

STATUS REPORT  
FY 20-21

## II. ONE UW-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK BY 2022





## II. ONE UW-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK BY 2022

### Target Actions

- Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability
- Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content
- Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes
- Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub

### Sustainability Plan guiding principle



### AASHE STARS categories



### BASELINE METRIC:

The baseline metrics are the number of sustainability-related courses and the number of departments which include sustainability-related courses in their curricula. We are currently working to identify courses based upon our new definition.

### Q3 & Q4 ACTIVITY:

- We've developed a definition of sustainability and documented the definition and process on [a webpage](#).
- Hired DEI Coordinator, received input from Coordinator on Sustainability Definition and other ways of advancing equity in the SAP.
- Continued search for Sustainability HUB space
- Requested funding from SAF for HUB student leader positions.

### CHALLENGES ADDRESSED:

- Now that we have a definition, the true challenge is to find ways to align our efforts with this definition.
- Centering equity means extensive campus engagement to ensure inclusivity in developing student HUB
- SAF declined request for funding student Sustainability HUB student leader positions saying that funding for sustainability should come from central university budgets.

<b>Action Owner:</b>	Kyle McDermott (Campus Sustainability Fund)
<b>Target Team:</b>	Name(s): Claudia Frere-Anderson (UWS), Christoph Strouse (UWS), Derek Fulwiler, Ben Packard (EarthLab), Jennifer Davison (Urban@UW)

### ACTION STATUS:



<b>Action:</b> Adopt University-wide definition of Sustainability	✓
<b>Action:</b> Develop standardized reporting of academic content	○
<b>Action:</b> Identify minimum learning outcomes	✗
<b>Action:</b> Determine feasibility of a student Sustainability Hub	○

### MITIGATING RISKS:

-Perhaps our biggest risk is the risk of pushback and resistance if we don't work hard to get alignment (and if we collectively find the changes we ask ourselves to make are overwhelming).

### FY22 ACTIONS:

Our proposed actions are outlined in the FY 22-23 SAP. They include conducting course and research inventories that align with our new definition and encouraging instructors to challenge students to use the definition in their classes.

The key step to making progress is hiring a Sustainability Academic Coordinator.



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### Target Actions

- Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability
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- Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes
- Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub

### Sustainability Plan guiding principle



Ensure students achieve sustainability literacy



Keep equity and inclusion at the center



### AASHE STARS categories

AC1

Academic Courses

AC2

Learning Outcomes

## STEPS STATUS:

<p><b>Action 1:</b> Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability</p>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> UW community members will help to create an inclusive definition of sustainability</p>	<p><b>Step 2:</b> UW Environmental Stewardship Committee approves shared framework, then publishes.</p>	<p><b>Step 3:</b> Seek funding for a .50 or 1.0 FTE Sustainability Academic Coordinator manager position</p>	
<p><b>Action 2:</b> Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content</p>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> build centralized reporting platform to collect info and assess incorporation of sustainability</p>	<p><b>Step 2:</b> Design a set of instructions on how to use the reporting system that will be displayed online.</p>	<p><b>Step 3:</b> Create communication material</p>	
<p><b>Action 3:</b> Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes</p>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> Identify inclusive sustainability academic objectives</p>	<p><b>Step 2:</b> Benchmark from ASU and other universities that have undertaken similar efforts</p>	<p><b>Step 3:</b> Professional development opportunities to foster the creation of innovative strategies</p>	<p><b>Step 4:</b> Create a digital space where instructors can find tools and resources</p>
<p><b>Action 4:</b> Determine feasibility of a student sustainability hub</p>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> Establish a project team sponsored by the Sustainability Office</p>	<p><b>Step 2:</b> Work to determine scope, opportunities, and barriers</p>	<p><b>Step 3:</b> Publish feasibility study which details need for Student Sustainability Hub.</p>	



**Note:** Copy and Paste the appropriate 'status icon' into the upper right hand corner of



each **step** above to complete the Steps Status.



## ACTION:

# Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability



### Steps we will take in FY 2021

1. UW community members will participate in a multi-phased engagement process facilitated by UW Sustainability staff in partnership with Population Health Initiative staff to create an inclusive vision and definition of sustainability. Through this work, a task force group will be identified composed of interested members of the different colleges, schools, and units across the three campuses, who will work on socializing and creating this framework.
2. After the UW Environmental Stewardship Committee approves this shared framework, it will be published together with a set of tools and resources to guide its implementation.
3. Seek funding for a .50 or 1.0 FTE Sustainability Academic Coordinator manager position to help in the advancement and implementation of academic and research goals contained in this plan.

### Financing



No additional financing needed in FY 2021.

### Metrics

The first year will develop a process for gathering input to assess how we are engaging across our campuses. Quantitative and qualitative data will assess the potential impacts of the following:

- Representation of faculty from Seattle, Bothell, Tacoma campuses.
- Representation of diversity, co-curricular groups and RSOs.
- Representation of staff input.

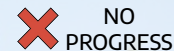
This action enables changes that can affect STARS credit AC-2 *Learning Outcomes* where UW shows a point gap of 5.86.

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5.86

AAHSE STARS  
POINTS OPPORTUNITY

# Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability

NO  
PROGRESS

ON TIME

SOME  
PROGRESS

## STEP 1:

UW community members will participate in a multi-phased engagement process facilitated by UW Sustainability staff in partnership with Population Health Initiative staff to create an inclusive vision and definition of sustainability. Through this work, a task force group will be identified composed of interested members of the different colleges, schools, and units across the three campuses, who will work on socializing and creating this framework

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- We created the [definition of Sustainability](#) and [documented the process](#).
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### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- The biggest challenge has been to ensure that the definition includes many voices.
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### PLAN FOR FY22:

- We are waiting for the definition to be blessed by senior leadership and are beginning to align our work on the SAP and for Targets II & III with the definition.

# Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability



NO  
PROGRESS



ON TIME



SOME  
PROGRESS

## STEP 2:

After the UW Environmental Stewardship Committee approves this shared framework, it will be published together with a set of tools and resources to guide its implementation.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- We've created [a website](#) with the definition. When we get final blessing we will convene a conversation about whether there is a better place for it.

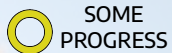
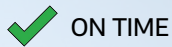
### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

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### PLAN FOR FY22:

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# Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability



## STEP 3:

Seek funding for a .50 or 1.0 FTE Sustainability Academic Coordinator manager position to help in the advancement and implementation of academic and research goals contained in this plan.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- We've begun conversations about this position are creating a description of this position and it's desired impacts:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y45-kh0bAxavI5jglYT2Xz89aTipNlhZgp\\_O4lTYVUc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y45-kh0bAxavI5jglYT2Xz89aTipNlhZgp_O4lTYVUc/edit?usp=sharing)

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- We bump into limitations of funding and authority to create the position.

### PLAN FOR FY22:

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## METRICS & LINKAGES:

Work with Population Health Initiative and UW Sustainability STARS reporting data on sustainability-focused courses to identify themes.  
**ACTION:** Adopt a University-wide Definition of Sustainability. Review and consider findings from prior work

### METRICS:

### LINKAGES:

The definition of Sustainability is a primary precursor to the other Actions:

- Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content
- Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes



# ACTION:

## Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content



### Steps we will take in FY 2021

1. Using the shared sustainability framework as a reference, build a centralized reporting platform to collect information across campuses and assess the degree to which sustainability is incorporated in existing courses. Developing and implementing common metrics for tracking progress towards the attainment of this goal set forth in this plan are essential to realizing the goals of tri-campus coordination and accountability.
2. To ensure the proper entry of data, design a set of instructions on how to use the reporting system that will be displayed online.
3. Create communication material that will be offered to administrators, personnel in charge of academic affairs and students in each College and School across the campuses. It may also be available to students.

### Statuses and linkages

This will be overseen by the UW Sustainability Project Manager who coordinates STARS reporting in partnership with Population Health and cataloging of academic research. Tied to Target I – *Expand Professional Development Opportunities for Faculty and Staff*.

### Financing



No additional financing needed in FY 2021.

### Metrics

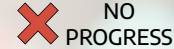
- Number of new courses added / 2018 STARS data for academic courses.
- Yes/No completion of inventory.

This Action enables changes that can affect STARS credit AC-1 *Academic Courses* where UW shows a point gap of 1.85.

1.85

AAHSE STARS  
POINTS OPPORTUNITY

# Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content



NO  
PROGRESS



ON TIME



SOME  
PROGRESS

## STEP 1:

Using the shared sustainability framework as a reference, build a centralized reporting platform to collect information across campuses and assess the degree to which sustainability is incorporated in existing courses. Developing and implementing common metrics for tracking progress towards the attainment of this goal set forth in this plan are essential to realizing the goals of tri-campus coordination and accountability.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- We explored existing course designation infrastructure and found that there are (at least) two systems. One allows us to mark the courses behind the scenes. If we use this system, we would need to find ways to publicize these courses. Helen B. Garrett <[helenbg@uw.edu](mailto:helenbg@uw.edu)> was very helpful in explaining the system. The other system is used for courses that meet graduation requirements. This system is robust and lets students search for and view these courses in myPlan.uw.edu.




### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

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### PLAN FOR FY22:

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# Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content

 NO  
PROGRESS ON TIME SOME  
PROGRESS

## STEP 2:

To ensure the proper entry of data, design a set of instructions on how to use the reporting system that will be displayed online.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- The reporting system and instructions have not been developed yet.

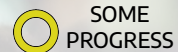
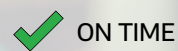
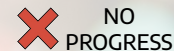
### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

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### PLAN FOR FY22:

-

# Develop Standardized Reporting of Academic Content



## STEP 3:

Create communication material that will be offered to administrators, personnel in charge of academic affairs and students in each College and School across the campuses. It may also be available to students.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- No progress has been made on communication materials yet.

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:



### PLAN FOR FY22:



## METRICS & LINKAGES:

This will be overseen by the UW Sustainability Project Manager who coordinates STARS reporting in partnership with Population Health and cataloging of academic research. Tied to Target I – Expand Professional Development Opportunities for Faculty and Staff.

### METRICS:

- Using STARS as a baseline of data compiled in July of 2018:
- <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-washington-seattle-wa/report/2018-10-12/AC/curriculum/AC-1/>

Percentage of Courses that are Sustainability Course Offerings: **28.5%**

Total number of academic departments that offer courses (at any level): **448**

Number of academic departments (or the equivalent) that offer at least one sustainability course and/or course that includes sustainability (at any level): **279**

Percentage of academic departments with sustainability course offerings: **62.3%**

### LINKAGES:

- Tied to Target I – Expand Professional Development Opportunities for Faculty and Staff.

## ACTION:

# Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes



## Steps we will take in FY 2021

1. Identify inclusive sustainability academic objectives that can be incorporated in existing and new courses.
2. Benchmark from ASU and other universities that have undertaken similar efforts to integrate sustainability core competencies in curriculum.
3. Facilitate professional development opportunities for faculty and other instructors to foster the creation of innovative and interdisciplinary pedagogical strategies around inclusive sustainability.
4. Create a digital space where instructors can find tools and resources to better incorporate inclusive sustainability academic objectives in their courses.

## Financing



No additional financing needed in FY 2021.

## Metrics

The first year we will develop baseline data to determine where inclusive sustainability objectives can be incorporated and how those objectives will impact course outcomes.

This action can gain points in STARS credit AC-2 *Learning Outcomes* where UW shows a point gap of 5.86.

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**5.86** AAHSE STARS  
POINTS OPPORTUNITY

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# Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes



## STEP 1:

Identify inclusive sustainability academic objectives that can be incorporated in existing and new courses.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- No progress has been made toward this step

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- 

### PLAN FOR FY22:

-

# Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes

**✖ NO PROGRESS**

**✔ ON TIME**

**○ SOME PROGRESS**

## STEP 2:

Benchmark from ASU and other universities that have undertaken similar efforts to integrate sustainability core competencies in curriculum.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- No progress has been made toward this step

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

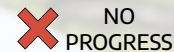
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### PLAN FOR FY22:

-



# Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes



NO PROGRESS



ON TIME



SOME PROGRESS

## STEP 3:

Facilitate professional development opportunities for faculty and other instructors to foster the creation of innovative and interdisciplinary pedagogical strategies around inclusive sustainability.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- No progress has been made toward this step

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- 

### PLAN FOR FY22:

-

# Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes



## STEP 4:

Create a digital space where instructors can find tools and resources to better incorporate inclusive sustainability academic objectives in their courses.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- No progress has been made toward this step

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- 

### PLAN FOR FY22:

-

# METRICS & LINKAGES:

This is tied to the UW-Wide Sustainability Definition.

## METRICS:

- Using STARS as a baseline of data compiled in July of 2018:
- <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-washington-seattle-wa/report/2018-10-12/AC/curriculum/AC-2/>

Number of students that graduate from programs that have adopted at least one sustainability learning outcome: **4,390**

Percentage of students who graduate from programs that have adopted at least one sustainability learning outcome: **26.7%**

## LINKAGES:

Identifying minimum learning outcomes is strongly linked with developing a UW wide definition of Sustainability

# ACTION:

## Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub



### Steps we will take in FY 2021

1. Establish a project team to be sponsored by the UW Sustainability Office that includes the Student Outreach Coordinator for SAP, CSF Program Manager, and students from ASUW, GPSS, Student Life, and RSOs.
2. Work with campus stakeholders to determine the scope, opportunities, and barriers through interviews, research into existing UW Centers/Initiatives and case studies of other universities. Review and present to ASUW, GPSS, Student Life and administrative stakeholders.
3. Publish a final feasibility study which details the need for the Student Sustainability Hub, use cases, funding model, partnerships with other departments, potential locations and staffing to begin in FY22 or FY23.

### Statures and linkages

These could be coordinated with the positions suggested for the *UW-Wide Sustainability Definition Task Force*.

The UW Sustainability Office, Campus Sustainability Fund, ASUW, GPSS and student RSOs have begun to explore this idea though current limitations are space/location and on-going funding resources.

This Action is closely linked with other UW Sustainability Plan Actions: One UW Wide Sustainability Framework by 2022; Double Student, Staff and Faculty Sustainability Impressions by 2024; Double Sustainability Research Projects by 2025.

### Financing

For FY21, UW Sustainability office hired a .50 FTE graduate student Student Outreach Coordinator dedicated to student engagement for the Sustainability Plan. This position will continue towards this Action.

Future financing for implementation and staffing of the Student Sustainability Hub could come from multiple sources including a resource pooling of departments/units including Campus Sustainability Fund, Student Life, Central Provost Office (for academics), and student government bodies GPSS and ASUW. A student fee could also be a potential funding option.

### Metrics

The first year is dedicated to determining the feasibility of establishing a Student Sustainability Hub, and we will therefore achieve the following:

- Mapping student-centered services and support from all campuses that are related to sustainability.
- Perform a benefit cost analysis of the potential impacts and outcomes of a Sustainability Hub.
- Benchmark with peer institutions and gap analysis.

Student efforts, through the Campus Sustainability Fund mechanism, have historically worked to advance many of UW STARS targets and actions listed in this plan: Local Food; Divert compostable waste from recycle, landfill; Solar Photovoltaic Expansion.

# Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub

## STEP 1:

Establish a project team to be sponsored by the UW Sustainability Office that includes the Student Outreach Coordinator for SAP, CSF Program Manager, and students from ASUW, GPSS, Student Life, and RSOs.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- Worked with students from Envir 480 to research opportunities for a student sustainability hub, however the project team consists of only the CSF Coordinator and SAP Coordinator.

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- The COVID pandemic made engagement untenable

### PLAN FOR FY22:

- Once we are back on campus in the fall we plan to engage with and coordinate deeper involvement from ASUW/GPSS and student groups.

# Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub

## STEP 2:

Work with campus stakeholders to determine the scope, opportunities, and barriers through interviews, research into existing UW Centers/Initiatives and case studies of other universities. Review and present to ASUW, GPSS, Student Life and administrative stakeholders.

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- Very little progress has been made toward this step

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- The COVID pandemic made engagement untenable

### PLAN FOR FY22:

- Once we are back on campus in the fall we plan to engage with and coordinate deeper involvement from ASUW/GPSS and student groups.

# Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub

## STEP 3:

**Publish a final feasibility study which details the need for the Student Sustainability Hub, use cases, funding model, partnerships with other departments, potential locations and staffing to begin in FY22 or FY23.**

### ACTIONS THAT OCCURRED/ONGOING JAN - JUNE 2021:

- Developing draft of feasibility study

### CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED JAN - JUNE 2021:

- The COVID pandemic made engagement untenable

### PLAN FOR FY22:

- Once we are back on campus in the fall we plan to engage with and coordinate deeper involvement from UW stakeholders for partnership and funding support.

## METRICS & LINKAGES:

These could be coordinated with the positions suggested for the UW-Wide Sustainability Definition Task Force. The UW Sustainability Office, Campus Sustainability Fund, ACTION: Determine Feasibility of a Student Sustainability Hub ASUW, GPSS and student RSOs have begun to explore this idea though current limitations are space/location and on-going funding resources. This Action is closely linked with other UW Sustainability Plan Actions: One UW Wide Sustainability Framework by 2022; Double Student, Staff and Faculty Sustainability Impressions by 2024; Double Sustainability Research Projects by 2025

### METRICS:

The first year is dedicated to determining the feasibility of establishing a Student Sustainability Hub, and we will therefore achieve the following:

- Mapping student-centered services and support from all campuses that are related to sustainability.
  - This work has begun and is being coordinated with ASUW, GPSS who are located in the Seattle campus student HUB which is a potential location for the Sustainability Hub.
  - Work on mapping student services at Bothell and Tacoma have not begun.
- Perform a benefit cost analysis of the potential impacts and outcomes of a Sustainability Hub.
  - This work has not begun but will be included in the Feasibility Study. Expected completion is Spring quarter.
- Benchmark with peer institutions and gap analysis.
  - This work has begun and will be included in the Feasibility study. Expected completion is Winter Quarter.

### LINKAGES:

- This Action has primary linkages with other Actions within Target 2: One UW Wide Sustainability Framework by 2022 - Adopt a UW Wide Definition of Sustainability and Identify Minimum Learning Outcomes.
- Secondary linkages with Actions in Targets 3: Double Sustainability Oriented Research Projects by 2025 - Expand Campus as a Living Laboratory.
- As such, the Steps for this Action are being implemented in coordination with the advisory working group for Targets 2 & 3.
- There are also strong linkages with Target 1: Double Student, Staff and Faculty Engagement by 2024, Action - Inventory and Expand Community Engagement as that relates to promoting engagement with Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) who will be served by a Student Sustainability Hub.