



Date: March 12, 2015

To: President and Provost's Council on Sustainability

From: Joseph E. Steinmetz, PhD, Executive Vice President and Provost

Re: New Charge to the PPCS

The President and Provost's Council on Sustainability was created to provide strategic and policy advice on sustainable practices, programs and projects throughout The Ohio State University.

Accordingly, the President and Provost are charging the Council to develop a succinct set of strategic sustainability goals that will make Ohio State a global model of sustainable operations and practices. To do so, the Council must ensure that its sustainability goals align with all four of the university's overarching core goals: teaching and learning, research and innovation, outreach and engagement, and resource stewardship.

This means that the sustainability goals should include but not be limited to:

- Ensuring Ohio State's curriculum promotes teaching and learning both in and outside the classroom to boost student awareness, appreciation and knowledge of sustainable practices and engaging our campuses and communities in sustainability literacy;
- Recognizing and encouraging faculty and student research and innovation in such areas as energy conservation, renewable energy, water conservation, and sustainable agriculture;
- Operating our campuses and related facilities using innovative technologies and practices that enhance sustainability and in a manner in which resource stewardship reaches all aspects of our operations including carbon neutrality, energy reduction, emissions reductions, recycling and zero wastes efforts, water and food conservation, transportation, purchasing and planning.

The sustainability goals should be founded on principled practice and foster the active engagement of all members of our university community. Once we have our strategic goals in place, we will move to the phase of establishing strategies and objectives to meet these goals, but that is not the charge at this time.

The Council is encouraged to seek broad counsel in developing these goals, seeking out those individuals and groups that can most effectively help frame Ohio State's commitment to sustainability.

A preliminary set of goals should be presented to the President and Provost 90 days from the date of this charge.