

Winthrop University
Administrative Unit Continuous Improvement Action Plan
2022-23

Name of Unit: Office of Sustainability

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Winthrop University’s Mission Statement: *Winthrop University provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber within a context dedicated to public service to the State of South Carolina...The values of service, excellence, diversity, community, and leadership provide the foundation of Winthrop’s continuing development and shape Winthrop’s continuing success...Winthrop students acquire and develop knowledge, skills, capabilities, and values that enrich their lives and prepare them to meet the needs and challenges of the contemporary world, including the ability to communicate effectively, appreciate diversity, work collaboratively, synthesize knowledge, solve complex problem, and adapt to change. [[Winthrop University full mission statement.](#)]*

Unit’s Mission Statement or Statement of Purpose: The mission of the Office of Sustainability is to introduce students, faculty, and staff to sustainable practices that simultaneously advance economic vitality, ecological integrity, and social welfare through diverse programming. This mission aligns with the institutional mission by supporting Winthrop’s diverse and able faculty and professional staff of national caliber to enrich their student’s lives and prepare our students to meet the needs and challenges of the contemporary world.

Outcome #1: Employ accurate reporting and data analysis that will be used to facilitate responsible sustainable practices.
Alignment of outcome with the Winthrop Plan (Goal and Strategic Initiative): N/A
Alignment of outcome with the Division’s Strategic Plan: N/A
Alignment of outcome with the University Learning Competencies (ULCs), if applicable: N/A
Summary Statement of Assessment-based Accomplishments and Improvements: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Activities: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Assessment Method #1: Assess current diversion rates with previous year’s rates.
Target: Increase total diversion rates by 2% or 4.5 tons. Diversion rates must include efforts to limit MSW produced through efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycling.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:

Assessment Method #2: Assess current energy consumption with previous year’s energy consumption.
Target: Reduce electricity use and natural gas consumption by 2%
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #3: Assess greenhouse gas emissions for scope 1 and scope 2 emissions.
Target: Assess base line data using GHG using EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator, Energy Star’s Energy Portfolio, and SIMAP.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #4: Assess current water use with previous year’s water consumption.
Target: Reduce water consumption by 1%.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Continuous Improvement Action Plan for next year:
Outcome #2: Employ sustainability practices in all campus departments.
Alignment of outcome with the Winthrop Plan (Goal and Strategic Initiative): N/A
Alignment of outcome with the Division’s Strategic Plan: N/A
Alignment of outcome with the University Learning Competencies (ULCs), if applicable: Competency 1: Winthrop graduates reason, think critically and solve problems Competency 2: Winthrop graduates are personally and socially responsible Competency 3. Winthrop graduates understand the interconnected nature of the world and time in which they live.
Summary Statement of Assessment-based Accomplishments and Improvements: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Activities: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Assessment Method #1: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess current education programs and courses offered at Winthrop University.
Target: Identify the current programs and courses that offer sustainability course or component of sustainability.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:

Assessment Method #2: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess current campus engagement reaching faculty, staff, and students.
Target: Identify existing campus programs that could employ sustainable practices and/or awareness as well as identify programs that could add sustainability awareness.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #3: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess current operations, planning, and administration.
Target: Establish base line data for assessing buildings, food and dining, grounds, purchasing, diversity, investment and finance, and wellbeing.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Continuous Improvement Action Plan for next year:
Outcome #3: Collaborate with local, regional, and state agencies and/or schools to advance sustainable practices.
Alignment of outcome with the Winthrop Plan (Goal and Strategic Initiative):
Alignment of outcome with the Division’s Strategic Plan: N/A
Alignment of outcome with the University Learning Competencies (ULCs), if applicable: N/A
Summary Statement of Assessment-based Accomplishments and Improvements: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Activities: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Assessment Method #1: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess current public partnerships to advance sustainability.
Target: Assess data identifying public partnerships with sustainability focus.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #2: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess inter-campus collaboration to advance sustainability.
Target: Attend one national and one regional conference focused on sustainability. Present case study at one of the two conferences.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #3: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess community service with sustainability focus.
Target: Assess data of community service hours with sustainability focus.

Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Continuous Improvement Action Plan for next year:
Outcome #4: Communicate effective sustainability practices to the campus community.
Alignment of outcome with the Winthrop Plan (Goal and Strategic Initiative): N/A
Alignment of outcome with the Division’s Strategic Plan: N/A
Alignment of outcome with the University Learning Competencies (ULCs), if applicable: N/A
Summary Statement of Assessment-based Accomplishments and Improvements: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Activities: (based on prior year’s Continuous Improvement Action Plan)
Assessment Method #1: Utilize Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) to assess outreach materials and publications.
Target: Evaluate existing digital outreach materials and effectiveness.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #2: Assess the reach via social media of on-campus sustainability programming.
Target: Assess data that shows reach of outreach materials focused on sustainability events and practices on campus.
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Assessment Method #3: Assess the reach via social media of articles that discuss various sustainability practices.
Target: Increase reach by 100%
Assessment Results:
Discussion of Assessment Results:
Continuous Improvement Action Plan for next year:

Documentation supporting every data claim is to be submitted with the Continuous Improvement Report. Supporting documentation should include all planning documents and materials that demonstrate progress toward achieving stated outcomes. These may be formal reports, minutes of decision-making meetings, revised policies and/or procedures, survey data, spreadsheets, or other appropriate information.

Supporting Documentation