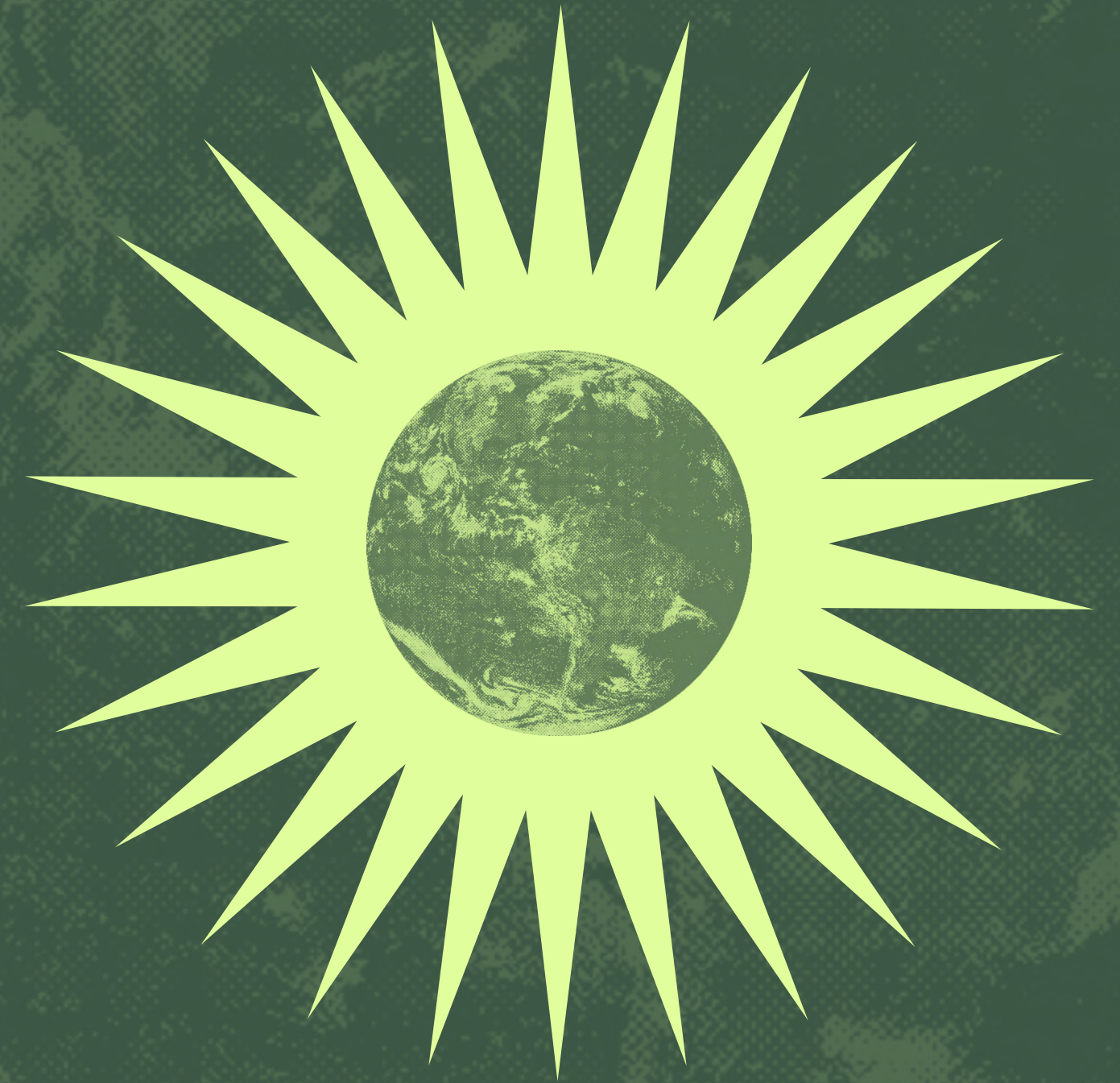


2022 STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING

LOUNDY PROJECT HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM

SUST 350: SERVICE & SUSTAINABILITY
PLANNING TEAM

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CONTEXT OF PROJECT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

The practice and mindset of meeting the needs of all people today in an equitable way without compromising the needs of future generations or the health of our planet. Considers environmental, economic, and ethical factors -- the "Three Es" of sustainability. Grounded in human rights and environmental stewardship.

RU'S SOCIAL JUSTICE MISSION:

Based on a "commitment to diversity, inclusion, and access on which the University was founded. . . . Justice is based in a belief that fairness, honesty, integrity, equity, and critical agency should resonate throughout every institution within a civil society."

WHY SUSTAINABILITY?

Environmental crises and injustices impact everyone, but disproportionately affect countries in the global south as well as low-income Black and Brown communities. Roosevelt's social justice educational mission must model and promote sustainability on and beyond our campus through our environmental, economic, and ethical practices.



2015–20 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

FOUNDATIONS OF CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY:

- Sustainability central to / reinforces RU mission
- Ethical commitment to sustainable practices and sustainability leadership

PLANNING PROCESS:

- Student/faculty/staff-driven, inclusive, participatory
- Adopted through RU governance

GOALS & INITIATIVES FOR 2015–20:

- Climate and energy
- Education and outreach
- Waste and natural resources
- Economics and governance



ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY
**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY
PLAN 2015-2020**



2022–23 PLANNING GOALS

- Assess and revise the 2015–2020 Strategic Sustainability Plan based on analysis of our progress and on feedback from students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, & trustees
- Gain Roosevelt University leadership approval and support of a new plan for 2023–28, with accountability measures



Robert Morris
and Roosevelt
University
administration
approving RMU
and RU merger,
2020

- Promote the new plan to the Roosevelt community to generate interest and excitement for moving forward and working together

SUSTAINABILITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, & SOCIAL JUSTICE

AASHE RESOURCES AND STARS ASSESSMENT:

Comprehensive support for and review of academics, campus & community engagement, operations, planning & administration, innovation & leadership

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

Measurable plans for improving the quality of human life and the natural environment by 2030 --->

PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

Anti-racist requirements for environmental action and social justice created at the People of Color Summit in 1991

CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE JUST TRANSITION FRAMEWORK:

Transition process to an economy that eliminates inequalities, preserves and restores the environment, works towards life satisfaction for all



Opening Ceremony for the First People of Color Summit: Rose Auger, Benjamin Chavis, Jr., Gail Small, Toney Anaya, Syngman Rhee, 1991

OUR PROCESSES



Reviewed previous plan

Leading planning sessions for the university



**1st Environmental
Sustainability
Committee (ESC)
Meeting:**
Open
conversation on
2015 Plan

**1st Official
Planning
Workshop:**
Sustainability
Crash Course

**2nd Planning
Workshop:**
Analysis of
STARS
categories in
working groups

**3rd Planning
Workshop:**
Campus as
ecosystem,
imagining a
sustainable RU

**2nd ESC
Meeting:**
2015 Plan
review and
additions



Surveys of students & employees/alumni

PRELIMINARY SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY RESULTS

AS OF 11/27/22

METHODS

- Question brainstorming and revision
- Sociology department review
- Advertising via flyers, classes, emails/social media
- Planning sessions

PARTICIPANTS

- 215 students across many majors
 - Biology
 - Business Admin
 - Computer Science
 - Criminal Justice
 - Musical Theatre
 - Performance
 - Psychology
- 45 employee/alumni

MOVING AHEAD

Could use more responses from:

- Schaumburg campus
- Online students
- Part-time students
- Employees & alumni

FEEDBACK FROM SURVEYS

TOP SUGGESTIONS

1. Enhance sustainability of the Dining Center
2. Start a reuse/donation center on campus
3. Improve recycling and composting
4. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions / carbon footprint
5. Increase use of clean energy: wind and solar
6. Improve and expand WB and SCH gardens
7. Make investments transparent and divest from fossil fuels

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. Make sustainability funding a university priority
2. Address race, gender, economic, and social issues within initiatives
3. Integrate Indigenous knowledge and connections to community
4. Install more (native) plants around campus
5. Create additional sustainability/environmental clubs
6. Strive for negative CO2 emissions



IDEAS FROM SESSIONS & SURVEYS

ENGAGEMENT:

- Use UN's SDGs to promote human rights & environmental health
- Develop sustainability training sessions for students, faculty, and staff
- Create a community engaged in social & environmental justice
- Forge stronger connections to Indigenous peoples across region and state
- Reinstate service day event
- Infuse sustainability into athletics

ACADEMICS:

- Link sustainability, social justice, and Indigenous knowledge across curricula
 - Develop sustainability Gen Ed requirement
 - Integrate SSS STEM, McNair, Honors, Office of Student Research, etc.
 - Increase diversity of faculty
- Provide more sustainability EXL, service, and online learning opportunities
- Assess sustainability literacy across university



SUST 250 Sustainable University class after research presentations, Spring 2022

IDEAS FROM SESSIONS & SURVEYS

OPERATIONS:

- Gather, share, and analyze data on energy and waste
- Enhance waste diversion rates, reduce waste
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through on-campus clean energy solutions
- Create more sustainable dining center and catering operations
- Maintain and enhance biodiversity at WB and SCH gardens and campuses

PLANNING/ADMINISTRATION:

- Prioritize and fund sustainability efforts in RU's budget
- Create and staff an Office of Sustainability
- Adopt a climate action plan and accountability measures
- Explore and secure additional grants and rebates
- Make investments transparent and divest from fossil fuels

NEXT STEPS

1. Continue collecting survey data
2. Prioritize updated goals
3. Reconvene with ESC to get initiatives approved
4. Revise plan
5. Solicit feedback & support from RU community
6. Work with leadership to commit resources to plan

**FOR A
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE!**

SUST 350 students looking towards a sustainable future on the Schaumburg campus, 2022

THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

SCAN TO TAKE THIS
STUDENT SURVEY



OR GO TO [LINKTR.EE/RUGREEN](https://linktr.ee/rugreen)

& GO TO
bit.ly/rusustplan
FOR THE EMPLOYEE
SURVEY AND MORE
INFO!