

January 11, 2024

Dear Faculty Senate:

As the committee chairs for the WSU System-wide Sustainability Task Force, we are pleased to provide you with an update on the progress made by this group to date.

The WSU Sustainability Task Force Guidelines as well as the WSU Commitment to Sustainability statement: you may recall, was originally reviewed, and approved by senior leadership, the faculty senate as well as the President and Board of Regents.

The (12-member) Executive Committee has been established and after an open application process, four sub-committees have been created, each focused on the four core target areas as identified in the Commitment to Sustainability; Research, Innovation, and creativity; Student experience; Outreach, extension, service and engagement and Institutional effectiveness and infrastructure.

The application process was very successful with more than 80 individuals across the system submitting their information for consideration to serve. The full task force currently consists of 50 of those individuals spanning the entire WSU system with representation including faculty, staff, leadership, and students. The remaining roughly 30 individuals have been invited to remain actively connected and supportive with our promise of periodic updates. We are currently working to create some interactive opportunities by which we can continue to keep not only these applicants, but the entire WSU community engaged.

It is important to highlight that ASWSU has also created a new position of Deputy Director of Sustainability as part of its executive team. This individual will serve in a permanent position on the Sustainability Task Force Executive Committee focused on Student Experience.

The sub-committees began meeting in October and we held our first full task force meeting on December 15. Each sub-committee has been tasked with developing attainable and measurable initiatives within their area of focus. Once approved by the Executive Committee, these will be presented to you for review and ultimate approval with an end goal of implementation during Fall Semester, 2024 as reflected in the attached [timeline](#).

Also attached for your reference, I have included the [Task Force Guidelines](#) which will help guide the work of our sub-committees.

We are currently on track to meet our deadlines reflected in the timeline and you can expect the next update as well as [identified goals and initiatives](#) for sustainability in early March 2024.

Thank you for your time and as always, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us if you have further questions. Have a wonderful rest of your week. Stay safe and stay warm!

Respectfully,

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