of a community's determination to help preserve the unique cloud forest surrounding them and to use tourism as a tool to benefit community development in Monteverde. Entrance fees are used for the protection and management of the Reserve and to provide higher quality education for schools of Monteverde.

6:30 am	Breakfast
7:30 am	Guided Walk in the Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve
10:30 am	Meeting with the Manager of the Santa Elena Reserve
12:00 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm -	Spanish
3:30 pm	
4:00 pm	Homestay experience check-in
6:00 pm	Dinner
	<i>Stay with families</i>

Day 8: Tuesday, May 20th (Sustainable Alternatives)

Finca La Bella is made up of 120 acres from where 24 previously landless families have leased 2 to 4-acre parcels (hence their name, parceleros) to grow vegetables for home use and shade-grown coffee as a cash crop. A third of the land is kept in forest for wildlife preservation and watershed protection. In exchange for a 25-year lease, farmers sign a covenant where they promise: 1- to use methods that conserve soil fertility and protect the water resource; 2- not to switch to dairy farming (which requires clear-cutting and compacts the ground); 3- to plant windbreaks; 4- to protect the forested areas, and; 5- to not subdivide their parcels.

7:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am	Departure to San Luis
8:30 am	Meeting with one of the families of <i>Finca La bella</i>
9:30 am	Guided Tour through the farm
10:30 pm	Visit a paper recycling project "Ecobambu"
12:00 pm	Lunch prepared by one of the families of <i>Finca La Bella</i>
1:00 pm	Ride back to the MVI
2:00 pm -	Spanish
4:00 pm	
4:30 pm	Wrap-up discussion "Conservation and sustainability"
6:00 pm	Dinner
	<i>Stay with families</i>

Day 9: Wednesday, May 21st (San Gerardo)

The Monteverde Conservation League is a private, non-profit association dedicated to the conservation of tropical forests. Its mission is to preserve, protect and restore tropical ecosystems and their biodiversity. The League started working in 1986 towards the protection of the forest bordering the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. The League began an intensive land acquisition program to protect the reserve from becoming an ecologically isolated island amid pastures and farms, and managed to create the largest private reserve in the country, Bosque Eterno de los Niños, or the Children's Eternal Rainforest. The creation of this reserve was made possible thanks to the help of children, adults, schools and organizations around the world.

7:00 am Breakfast
 8:00 am Departure to San Gerardo
 8:30 am Start the walk down to Children's Rain Forest
 12:00 pm Lunch at the Station
 1:00 pm- FREE
 4:00 pm
 4:30 pm Open Discussion: "Alternatives to save the forest"
 6:00 pm Dinner
 7:30 pm Night Walk
Stay in San Gerardo

Day 10: Thursday, May 22nd (San Gerardo)

7:00 am Breakfast
 8:00 am Walk through the rain forest of San Gerardo
 10:30 am Free Time
 12:00 pm Lunch
 1:30 pm Walk back to Monteverde
 6:00 pm Dinner
Stay with families

Day 11: Friday, May 23rd (Final Course Discussion)

7:00 am Breakfast
 8:30 am - Spanish
 10:30 am
 10:30 am Students will cook a Costa Rican recipe for the MVI Staff
 12:00 pm Potluck
 1:30 pm - Final Course Discussion
 FREE
 6:00 pm Dinner
Stay with families

Day 12: Saturday, May 24th (Homestay Banquet)

FREE in the morning
 12:00 pm Homestay banquet at the MVI
 1:00 pm play games with the family members
 Last night in Monteverde
Stay with families

ALTERNATIVE 1 - PUNTARENAS

Day 13: Sunday, May 25th (Puntarenas)

8:30 am Departure to *Puntarenas beach*
 Arrival and check-in
 Guided walk through Puntarenas embellishment project
 12:00 pm Lunch
 Tourism and development in Puntarenas

- Parque Marino
- Puntarenas cruiser ship port of call

 FREE TIME
 6:00 pm Dinner
 Hotel TBA

Day 14: Monday, May 26th (Beach- San José)

8:00 am Breakfast
FREE TIME

10:00 PM Depart to San José

Noon Lunch en route
Arrival and check-in
Time to buy souvenirs

7:30 pm Farewell Dinner
Hotel TBA

Day 15: Tuesday, May 27th (Departure)

Flight out

ALTERNATIVE 2 - ARENAL**Day 13: Sunday, May 25th (Arenal)**

6:30 am Departure to *Arenal*
Guided walk at the Arenal Volcano National Park

12:00 pm Check-in hotel and lunch
FREE TIME
Hot springs and dinner

6:00 pm Dinner
Hotel TBA

Day 14: Monday, May 26th (Hot springs- San José)

8:00 am Breakfast
FREE TIME

10:00 PM Depart to San José

Noon Lunch en route
Arrival and check-in
Time to buy souvenirs

7:30 pm Farewell Dinner
Hotel TBA

Day 15: Tuesday, May 27th (Departure)

Flight out