

Winthrop University Board of Trustees Quarterly Report

Sustainability / Campus Maintenance

October 24, 2019

Sustainability

Academics

- **Courses**
 - Introduction to Sustainability (SUST 102)
 - Teaching Sustainable Business Practices (MGMT 330)
- **Other Sustainability Coordinator Academic Activities**
 - Faculty Advisor for Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC)
 - Advised Think College student work project focused on recycling in Fall 2019
 - Supervised two Environmental Science Majors internship in Office of Sustainability in Fall 2019
 - In Spring 2020, is scheduled to advise an honors student in completing his honors thesis

Recycling

- Received two \$10,000 grants (one from DHEC and one from DHEC/Don't Waste Food SC)
 - One supported the installation of new centralized recycling stations in Withers Hall (August 2019)
 - One is supporting the purchase of a truck that will be dedicated to hauling food waste for composting and recycling
- All recycling collected from Winthrop University is sent to York County Solid Waste Collection and Recycling. With the construction of the new Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in York, some changes to the collection process have been required. As a result, the Sustainability Coordinator conducts a daily inspection of the central collection dumpsters located at Facilities Management. This inspection provides valuable information about what is collected on campus and what education is needed to reduce contamination.
- Signage has been placed in the residence halls and E&G buildings to provide guidance on recycling, including cardboard recycle locations and the most common items to be recycled
- Designed educational material focused on educating faculty, staff, and students about what is recyclable and what is not. Information was distributed via Staff Daily Digest, All Student list-serve, and social media (Office of Sustainability website, Facebook, and Twitter)

Sustainability Coordinator Lead Activities

- *Weigh the Waste* - a biannual program conducted in collaboration with Dining Services to bring awareness to food waste and food insecurity. On October 3, 2019, 176 lbs. of food from 1,468 people or 0.1199 lbs, per person was collected. The Sustainability Coordinator will present a poster about this program at the 2019 AASHE Conference. (This program began in the spring semester of 2016).
- *Leaf Your Mark (2019 Family Day)* – a service beautification project for students and their families to plant a tree and a number of other plants on campus. This year, volunteers planted 52 plants along Scholars Walk next to Kinard Hall to replace the boxwoods that were dead or dying. Volunteers also planted a Pink Flowering Dogwood in the front of Tillman Hall to replace the one that died. This event was also an opportunity to recognize Arbor Day (December 7) and Pollinator Day (April 28) – each plant encourages native pollinators.

- *Freshman Move In* – coordinated volunteers to assist freshman and their families discard of waste created while moving in. Four (4) tons of cardboard was recycled.
- Completed tour of Campus Green Gardens for Red Dirt Diggers, a group of residents from Tree Tops Community in Lancaster County.
- Participated in Career and Civic Engagement's Social Impact Expo & Eagle Resource Fair.
- Continued work with the Scout Projects through the Center for Civic Learning, which includes supervised projects on campus which were planned & executed by scouts.
- Managing the Rock Hill Educational Community Garden (954 Constitution Blvd.) and associated composting activities, which will become soil that will be used in community garden plots.
- State and local involvement - Chair of the Association of South Carolina Energy Managers and Vice Chair of Rock Hill Clean and Green.

Reporting (September 2019)

- Annual Energy Progress Report, Global Cost per square foot, and Energy Cost by building as required by the SC Code (§48-52-610 through 680 and §48-52-910) (September 2019)
- Annual College/University recycling report to DHEC as required by South Carolina Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991

Campus Maintenance

Over the next few years, the Division of Facilities Management will be engaged in a number of large scale capital projects that are funded through state, federal, and insurance funds (\$20.6M). At the same time, the division's leadership will need to balance managing the large scale projects with running the operating functions of the university, which includes regular scheduled maintenance and cleaning of the campus facilities.

Given that at least 7 roofs will be replaced between FY19 – FY21 (2 have already been completed), funds will need to be secured to address water related issues caused by the faulting roofs over the previous years (i.e., carpet, painting, dry wall, etc.). Ideally, a savings will be realized in maintenance supporting the faulting roofs, but the overall deferred maintenance funding needs far outweigh the resources available. Therefore, leadership will continue to look for economies-of-scale and re-allocation opportunities to support the infrastructure needs of the campus. In order to help support the critical & immediate deferred maintenance needs of the university, the Finance Committee will be presented in the October 2019 meeting with a list of immediate needs that will require net position funding in order to move forward.

In addition to the already funded projects on the horizon, leadership continues to plan for a number of large scale projects that will change the landscape of the campus. For example, a Board of Trustee and Real Estate Foundation committee has been formed to review the Auxiliary Housing and Dining needs that will need to be addressed in the coming years, especially given that Wofford Residence Hall is expected to come off-line by 2023. In addition to the auxiliary needs, senior leadership has also been discussing potential moves to the Office of Health & Counseling and the Office of Accessibility to new locations on campus that are better suited for their long term success on impacting students in a positive manner in their respective areas.