

# SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

## FY2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The President’s Sustainability Advisory Council (SAC) is charged with formulating strategy to foster and promote sustainability throughout the university community. This includes:

1. Oversee sustainability goals and strategies to integrate sustainable practices in all areas of the campus in coordination with the Office of Sustainability.
2. Monitor Texas A&M performance using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) tool.
3. Facilitate campus implementation of the Sustainability Master Plan.

The SAC generally meets four times per year, twice each in the fall and spring. The actions and recommendations made by the SAC for FY17 are included in this report.



**SUSTAINABILITY**  
RESPECT. PROTECT. PRESERVE.

## 1. Oversee Sustainability Goals and Strategies to Incorporate Sustainability in all Areas of Campus

- During the spring, the SAC reviewed a proposal from the dining service provider, Chartwells, to designate Texas A&M University as a Fair Trade Campus.
- According to Fair Trade USA, “Fair Trade USA enables sustainable development and community empowerment by cultivating a more equitable global trade model that benefits farmers, workers, consumers, industry and the earth. We achieve our mission by certifying and promoting Fair Trade products.”
- To become a certified Fair Trade Campus, TAMU will be required to:



1. Form a Fair Trade Committee;
2. Make Fair Trade products available at every campus outlet that sells food;
3. Make Fair Trade products available at events and meetings;
4. Share information about Fair Trade on campus; and
5. Pass a Fair Trade Resolution.

- The SAC unanimously voted to recommend that President Young sign the Fair Trade Campus Resolution.
- President Young signed the resolution on August 10, 2017.

## 2. Monitor TAMU Performance Using Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)

- The Office of Sustainability submitted the 2016 STARS Report on December 20, 2016.
- TAMU achieved STARS Gold with a score of 66.93.
- The SAC supported the Office of Sustainability recommendation for the STARS 2017 Focus which included improving performance in the six credits in *Figure 1*.
- The SAC reviewed the 2016 Sustainability Highlights Report from the Office of Sustainability and recommended approval by President Young. The report was issued in March 2017.



### TEXAS A&M 2017 FOCUS

Potential Points		Potential Points	
Sustainability Learning Outcomes	8	Sustainable Procurement	1
Incentives for Developing Courses	2	Electronic Purchasing	1
Clean & Renewable Energy	4	Waste Minimization & Diversion	5

Total Points Available from 2017 Focus 21

Figure 1: Performance opportunities for six credits

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*Texas A&M strives to be a fearless leader in sustainability and to increasingly embed our commitment to respect, protect, and preserve the financial, environmental, and people resources that support our community not only for today, but for future generations of Aggies.”*

Michael K. Young  
President, Texas A&M University

### 3. Oversee Sustainability Master Plan

- The current Sustainability Master Plan (SMP) was published in 2010.
- The SAC formed a Sub-Committee to review proposals for a SMP Update.
- The SAC agreed to reflect the United Nations’ Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in the update.
- The SAC selected Ayers Saint Gross (ASG) as the consultant to perform the SMP Update.
- *Figure 2* shows the SMP themes.
- ASG initiated the SMP update process on April 24 to the SAC.
- SMP Update Working Groups began meeting in September 2017.
- The final plan is anticipated for March 2018. The ASG Timeline can be found in *Figure 3*.



#### 2017 THEMES

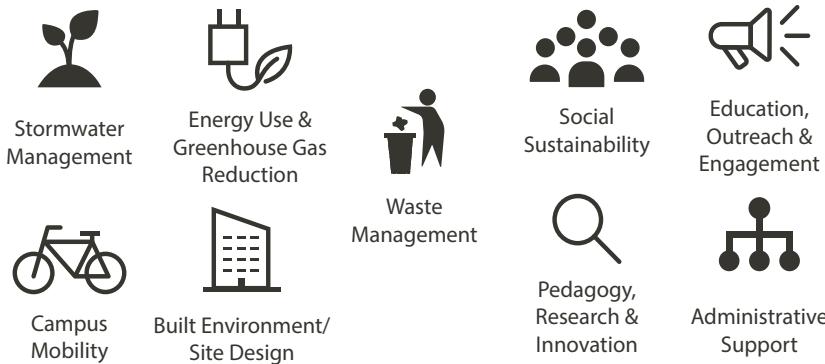


Figure 2: 2017 Themes

#### AYERS SAINT GROSS TIMELINE

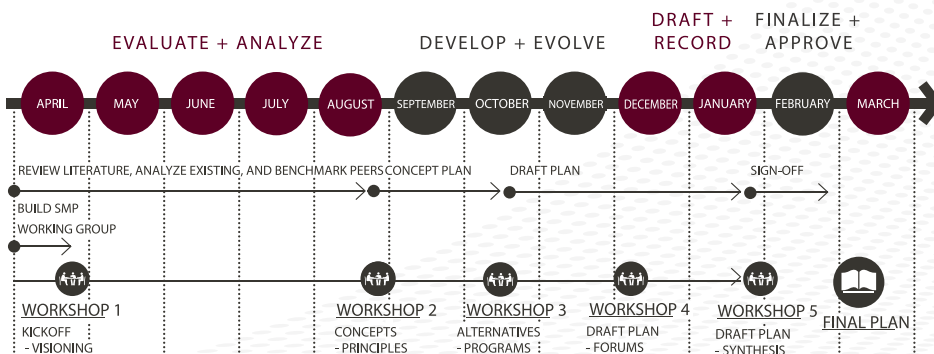


Figure 3: Timeline

#### The President’s Sustainability Advisory Council

**Chair:**

- Dr. Jerry Strawser, Executive VP for Finance and Operations and CFO

**Members:**

- Dr. Jose Fernandez-Solis, Faculty Senate
- Dr. Debbie Thomas, Interim Dean, College of Geoscience
- Dr. Patrick Louchouart, Executive Associate VP for Academic Affairs and VP & Chief Academic Officer, Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Dr. Carol Binzer, Director, Residence Life and Housing
- Mr. Matt Fry, Assistant VP for Research
- Mr. Casey Ricketts, Manager, College of Education and Human Development
- Ms. Mary Schubert, Director of Strategic Programs, Division of Human Resources & Organizational Effectiveness
- Ms. Hannah Wimberly, Student Body President
- Mr. Joseph Hood, Speaker of the Student Senate
- Mr. Bryan McBride, President of Residential Housing Association
- Mr. Paul Tael, President of Graduate and Professional Student Council
- Mr. Richard Gentry, Director of Regional Operations, SSC Services for Higher Education
- Mr. John Yeager, Director of Dining Services, Chartwells
- Mr. Antone Nemec, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator, TEEX