



George Mason University

The following information was submitted through the [STARS Reporting Tool](#) to be shared with Sierra magazine for consideration in their Cool Schools publication.

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The information presented in this submission is self-reported and has not been verified by AASHE or a third party. If you believe any of this information is erroneous, please see the [process for inquiring](#) about the information reported by an institution.

Education & Research

Co-Curricular Education

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that provide their students with sustainability learning experiences outside the formal curriculum. Engaging in sustainability issues through co-curricular activities allows students to deepen and apply their understandings of sustainability principles. Institution-sponsored co-curricular sustainability offerings, often coordinated by student affairs offices, help integrate sustainability into the campus culture and set a positive tone for the institution.

Credit
Student Sustainability Educators Program
Student Sustainability Outreach Campaign
Sustainability in New Student Orientation
Sustainability Outreach and Publications
Student Group
Organic Garden
Model Room in a Residence Hall
Themed Housing
Sustainable Enterprise
Sustainability Events
Outdoors Program
Themed Semester or Year

Student Sustainability Educators Program

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution coordinates an ongoing peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program for degree-seeking students. The institution:

- Selects or appoints students to serve as educators and formally designates the students as educators,
- Provides formal training to the educators in how to conduct outreach, and
- Offers faculty or staff and/or financial support to the program.

This credit focuses on programs for degree-seeking students enrolled in a for-credit program. Continuing education and/or non-credit students are excluded from this credit.

Student clubs or groups, which are covered by *Co-Curricular Education Tier Two Credit 1*, are not eligible for this credit unless the group meets the criteria outlined above.

Submission Note:

Data submitted for this field was for FY12.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total number of degree-seeking students enrolled at the institution :

33320

Program name (1st program) :

Green Patriots program

Number of students served by the program to whom peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education is offered (1st program) :

7500

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (1st program) :

The Green Patriot program is an environmentally-minded student group whose mission is to work with the Office of Sustainability to cultivate a culture of sustainability at George Mason University (Mason). Green Patriots help to increase environmental knowledge and foster positive environmental behavior by providing effective tools and information to their peers.

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (1st program) :

Individuals interested in serving as a Green Patriot will fill out an application form available on the Office of Sustainability's website.

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (1st program) :

Green Patriots attend a program orientation before the school year starts as well as brief trainings on various sustainability topics hosted by the Office of Sustainability on a regular basis. Regular peer-to-peer meetings with Green Patriots from other areas of interest allow participants to share best sustainable practices across the university.

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (1st program) :

Mason's Office of Sustainability hosts the orientation, training programs, and special recognition programs. In addition, Green Patriots are showcased on the Office of Sustainability's website and newsletter and receive a certificate of appreciation each year.

The website URL for 1st Program :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/greenpatriots/students.html>

Program name (2nd program) :

Number of students to whom peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education is offered (2nd program) :

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (2nd program) :

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (2nd program) :

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (2nd program) :

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (2nd program) :

The website URL for 2nd program :

Program name (3rd program) :

Number of students to whom peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education is offered (3rd program) :

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (3rd program) :

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (3rd program) :

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (3rd program) :

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (3rd program) :

The website URL for 3rd program :

Program name (All other programs) :

Number of students to whom peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education is offered (All other programs) :

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (All other programs) :

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (All other programs) :

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (All other programs) :

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (All other programs) :

The website URL for all other programs :

Student Sustainability Outreach Campaign

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution holds at least one sustainability-related outreach campaign directed at students. The campaign yields measurable, positive results in advancing sustainability. The sustainability-related outreach campaign may be conducted by the institution, a student organization, or students in a course.

To measure if the campaign yields measurable, positive results, institutions should compare pre-campaign performance to performance during or after the campaign.

The campaign could take the form of a competition (such as a residence hall conservation competition), or a collective challenge (such as a campus-wide drive to achieve a specific sustainability target).

The campaign may focus on one or more sustainability issues, but educating students is a primary feature of the campaign.

The campaign may reach additional campus members (faculty, staff, visitors, etc.) as long as students are one of the audiences of the campaigns.

The following impacts are not sufficient for this credit:

- Increased awareness
 - Additional members of a mailing list or group
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution hold a campaign that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

The name of the campaign(s) :

America's Greenest Campus 2009, RecycleMania 2009, Coke Recycling Competition

A brief description of the campaign(s) :

George Mason University (Mason) came in second place nation-wide for the number of participants in Climate Culture's America's Greenest Campus 2009 competition for greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Mason participated against other colleges and universities in RecycleMania. Mason competed within the targeted food services organics area. In this competition, schools are competing to see which can recycle the largest amount of food service organics per person.

The Coke Recycling Competition measures how many bottles and cans Mason's residential communities can recycle in one day. Mason held this competition in 2009 through 2011.

A brief description of the measured positive impact(s) of the campaign(s) :

In the America's Greenest Campus competition, 1,930 Mason patriots committed to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 1.44%.

Mason scored third in state of Virginia for the 2009 RecycleMania competition in the food services organic targeted area. Mason recycled 0.88 cumulative food service organics pound per person.

Through the Coke Recycling Competitions, Mason recycled 4,709 bottles and cans through 2011.

The website URL where information about the sustainability outreach campaign(s) is available :

http://www.climateculture.com/americas_greenest_campus/

Sustainability in New Student Orientation

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution includes sustainability prominently in its new student orientation activities and programming. Sustainability activities and programming are made available to all new students and are intended to educate about the principles and practices of sustainability.

Because orientation activities vary from one institution to another, prominent inclusion of sustainability may not take the same form on each campus. When reporting for this credit, each institution will determine what prominent inclusion of sustainability means given its particular context.

As this credit is intended to measure sustainability being infused throughout the institution, program or discipline-level orientations are not included in this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution include sustainability prominently in new student orientation? :

Yes

A brief description of how sustainability is included prominently in new student orientation :

George Mason University's (Mason) Office of Sustainability trains the orientation leaders about sustainability efforts on campus. Secondly, it staffs a table during every orientation session over the summer to present Mason's sustainability efforts on campus to incoming students. Lastly, the Office of Sustainability staffs a table during Welcome Week for freshmen and transfer students and has conducted sustainability workshops in the past on organic gardening and backstage tours of our green dining facility, Southside.

The website URL where information about sustainability in new student orientation is available :

Sustainability Outreach and Publications

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution produces outreach materials and/or publications that foster sustainability learning and knowledge. The publications and outreach materials may include the following:

- A central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution's sustainability efforts
 - A sustainability newsletter
 - A vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability
 - Building signage that highlights green building features
 - Food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems
 - Signage on the grounds about sustainable groundskeeping strategies employed
 - A sustainability walking map or tour
 - A guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation
 - A guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience
 - Regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat
 - Other
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution's sustainability efforts? :

Yes

A brief description of the central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution's sustainability efforts :

George Mason University's central web site for sustainability located at green.gmu.edu is managed by its Office of Sustainability.

The website URL for the central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution's

sustainability efforts :

<http://green.gmu.edu/>

Does the institution have a sustainability newsletter? :

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability newsletter :

The Sustainable Mason newsletter is published quarterly by George Mason University's (Mason) Office of Sustainability. The purpose of the printed publication is to highlight the myriad activities that faculty, staff, and students across Mason are undertaking to make the school more sustainable.

Auxiliary Enterprises Green does an annual sustainability report highlighting projects, progress towards goals, and metrics in auxiliary enterprises.

The website URL for the sustainability newsletter :

Does the institution have a vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability? :

Yes

A brief description of the vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability :

GREENovation publishes student research in conservation, environment and sustainability studies. The URL below provides the latest issue.

The website URL for the vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability :

<http://esp.gmu.edu/news/ESP%20Newsletter%20Spring%202011%20Issue.pdf>

Does the institution have building signage that highlights green building features? :

No

A brief description of building signage that highlights green building features :

The website URL for building signage that highlights green building features :

Does the institution have food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems? :

Yes

A brief description of food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems :

George Mason University has a banner and table tents informing guests within the dining halls about locally grown foods. In addition, there is a brochure titled "Healthier Food Options on Campus". This brochure has tips on how to eat healthier as well as healthier and/or vegetarian options at each eating establishment on campus.

The website URL for food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems :

http://dining.gmu.edu/wellness_sustain.html

Does the institution have signage on the grounds about sustainable grounds-keeping strategies employed? :

Yes

A brief description of signage on the grounds about sustainable grounds-keeping strategies employed :

At George Mason University (Mason), the bumblebee and butterfly havens as well as the wildflower areas have signage that describes the habitat and asks the Mason community and its visitors not to mow or disturb the habitat.

The website URL for signage on the grounds about sustainable grounds-keeping strategies employed :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/grounds/grounds/projects.htm>

Does the institution have a sustainability walking map or tour? :

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability walking map or tour :

George Mason University (Mason) offers sustainability tours of Mason Inn on campus, Virginia's first LEED Gold Conference Center and Hotel, and Southside dining hall upon request. Within each guest's in-room welcome book, Mason Inn's sustainability features are highlighted. Mason also has a self-guided sustainability tour of its Fairfax campus.

The website URL of the sustainability walking map or tour :

<http://green.gmu.edu/campussustainability/map.html>

Does the institution have a guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation? :

Yes

A brief description of the guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation :

George Mason University's (Mason) Transportation homepage prominently features links to both "How to get to Mason without a car!" and "Benefits of using alternative transit" pages.

The website URL for the guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/>

Does the institution have a guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience? :

Yes

A brief description of the guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience :

A Green Guide is available to students that covers important topics such as resources on campus, energy use, food, transportation, recycling, and regional resources for more information.

The website URL for the guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience :

<http://green.gmu.edu/students/greenguide.html>

Does the institution have regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper (either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat)? :

No

A brief description of regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat :

The website URL for regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat :

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (1st material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

Sustainability in George Mason University's academic programs are featured on its Sustainability Studies web site, including programs, courses, and pertinent scholarship funding opportunities.

The website URL for this material :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/>

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (2nd material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

George Mason University (Mason) has a sustainability blog which covers Mason's current efforts in sustainability and asks readers to respond and engage on Mason's efforts.

The website URL for this material :

<http://masongoesgreen.blogspot.com/>

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (3rd material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

George Mason University has a community organic garden. There is a blog associated with the organic garden to update readers on the progress of the garden and events associated with it.

The website URL for this material :

<http://gmugarden.wordpress.com/>

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (4th material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

George Mason University (Mason) has at least two sustainability related listservs and numerous Google groups. Mason's Office of Sustainability sends out information about Mason specific sustainability programs and events to one listserve and general sustainability information and events in the Metro DC area to the other.

The website URL for this material :

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (5th material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

George Mason University's Office of Sustainability also utilizes social media channels to publicize about the sustainability efforts on its Facebook page at (

<http://www.facebook.com/gmu.sustainability>

) and its Twitter page (

<https://twitter.com/#!/MasonGoesGreen>

).

The website URL for this material :

<http://www.facebook.com/gmu.sustainability>

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (6th material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

AE Green is the umbrella sustainability program for Auxiliary Enterprises at George Mason University (Mason). Departments included within Auxiliary Enterprises are Mason's Child Development Center; University Bookstore; Mail Services; Mason Card Office; Mason Dining; Mason Inn; Office of Housing and Residence Life; Patriot Center; Print Services; Student Centers; and Vending Services. AE Green has a website that provides information on all the sustainability efforts of these entities.

The website URL for this material :

<http://www.gmu.edu/depts/univservsustainability/index.html>

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (7th material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

George Mason University's Auxiliary Enterprises (AE) Green also utilizes social media channels to publicize about its sustainability efforts on its Facebook page at

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/AE-Green/157175901010021>

and its Twitter page at

<https://twitter.com/AEGreenMason>

The website URL for this material :

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (8th material) :

Yes

A brief description of this material :

On George Mason University's (Mason) home page there is a link to the webpage, "Mason Makes a Difference." That webpage educates the public on what Mason students, alumni, faculty, and staff are doing to make the world a better place. Under the Going Greener section, the site highlights Living Green, Learning Green where Mason students who are infusing sustainable practices in their everyday life, course work, communities and careers are highlighted. Additionally, Mason also highlighted faculty, staff and administrators committed to making Mason's campuses sustainable.

The website URL for this material :

<http://makingadifference.gmu.edu/green.html>

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Submission Note:

Data for list of student group was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011. Data for the recent activities field was for FY2012.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an active student group focused on sustainability? :

Yes

The name and a brief description of each student group :

George Mason University (Mason) has several student organizations which focus on sustainability issues and others which relate to sustainability.

- Environmental Action Group
- Environmental Law Society
- Environmental Science and Policy Graduate Students Association
- George Mason Model United Nations
- GMU Save the Children Club
- Mason Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter
- Mason Lending Hands
- Mason Organic Gardening Association
- ONE Campus Challenge
- Society of Public Health
- Students Against World Hunger
- Sustainability Society
- UNICEF Campus Initiative
- United States Green Building Council (GMU)

List up to 4 notable recent activities or accomplishments of student group(s) :

Advocated for the Patriot Green Fund, a \$100,000 annual fund to support student sustainability research and infrastructure improvements. The Patriot Green Fund was approved in the summer of 2011.

Supported Earth Week 2012 which included over 40 activities and events across 3 Mason campuses, extending throughout the month of April and reaching thousands of students, faculty, staff, community members and campus visitors.

Supported the Sustainable Living Roadshow, an eco-carnival with interactive learning villages to educate people on how to live sustainably. Highlights include a green market, workshops on a solar-powered stage, and a hands-on demonstration of various solutions.

Supported the Mason Sustainability Institute which holds workshops that are open to any and all community members wanting to learn about sustainable living skills. Workshops include learning about composting, organic gardening, energy efficiency, water conservation, sustainable foods, bicycle maintenance, and more.

List other student groups that address sustainability :

The website URL where information about student group(s) is available :

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an on-campus garden where students are able to gain organic farming and/or gardening experience? :

Yes

A brief description of the garden :

Adjacent to student residential halls, the George Mason University (Mason) Potomac Heights Vegetable Garden was started in April 2009 with the help from the Office of Sustainability. After a rocky start, the garden is now thriving! A large part of its success is due to a student club (George Mason University Organic Garden Association) that oversees and tends to the garden. This group is responsible for garden outreach and education within the Mason community. They are also in charge of coordinating volunteer efforts in the garden.

The website URL where information about the garden is available :

<http://green.gmu.edu/campussustainability/phvgarden.html>

Model Room in a Residence Hall

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an occupied, formally designated model room in a residence hall that is open to students during regular hours and demonstrates sustainable living principles? :

No

A brief description of the model room :

The website URL where information about the model room in the residence hall is available :

Themed Housing

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have sustainability-themed housing (residential floor or hall, or theme house) where residents learn about sustainability together and to which residents must apply? :

Yes

A brief description of the themed housing, including name(s) and descriptions of theme(s) :

The Sustainability Living Learning Community is for students who want to study the environment and sustainability at college while making sustainability a core component of their personal lives. Members of this community use their knowledge about and passion for sustainability to contribute to Mason's efforts to create the greenest campus and university community in Virginia.

The website URL where information about the themed housing is available :

<http://housing.gmu.edu/general/lc/program.asp?llcdescription=17>

The total number of residents in themed housing. :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager

Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a student-run enterprise, such as a cafe, through which students gain sustainable business skills? :

No

A brief description of the enterprise :

The website URL where information about the sustainable enterprise is available :

Sustainability Events

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data for this field was for FY2012.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution hold major events related to sustainability, such as conferences, speaker series, or symposia, that have students as the intended audience? :

Yes

A brief description of the event(s) :

Earth Week 2012 which included over 40 activities and events across 3 Mason campuses, extending throughout the month of April and reaching thousands of students, faculty, staff, community members and campus visitors.

The Sustainable Living Roadshow in the fall of 2011, an eco-carnival with interactive learning villages to educate people on how to live sustainably. Highlights include a green market, workshops on a solar-powered stage, and a hands-on demonstration of various solutions.

The Mason Sustainability Institute which holds workshops that are open to any and all community members wanting to learn about sustainable living skills. Workshops include learning about composting, organic gardening, energy efficiency, water conservation, sustainable foods, bicycle maintenance, and more.

The website URL where information about the event(s) are available :

<http://green.gmu.edu/community/events.html>

Outdoors Program

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies
Office of the Provost

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a wilderness or outdoors program that organizes hiking, backpacking, kayaking, or other outings for students and follows Leave No Trace principles? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

Rock On!- Rock On! at George Mason University is committed to providing outdoor educational experiences that emphasize conservation, enjoyment of nature, and community involvement.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2252036659/>

Themed Semester or Year

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution chosen a sustainability-related theme for its themed semester, year, or first-year experience during the past three years? :

No

A brief description of the themed semester, year, or first-year experience :

The sustainability-related book that was chosen, if applicable :

The website URL where information about the theme is available :

Curriculum

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that have formal education programs and courses that address sustainability. One of the primary functions of colleges and universities is to educate students. By training and educating future leaders, scholars, workers, and professionals, higher education institutions are uniquely positioned to prepare students to understand and address sustainability challenges. Institutions that offer courses covering sustainability issues help equip their students to lead society to a sustainable future.

Credit
Sustainability Course Identification
Sustainability-Focused Courses
Sustainability-Related Courses
Sustainability Courses by Department
Sustainability Learning Outcomes
Undergraduate Program in Sustainability
Graduate Program in Sustainability
Sustainability Immersive Experience
Sustainability Literacy Assessment
Incentives for Developing Sustainability Courses

Sustainability Course Identification

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has developed a definition of sustainability in the curriculum. The definition was developed by a committee comprised of at least three faculty members who teach courses in different departments. The committee may include students, staff, and other stakeholders as well. The definition does not have to be formally adopted.

In order to report on other STARS Curriculum credits, the definition of sustainability in the curriculum should distinguish between courses that focus or concentrate on the concept of sustainability throughout the course and courses that relate to an aspect of sustainability or include sustainability as part of the course.

- Sustainability-focused courses concentrate on the concept of sustainability, including its social, economic, and environmental dimensions, or examine an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens.
- Sustainability-related courses incorporate sustainability as a distinct course component or module or concentrate on a single sustainability principle or issue.

Part 2

Institution has identified its sustainability-focused and sustainability-related course offerings. A course is either sustainability-focused or sustainability-related; no course should be identified as both sustainability-focused and sustainability-related. Each institution is free to choose a methodology to identify sustainability courses that is most appropriate given its unique circumstances. Asking faculty or departments to self-identify sustainability courses using the definition in Part 1 or looking at the stated learning outcomes and course objectives associated with each course may provide a richer view of sustainability course offerings than simply reviewing course descriptions, but it is not required.

Part 3

Institution makes its sustainability course inventory publicly available online. The identification can be incorporated into the course catalog or posted as a stand-alone document.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution developed a definition of sustainability in the curriculum? :

Yes

A copy of the institution's definition of sustainability in the curriculum? :

A “green leaf” course or academic program focuses on learning about sustainability, i.e., meeting our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The green leaf designation recognizes offerings that contribute significantly to students’ understanding and practice of sustainability. These offerings extend beyond environmental management, natural resources protection and conservation studies alone to embrace economic development and social responsibility.

Has the institution identified its sustainability-focused and sustainability-related course offerings? :

Yes

A brief description of the methodology the institution followed to complete the inventory :

Deans and directors of colleges, schools and institutes were invited to identify courses, or have their departments or their Sustainability Studies Advisory Council (SSAC) reps do so, using the definition above. Courses in the catalog with pertinent summaries were included if self-evident (e.g., "Sustainability in Action), otherwise faculty or syllabi were consulted. Leads of sustainability-focused and sustainability-related academic programs were also invited to nominate courses. Final decision was made by the Provost's Fellow of Sustainability Studies, in consultation with SSAC representatives.

Does the institution make its sustainability course inventory publicly available online? :

Yes

The website URL where the sustainability course inventory is posted :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

Sustainability-Focused Courses

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies
Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution offers sustainability-focused academic courses.

This credit does not include continuing education and extension courses, which are covered by *PAE Credit 21: Sustainability in Continuing Education*.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of sustainability-focused courses offered :

42

The total number of courses offered :

6247

Number of years covered by the data :

One

A list of sustainability-focused courses offered :

As of FY11, George Mason University had 42 sustainability focused courses. However, to get the most recent list of courses, please refer to

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

The website URL where the publicly available sustainability course inventory that includes a list of sustainability-focused courses is available :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

A copy of the sustainability course inventory :

Sustainability-Related Courses

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies
Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution offers sustainability-related academic courses.

This credit does not include continuing education and extension courses, which are covered by *PAE Credit 21: Sustainability in Continuing Education*.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of sustainability-related courses offered :

40

The total number of courses offered :

6247

Number of years covered by the data :

One

A list of sustainability-related courses offered :

As of FY11, George Mason University had 40 sustainability related courses offered. However, to get the most recent list please refer to

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

The website URL where the sustainability course inventory that includes a list of sustainability-related courses is posted :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

A copy of the sustainability course inventory :

Sustainability Courses by Department

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution's academic departments (or equivalent) offer sustainability-related and/or sustainability- focused courses.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of departments that offer at least one sustainability-related or -focused course :

19

The total number of departments that offer courses :

53

A list of departments that offer sustainability courses :

The website URL where the publicly available sustainability course inventory that includes a list of departments that offer sustainability courses is available :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/courses/>

A copy of the sustainability course inventory :

Sustainability Learning Outcomes

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution's students graduate from programs that include sustainability as a required learning outcome or include multiple sustainability learning outcomes.

For this credit, learning outcomes at the course level count if the course is required to earn the degree. This credit includes graduate as well as undergraduate programs. For this credit, "programs" include majors, minors, concentrations, certificates, and other academic designations. Programs that include co-curricular aspects may count as long as there is an academic component of the program.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of graduates covered by the sustainability learning outcomes :

253

Total number of graduates :

7843

A list of degree programs that have sustainability learning outcomes :

E1-BS-TEM: Tourism and Events Management, BS (51 graduates)

E1-BS-HFRR-POR: Parks and Outdoor Recreation concentration

in Health Fitness and Recreation Resources, BS (TBD)

LA-BA-EVSS: Environmental and Sustainability Studies, BA (0 (NEW))

LA-BA-GLOA: Global Affairs, BA (128)

VS-BS-CEIE: Civil and Infrastructure Engineering, BS (49)

LA-MAIS-EAS: Energy and Sustainability concentration in the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (0 (NEW))

SC-MS-EVSP: Environmental Science and Policy, MS (18)

SC-PHD-EVPP: Environmental Science and Public Policy, PhD (7)

The website URL where the publicly available sustainability course inventory that includes a list of degree programs that have specified sustainability learning outcomes is available :

[STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf>

A copy of the sustainability course inventory :

A list or sample of the sustainability learning outcomes associated with the degree programs :

Undergraduate Program in Sustainability

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution offers at least one sustainability-focused undergraduate major, degree program, or equivalent.

The degree program does not have to include sustainability in its name to count for this credit. Environmental Studies programs, for example, count as long as the program covers the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainability. A program that focuses exclusively on environmental or social issues, however, would not be sufficient to earn this credit.

Concentrations within a major (e.g. a concentration on sustainable business within the business major) do not count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer an undergraduate degree program that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (1st program) :

Environmental and Sustainability Studies, B.A.

The website URL for the program (1st program) :

<http://ess.gmu.edu/>

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (2nd program) :

Global Affairs, BA

The website URL for the program (2nd program) :

<http://chss.gmu.edu/programs/show/LA-BA-GLOA>

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (3rd program) :

Civil and Infrastructure Engineering, BS

The website URL for the program (3rd program) :

<http://www.civil.gmu.edu/>

The name and website URLs of all other sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program(s) :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/academic-programs>

Graduate Program in Sustainability

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution offers at least one sustainability-focused degree program or equivalent for graduate students.

The degree program does not have to include sustainability in its name to count for this credit. Environmental Studies programs, for example, count for this credit as long as the program covers the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainability. A program that focuses exclusively on environmental or social issues, however, would not be sufficient to earn this credit.

Concentrations within a degree program (e.g. a concentration on sustainable business within an MBA program) do not count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer a graduate degree program that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (1st program) :

Environmental Science and Public Policy, Ph.D.

The website URL for the program (1st program) :

<http://esp.gmu.edu/graduate/degrees/doctoral.html>

The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (2nd program) :

The website URL for the program (2nd program) :

The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (3rd program) :

The website URL for the program (3rd program) :

The name and website URLs of all other sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program(s) :

See full list at:

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/green-leaf/academic-programs/>

Sustainability Immersive Experience

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution offers at least one immersive, sustainability-focused educational study program. The program(s) may take place off-campus, overseas, or on-campus.

For this credit, the program meets one or both of the following criteria:

- it concentrates on sustainability, including its social, economic, and environmental dimensions or
- it examines an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens.

Immersive programs offered in partnership with outside entities may count for this credit. Programs offered exclusively by outside entities do not count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer a program that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability-focused immersive experience(s) offered by the institution :

George Mason University (Mason) offers numerous immersive learning experiences focused on sustainability issues, including internships, independent study and service learning opportunities. Emblematic are the collaborative action research projects at the core of the undergraduate capstone course, [EVPP 480] Sustainability in Action, which challenges students to make a difference in our community, using sustainability wisdom as their guide, then document and report on what they learn. One example of students' products from this process is presented in the URL below. This course is the capstone for the Environmental and Sustainability Studies B.A. degree, which also requires a pertinent internship experience.

The website URL where information about the immersive experience is available :

<http://tinyurl.com/evpp480lmcl>

Sustainability Literacy Assessment

Criteria

Part 1

Institution conducts an assessment of the sustainability literacy of its students. The sustainability literacy assessment focuses on knowledge of sustainability topics, not values or beliefs.

Part 2

Institution conducts a follow-up assessment of the same cohort group using the same instrument.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution conducted a sustainability literacy assessment? :

Did the assessment include a baseline evaluation of students and then a follow-up evaluation of the same cohort? :

A copy of the questions included in the sustainability literacy assessment :

A copy of the questions included in the sustainability literacy assessment :

A brief description of how the assessment was developed :

A brief description of how the assessment was administered :

A brief summary of results from the assessment :

The website URL where information about the literacy assessment is available :

Incentives for Developing Sustainability Courses

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies
Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution has an ongoing program or programs that offer incentives for faculty in multiple disciplines or departments to develop new sustainability courses and/or incorporate sustainability into existing courses or departments. The program aims to increase student learning of sustainability.

Incentives may include release time, funding for professional development, and trainings offered by the institution.

Incentives for expanding sustainability offerings in academic, non-credit, and/or continuing education courses count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program that meets the criteria outlined above? :

Yes

A brief description of the program(s) :

The Provost office hosts a 2-year Fellow of Sustainability Studies (FoSS) program to facilitate the development and deployment of sustainability studies in our academic programs. The fellow, assisted by an inter-collegiate Sustainability Studies Advisory Council (SSAC), organizes various curriculum-related activities and events; catalyzes the creation of new courses and general education learning objectives which incorporate sustainability; resuscitates dormant sustainability courses; organizes faculty training workshops; and secures resources and brokers co-curricular opportunities for interested faculty.

A brief description of the incentives that faculty members who participate in the program(s) receive :

The FoSS is given a stipend and release time to promote sustainability studies across the curriculum, including general education, undergraduate and graduate academic programs. Other faculty participate voluntarily, benefitting primarily from expertise, resources and logistical support provided to them by the FoSS.

SSAC members are appointed by their Deans and Directors and thus have a certain degree of prestige associated with their positions as well.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu/>

Research

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are conducting research related to or focused on sustainability. Conducting research is a major function of many colleges and universities. By researching sustainability issues and refining theories and concepts, higher education institutions can continue to help the world understand sustainability challenges and develop new technologies, strategies, and approaches to address those challenges.

Credit
Sustainability Research Identification
Faculty Engaged in Sustainability Research
Departments Engaged in Sustainability Research
Sustainability Research Incentives
Interdisciplinary Research in Tenure and Promotion

Sustainability Research Identification

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has developed a definition of sustainability research. The definition was developed by a committee comprised of at least three faculty members from different departments who conduct research. The committee may include students, staff, and other stakeholders as well. The definition does not have to be formally adopted.

Part 2

Institution has identified its sustainability research activities and initiatives. This research inventory should include all research centers, laboratories, departments, and faculty members whose research focuses on or is related to sustainability.

Part 3

Institution makes its sustainability research inventory publicly available online.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution developed a definition of sustainability research? :

Yes

A copy of the institution's definition of sustainability research :

Sustainability research at George Mason University (Mason) crosses a wide swath as our researchers explore everything from understanding and predicting climate change, to conservation of endangered species, to developing a better understanding of human interactions with our environment, to developing energy alternatives. The University's Research Focus web site identifies specific research communities of practice for sustainability, such as climate change, energy, environment and transportation.

Has the institution identified its sustainability research activities and initiatives? :

Yes

A brief description of the methodology the institution followed to complete the inventory :

George Mason University's Office of Research and Economic Development invited faculty and centers to self-identify research areas upon which they focus. The website hosting this information also provides means for additional faculty to affiliate. As of June 2011, 125 faculty and 27 research centers affiliated with the Sustainability research focus or at least one of its component communities of practice. An additional 26 faculty affiliated with a related "international development" community of practice.

Does the institution make its sustainability research inventory publicly available online? :

Yes

The website URL where the sustainability research inventory is posted (required if claiming Part 3 of the credit) :

<http://researchfocus.gmu.edu/sustainability>

Faculty Engaged in Sustainability Research

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution's faculty members conduct research on sustainability topics.

Any level of sustainability research by a faculty member is sufficient to be included for this credit. In other words, a faculty member who conducts both sustainability research and other research may be included.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of faculty members engaged in sustainability research :

126

The total number of faculty members engaged in research :

1273

Names and department affiliations of faculty engaged in sustainability research :

Names and research foci are available at

<http://researchfocus.gmu.edu/sustainability>

. Department affiliations for those faculty can be cross-referenced via

<http://peoplefinder.gmu.edu>

.

The website URL where the sustainability research inventory that includes the names and department affiliations of faculty engaged in sustainability research is posted :

A copy of the sustainability research inventory that includes the names and department affiliations of faculty engaged in sustainability research :

Brief descriptions of up to 4 recent notable accomplishments by faculty engaged in sustainability research, including names and department affiliations :

The website URL where information about sustainability research is available :

Departments Engaged in Sustainability Research

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution's academic departments include faculty members who conduct sustainability research.

Any level of sustainability research by a faculty member in a department is sufficient for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The total number of academic departments that conduct research :

53

The number of academic departments in which at least one faculty member engages in sustainability research :

30

A list of academic departments in which at least one faculty member engages in sustainability research :

This list was reverse engineered based on primary departmental affiliations of faculty engaging in sustainability research (

<http://researchfocus.gmu.edu/sustainability>

), credit ER-16:

Applied Information Technology

Atmospheric, Oceanic & Earth Sciences

Chemistry

Civil Engineering

Climate Dynamics

Communication

Computational and Data Sciences

Computer Science

Economics

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Environmental Science & Policy
Finance
Geography & Geoinformation Science
School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution
Information & Software Engineering
Krasnow Institute
School of Law
Mathematics
New Century College
Philosophy
Physics & Astronomy
Psychology
Public & International Affairs
Public Policy
Sociology & Anthropology
School of Recreation, Health & Tourism
Statistics
Systems Engineering & Operations Research

Dr. Thomas Ashcraft in Art and Visual Technology was not included on the list at above URL, but has done research on sustainable studio space.

The website URL where the sustainability research inventory that includes the departments engaged in sustainability research is posted :

A copy of the sustainability research inventory that includes the departments engaged in sustainability research :

Sustainability Research Incentives

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an ongoing program to encourage students in multiple disciplines or academic programs to conduct research in sustainability. The program provides students with incentives to research sustainability. Such incentives may include, but are not limited to, fellowships, financial support, and mentorships.

Part 2

Institution has an ongoing program to encourage faculty from multiple disciplines or academic programs to conduct research in sustainability topics. The program provides faculty with incentives to research sustainability. Such incentives may include, but are not limited to, fellowships, financial support, and faculty development workshops.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program to encourage student sustainability research that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's program(s) to encourage student research in sustainability :

The Patriot Green Fund (PGF) launched in 2011, administered by George Mason University's Office of Sustainability, provides dedicated funds annually to support students' sustainability research. In addition, the new Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research (OSCAR) supports student research activities, including sustainability.

A \$5,000 grant program administered by the Office of Sustainability provided similar support even before the PGF was in place.

The website URL where information about the student research program is available :

<http://green.gmu.edu/pgf/index.html>

Does the institution have a program to encourage faculty sustainability research that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's program(s) to encourage faculty research in sustainability :

STARS Reporting Tool | AASHE | Sierra Magazine

The Patriot Green Fund encourages faculty research in sustainability since faculty advisors are required for all students performing research. This is designed in part to encourage faculty to engage students in their own sustainability research.

The website URL where information about the faculty research program is available :

<http://green.gmu.edu/pgf/index.html>

Interdisciplinary Research in Tenure and Promotion

Responsible Party

Dann Sklarew

Fellow of Sustainability Studies

Office of the Provost

Criteria

Institution gives positive recognition to interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary research during faculty promotion and tenure decisions.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution's treatment of interdisciplinary research meet the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description or a copy of the institution's policy regarding interdisciplinary research :

According to Provost Stearns, George Mason University does this as part of its academic culture, but has no documented university-wide policy. Since a substantial portion of Mason's academic departments and research centers are explicitly interdisciplinary (e.g., "Environmental Science AND Policy" dept., "Center for Climate AND Society"), interdisciplinary research is core to Mason's identity and moniker, "where innovation is tradition."

The website URL where information about the treatment of interdisciplinary research is available :

<http://provost.gmu.edu/>

Operations

Buildings

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are taking steps to improve the sustainability performance of their buildings. Buildings are generally the largest user of energy and the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on campuses. Buildings also use significant amounts of potable water. Institutions can design, build, and maintain buildings in ways that provide a safe and healthy indoor environment for inhabitants while simultaneously mitigating the building’s impact on the outdoor environment.

Credit
Building Operations and Maintenance
Building Design and Construction
Indoor Air Quality

Building Operations and Maintenance

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution owns and operates buildings that are:

1) Certified under the LEED® for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Green Building Rating System,

and/or

2) Operated and maintained in accordance with sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines and policies that cover the following:

- Impacts on the surrounding site
 - Energy consumption
 - Usage of environmentally preferable materials
 - Indoor environmental quality
 - Water consumption
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total building space that meets "Eligible Buildings Criteria" :

6367815 Square Feet

Building space that is maintained in accordance with sustainable building operations and maintenance guidelines or policies but is NOT certified under LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M :

6367815 Square Feet

Building space that is LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M Certified :

0 Square Feet

Building space that is LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M Silver certified :

0 Square Feet

Building space that is LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M Gold certified :

0 Square Feet

Building space that is LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M Platinum certified :

0 Square Feet

The website URL where a copy of the institution's guidelines or policies for sustainable building operations and maintenance is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/policies/main.html>

An electronic copy of the guidelines or policies :

[EO_19.pdf](#)

The date(s) the policies or guidelines were adopted :

July 1, 2010

A brief description of how the institution ensures compliance with sustainable building operation and maintenance guidelines and policies :

George Mason University (Mason) is a state institution of higher education within Virginia. As such, Mason follows and implements executive orders enacted by the Governor of Virginia. Executive Order 19 (2010): Conservation and Efficiency in the Operation of State Government builds upon Executive Order 89(2009) that addresses energy conservation and efficiency; water conservation and efficiency within buildings and in landscaping; air quality; waste reduction; use of environmentally preferred products; and green building standards. As examples, Mason ensures compliance with a performance contract to reduce energy and water consumption; cultivates low maintenance native plants in its landscaping; utilizes green cleaning products; purchases energy efficient appliances whenever possible; buys recycled content products whenever possible; and constructs new buildings to LEED Silver standards.

The names and certification levels of all buildings that are certified under LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M :

The names of all buildings operated and maintained in accordance with similar sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines and policies :

All buildings on campus are operated in a sustainable manner.

Building Design and Construction

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution-owned buildings that were constructed or underwent major renovations in the past three years are:

1) Certified under the LEED® for New Construction and Major Renovations, LEED for Commercial Interiors, and/or LEED for Core and Shell Green Building Rating Systems,

and/or

2) Designed and built in accordance with green building guidelines and policies that cover the following topics:

- Impacts on the surrounding site
 - Energy consumption
 - Usage of environmentally preferable materials
 - Indoor environmental quality
 - Water consumption
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

New building space that meets "Eligible Buildings Criteria" :

1708962 Square Feet

New building space that was designed and constructed in accordance with green building policies or guidelines but not LEED certified :

1355973 Square Feet

New building space that is LEED Certified :

0 Square Feet

New building space that is LEED Silver certified :

179954 Square Feet

New building space that is LEED Gold certified :

173035 *Square Feet*

New building space that is LEED Platinum certified :

0 *Square Feet*

The website URL where a copy of the institution's guidelines or policies for green building is available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/campussustainability/buildings.html>

An electronic copy of the guidelines or policies :

[EO_19.pdf](#)

The date(s) the policies or guidelines were adopted :

2007

A brief description of how the institution ensures compliance with green building design and construction guidelines and policies :

In 2007, George Mason University's (Mason) Board of Visitors pledged that all of Mason new buildings will be designed and built to a minimum of US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standard. In addition, the state of Virginia in Executive Order 19 (2010) states that all new buildings shall meet the Virginia Energy Conservation and Environmental Standards for energy performance and water conservation. While Mason has its buildings built to LEED Silver standards and the Virginia Energy Conservation and Environmental Standards, Mason has limited budget to complete the LEED certification process for each new building. Therefore, LEED Silver or higher certification is pursued for a limited number of Mason's new buildings.

The names of all buildings that are certified under the LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations, LEED for Commercial Interiors, and/or LEED for Core and Shell Green Building Rating Systems :

Mason Inn
Long and Kimmy Nguyen Engineering Building

The names of all buildings designed and constructed in accordance with green building guidelines and policies but not LEED certified :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has adopted an indoor air quality management policy, plan, and/or practices that include regular auditing or monitoring and a mechanism for occupants to register complaints. Policies and plans adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Occupied building space covered by an indoor air quality plan, policy, and/or practices that include regular auditing or monitoring and a mechanism for occupants to register complaints :

6652926 Square Feet

Total occupied building space :

6652926 Square Feet

A brief description of the institution's indoor air quality plan, policy, and/or practices :

George Mason University is committed to providing a work environment that is free of recognized hazards and investigating complaints that may be related to poor indoor air quality (IAQ). This Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Program is designed to provide practices and procedures for building occupants and occupant management for the prevention and reporting of indoor air quality concerns. Occupants can report problems to Mason's Environmental Health & Safety Office or the work request customer service center.

The website URL where information about the institution's indoor air quality initiatives is available :

http://ehs.gmu.edu/programs_indoor_air.html

Climate

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are measuring and reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. Global warming is expected to have myriad negative impacts throughout the world, including increased frequency and potency of extreme weather events, sea level rise, species extinction, water shortages, declining agricultural production, and spread of diseases. The impacts are expected to be particularly pronounced for poor communities and countries.

Credit
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
Air Travel Emissions
Local Offsets Program

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has conducted a GHG emissions inventory covering its Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. The GHG emissions inventory is publicly available, either through the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment reporting site, the institution's website, or another public website.

Part 2

Institution has conducted a GHG emissions inventory covering Scope 3 emissions. The GHG emissions inventory is publicly available, either through the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment reporting site, the institution's website, or another public website.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The website URL where the GHG emissions inventory is posted :

<http://rs.acupcc.org/>

Does the inventory include all Scope 1 and 2 emissions? :

Yes

Does the inventory include emissions from air travel? :

Yes

Does the inventory include emissions from commuting? :

Yes

Does the inventory include embodied emissions from food purchases? :

No

Does the inventory include embodied emissions from other purchased products? :

Yes

Does the inventory include emissions from solid waste disposal? :

Yes

Does the inventory include another Scope 3 emissions source not covered above? :

Yes

If yes, please specify :

Study abroad travel

Does the inventory include a second Scope 3 emissions source not covered above? :

Yes

If yes, please specify :

Wastewater with anaerobic digestion

Does the inventory include a third Scope 3 emissions source not covered above? :

If yes, please specify :

Does the inventory include a fourth Scope 3 emissions source not covered above? :

If yes, please specify :

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution reduced its net Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions per weighted campus user compared to a 2005 baseline.

For this credit, off-site, institution-catalyzed carbon offsets (i.e. those popularly known as “local offsets”) count in full. Purchased carbon offsets that have been verified by a third party may count towards a portion of the reduction. Purchased offsets that have not been third-party verified do not count.

To conduct a GHG emissions inventory, campuses may use any methodology and/or calculator that is consistent with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol's Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standards.

The baseline GHG emissions inventory should include the same emissions sources as the performance year emissions inventory.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Scope 1 and 2 gross GHG emissions, 2005 :

61699 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

Off-site, institution-catalyzed carbon offsets generated, 2005 :

0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

Third-party verified carbon offsets purchased, 2005 :

0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

On-campus residents, 2005 :

3840

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

14117

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

15182

Scope 1 and 2 gross GHG emissions, performance year :

79796 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

Off-site, institution-catalyzed offsets generated, performance year :

0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

Carbon offsets purchased, performance year :

2868 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent

List the start and end dates of the GHG emissions performance year :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

On-campus residents, performance year :

5389

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

16997

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

15822

Time period for weighted campus user (list the consecutive 12 month period that most closely overlaps with GHG performance year) :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Air Travel Emissions

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager

Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have policies and/or programs in place to reduce emissions from air travel? :

No

A brief description of the policies and/or programs :

The website URL where information about the policies and/or programs is available :

Local Offsets Program

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager

Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a local offsets program through which the institution seeks to offset its greenhouse gas emissions by implementing projects that reduce GHG emissions in the local community? :

No

A brief description of the program :

The website URL where information about the program is available :

Dining Services

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are supporting a sustainable food system. Modern industrial food production often has deleterious environmental impacts. Pesticides and fertilizers used in agriculture can contaminate ground and surface water, which has potentially dangerous impacts on wildlife and human health. Furthermore, the often long-distance transportation of food to institutions produces greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution. Additionally, farm workers are often paid substandard wages, subjected to harsh working conditions, and exposed to dangerous pesticides. Institutions can use their food purchases to support their local economies; encourage safe, environmentally-friendly farming methods; and help alleviate poverty for farmers.

Please note that while dining services can also play an important role in conserving energy and water, reducing waste, and purchasing environmentally preferable materials other than food, STARS measures these impacts across the institution instead of by department; therefore, the benefits of these actions are captured in the Energy, Water, Waste, and Purchasing subcategories, respectively.

Credit
Food and Beverage Purchasing
Trayless Dining
Vegan Dining
Trans-Fats
Guidelines for Franchisees
Pre-Consumer Food Waste Composting
PostConsumer Food Waste Composting
Food Donation
Recycled Content Napkins
Reusable Container Discounts
Reusable To-Go Containers

Food and Beverage Purchasing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

This credit includes food and beverage purchases for on-campus dining services operated by the institution or the institution's primary on-site contractor. Institution purchases food and beverages that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Grown and processed within 250 miles of the institution
- Third-party certified (USDA Certified Organic, Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel, Food Alliance, Fair Trade, Certified Humane Raised and Handled)

Food and beverage purchases that meet multiple criteria listed above should not be double-counted.

This credit includes food and beverage purchases for on-campus dining operations and catering services operated by the institution or the institution's primary dining services contractor (e.g. Aramark, Bon Appétit Management Company, Chartwells, Sodexo). On-site franchises, convenience stores, vending machines, or concessions are excluded from this credit unless they are operated by the institution or the institution's primary on-site contractor..

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Percentage of food expenditures that meet one or more of the criteria for this credit (0 - 100) :

12

A brief description of the sustainable food and beverage purchasing program :

In FY11, Mason dining had close to 12% of its food locally sourced or third-party certified. 100% of its seafood was approved by the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch program.

The Website URL where information about the institution's sustainable food and beverage purchasing efforts is available :

<http://dining.gmu.edu/sustain.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a trayless dining program in which trays are removed from or not available in dining halls?

:

Yes

A brief description of the trayless dining program :

At George Mason University (Mason), trayless dining is implemented in all dining facilities. Trays are available for students, staff and faculty with disabilities or special needs.

List the year the program was started :

Oct. 6, 2008

The overall percentage of meals served on campus that are trayless :

The percentage of meal plan meals served on campus that are trayless :

The percentage of retail facility meals served on campus that are trayless :

The percentage of conference meals served on campus that are trayless :

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://dining.gmu.edu/sustain.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer diverse, complete-protein vegan dining options during every meal? :

Yes

A brief description of the vegan dining program :

At George Mason University (Mason), there are vegan options at every meal. At the Southside dining hall, Worldeterrean station offers a vegan option, Wrapped up offers vegan options for sandwiches, and there is soy ice cream available. There is also a Registered Dietician on staff to discuss dietary needs. Meatless Mondays is also part of Mason Dining's programming. This program encourages students to eat less meat. On Mondays there are special meatless entrees. Meatless entrees are available everyday.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Trans-Fats

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use frying oil that does not include trans-fats and seek to avoid foods that include trans-fats in its dining operations? :

Yes

A brief description of the trans-fats avoidance program, policy, or practice :

There is no transfat used in Mason Dining.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Guidelines for Franchisees

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution adopted sustainability policies or guidelines for food service franchisees operating on campus? :

Yes

A brief description of the guidelines for franchisees :

Mason Dining follows George Mason University's (Mason) commitment to sustainability. Mason chooses and works with vendors that share our commitment to sustainability. For example, Mason Dining purchases green cleaning supplies when available and has taken part in university-wide sustainability efforts including recycling.

The website URL where information about the guidelines is available :

Pre-Consumer Food Waste Composting

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data for this field is for FY 2012.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a pre-consumer food waste composting program? :

Yes

A brief description of the pre-consumer food waste composting program :

At George Mason University's Southside dining facility, all of the melon rinds and other vegetable scraps from prep work are “pulped” shredded and dehydrated onsite. This dehydrated food waste is then picked up and taken off-site and composted by a Co-op of farmers via Mid-Atlantic Energy Solutions (MAES) based in Washington DC.

The overall percentage of meals for which pre-consumer scraps are composted :

The percentage of meal plan meals for which pre-consumer scraps are composted :

The percentage of retail facility meals for which pre-consumer scraps are composted :

The percentage of conference meals for which pre-consumer scraps are composted :

The website URL where information about the composting program is available :

PostConsumer Food Waste Composting

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data for this field is for FY2012.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a postconsumer food waste composting program? :

Yes

A brief description of the postconsumer food waste composting program :

At George Mason University (Mason), all of the left-over food scrapes from the plates returned to the kitchen are pulped and then dehydrated onsite. Mason also incorporate all of the used Starbucks coffee grounds. The final product is an almost powdery dry, sterile compound that weighs about 80% less then when it started. This dehydrated food waste is then picked up and taken off-site and composted by a Co-op of farmers via Mid-Atlantic Energy Solutions (MAES) based in Washington DC. Under normal operating conditions, Mason handles approximately 400-450 pounds of food waste and 50-75 pounds of coffee grounds daily.

The percentage of overall meals for which postconsumer composting is available :

The percentage of meal plan meals for which postconsumer composting is available :

The percentage of retail facilities for which postconsumer composting is available :

The percentage of conference meals for which postconsumer composting is available :

The website URL where information about the composting program is available :

Food Donation

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager

Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution donate leftover or surplus food? :

No

A brief description of the food donation program :

The website URL where information about the food donation program is available :

Recycled Content Napkins

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use recycled content napkins in its dining service operations? :

Yes

A brief description of the purchasing behavior :

George Mason University uses napkins made from 100% recycled material (post and pre-consumer blend) on its three campuses, which are distributed through single-napkin dispensers designed to reduce napkin use.

The website URL where information about the purchasing is available :

<http://dining.gmu.edu/sustain.html>

Reusable Container Discounts

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does campus dining operations offer discounts to customers who use reusable mugs instead of disposable cups in to-go food service operations? :

Yes

A brief description of the reusable mug program :

George Mason University (Mason) gives discounts from 10 cents to 60 cents at various food establishments on campus for customers that use reusable mugs. Mason also designed and sold a plastic hot-holding travel mug and a cold beverage mug. Customers who use these "Greening Mason" mugs can refill any beverage for \$1.19.

In addition, to discourage disposable cups from being used for water, guests are charged a 30 cent fee for their purchase.

Amount of the discount offered for using reusable mugs :

0.10

Description of other reusable food- or beverage-related programs (e.g. incentives for use of reusable bags, dishware, to-go containers) :

The website URL where information about the reusable mug discount program is available :

<http://dining.gmu.edu/sustain.html>

Reusable To-Go Containers

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does campus dining operations provide reusable containers for to-go food that are returned for cleaning and reuse? :

No

A brief description of the reusable to-go container program :

At George Mason University, we use environmentally friendly and biodegradable take out service ware like clamshell-style take out containers (both for hot and cold food), flatware, cups and lids (hot and cold), soup containers, napkins, trash liners, carry out bags, stir sticks, portion cups and straws. These items reduce our demand for plastics and petroleum products and don't add to landfills or commercial incinerators. They are made from a variety of different products like sugar cane, corn (PLA – poly lactic acid) and potato byproducts.

The website URL where information about the reusable to-go container program is available :

Energy

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are reducing their energy consumption through conservation and efficiency, and switching to cleaner and renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind, geothermal, and low-impact hydropower. For most institutions, energy consumption is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, which cause global warming. Global warming is expected to have myriad negative impacts throughout the world, including increased frequency and potency of extreme weather events, sea level rise, species extinction, water shortages, declining agricultural production, and spread of diseases. The impacts are expected to be particularly pronounced for poor communities and countries. In addition to causing global warming, energy generation from fossil fuels, especially coal, produces air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury, dioxins, arsenic, cadmium and lead. These pollutants contribute to acid rain as well as health problems such as heart and respiratory diseases and cancer. Coal mining and oil and gas drilling can also damage environmentally and/or culturally significant ecosystems. Nuclear power creates highly toxic and long-lasting radioactive waste. Large-scale hydropower floods habitat and disrupts fish migration.

Implementing conservation measures and switching to renewable sources of energy can help institutions save money and protect them from utility rate volatility. Renewable energy may be generated locally and allow campuses to support local economic development. Furthermore, institutions can help shape markets by creating demand for cleaner, renewable sources of energy.

Credit
Building Energy Consumption
Clean and Renewable Energy
Timers for Temperature Control
Lighting Sensors
LED Lighting
Vending Machine Sensors
Energy Management System
Energy Metering

Building Energy Consumption

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has reduced its total building energy consumption per gross square foot of building space compared to a 2005 baseline.

To aggregate energy consumption data from multiple sources, figures should be converted into MMBtu (one million British thermal units – a standard measure of energy) using the following equivalents:

1 kWh = 0.003412 MMBtu

1 MWh = 3.412 MMBtu

1 therm = 0.1 MMBtu

1 kBtu = 0.001 MMBtu

1 ton-hour = 0.012 MMBtu

1 MJ = 0.000948 MMBtu

Submission Note:

Building space and energy consumption data is for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total building energy consumption, 2005 :

599477 MMBtu

Building space, 2005 :

5025575 Gross Square Feet

Total building energy consumption, performance year :

766870 MMBtu

Building space, performance year :

7946940 Gross Square Feet

List the start and end dates of the energy consumption performance year :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution supports the development and use of clean and renewable energy sources using any one or combination of the following options.

Option 1: Generating electricity from clean and renewable energy sources on campus and retaining or retiring the rights to the environmental attributes of such electricity. (In other words, if the institution has sold Renewable Energy Credits for the clean and renewable energy it generated, it may not claim such energy here). The on-site renewable energy generating devices may be owned and/or maintained by another party as long as the institution has contractual rights to the associated environmental attributes.

Option 2: Using renewable sources for non-electric, on-site energy generation, such as biomass for heating.

Option 3: Catalyzing the development of off-site clean and renewable energy sources (e.g. an off-campus wind farm that was designed and built to supply electricity to the institution) and retaining the environmental attributes of that energy.

Option 4: Purchasing the environmental attributes of electricity in the form of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) or other similar renewable energy products that are either Green-e Energy certified or meet Green-e Energy's technical requirements and are verified as such by a third party, or purchasing renewable electricity through the institution's electric utility through a certified green power purchasing option.

Option 5: Using cogeneration technologies to generate electricity more efficiently. Note: generating electricity using cogeneration technology and a renewable fuel, such as biomass, is considered Option 1 and should not be counted twice.

Since this credit is intended to recognize institutions that are generating new sources of clean and renewable energy, neither the electric grid mix for the region in which the institution is located nor the grid mix reported by the electric utility that serves the institution count for this credit.

Technologies that reduce the amount of energy used but do not generate renewable energy do not count for this credit. For example, daylighting, passive solar design, and ground-source heat pumps are not counted in this credit. The benefits of such strategies are captured by *OP Credit 5: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions* and *OP Credit 7: Building Energy Consumption*.

Transportation fuels, which are covered by *OP Credit 14: Campus Fleet*, are not included in this credit.

To aggregate energy consumption data from multiple sources, figures should be converted into MMBtu (one million British thermal units – a standard measure of energy) using the following equivalents:

1 kWh = 0.003412 MMBtu

1 MWh = 3.412 MMBtu

1 therm = 0.1 MMBtu

1 kBtu = 0.001 MMBtu

1 ton-hour = 0.012 MMBtu

1 MJ = 0.000948 MMBTU

Submission Note:

Data compiled is for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Option 1: Total clean and renewable electricity generated on site during the performance year and for which the institution retains or has retired the associated environmental attributes :

4.60 MMBtu

Option 2: Non-electric renewable energy generated :

0 MMBtu

Option 3: Total clean and renewable electricity generated by off-site projects that the institution catalyzed and for which the institution retains or has retired the associated environmental attributes :

0 MMBtu

Option 4: Total RECs and other similar renewable energy products that the institution purchased during the performance year that are Green-e certified or meet the Green-e standard's technical requirements and are third party verified :

19186 MMBtu

Option 5: Total electricity generated with cogeneration technology using non-renewable fuel sources :

0 MMBtu

Total energy consumed during the performance year :

766870 MMBtu

A brief description of on-site renewable electricity generating devices :

George Mason University (Mason) has several small solar photovoltaic installations on campus with plans to develop more in the future. Mason has an innovative zero-carbon mobile art exhibition gallery and community space with a 130 watt solar panel; two solar powered trash compactors each having a 208 watt solar panel attached; and two solar powered fleet vehicles each powered by 187 watt solar panels.

A brief description of on-site renewable non-electric energy devices :

A brief description of off-site, institution-catalyzed, renewable electricity generating devices :

A brief description of RECs or other similar renewable energy products purchased during the previous year, including contract timeframes :

George Mason University purchased primarily wind RECs to offset 5% of its annual electricity use for 2011.

A brief description of cogeneration technologies deployed :

The website URL where information about the institution's renewable energy sources is available :

Timers for Temperature Control

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use timers to regulate temperatures based on occupancy hours in at least one building? :

Yes

A brief description of the technology used :

George Mason University installed a comprehensive, integrated facility energy management system utilizing an Ethernet based system to link each facility to the energy management office. This program generated significant savings through improved monitoring and control capability for key systems: heating, cooling, ventilation and lighting. Verification of proper temperature, setpoints, setback or shutdown of systems, monitoring of energy usage real-time, and detection of degraded energy efficiency would all contribute to more efficient operation and expected savings.

The percentage of building space (square footage) with timers for temperature control :

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/pc/projects.html>

Lighting Sensors

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use motion, infrared, and/or light sensors to reduce energy use for lighting in at least one building? :

Yes

A brief description of the technology used :

George Mason University installed wall mounted and ceiling mounted occupancy sensors throughout its campus. This will greatly reduce energy consumption in seldom used areas such as restrooms, conference rooms, and stairwells.

The percentage of building space with lighting sensors :

The website URL where information about the institution's use of the technology is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/pc/light.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology in at least one lighting application? LED applications in exit signs and remote controls do not count for this credit. :

Yes

A brief description of the technology used :

At George Mason University Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology has been installed in the majority of the outdoor lighting systems on the Fairfax and Prince William Campuses. The lighting systems include road ways, parking lots, walkways and parking garage lighting systems.

The percentage of building space with LED lighting :

The percentage of parking deck space with LED lighting :

The percentage of outdoor space that uses LED lighting :

The percentage of building space with efficient, non-LED lighting (compact fluorescent, automatic daylight shutoff, or other energy-saving features) :

The website URL where information about the institution's use of the technology is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/pc2/projects.html>

Vending Machine Sensors

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution installed vending machine motion sensors for at least one vending machine? :

Yes

A brief description of the technology used :

In 2010, George Mason University accepted new contracts for snack and vending. The contract had sustainable features including energy efficiency units and healthier vending options. The vending machines also have motions sensors to detect when customers are nearby.

The percentage of vending machines with sensors :

The website URL where information about the institution's use of the technology is available :

Energy Management System

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use a centralized energy management system that allows it to track energy consumption and performance in multiple buildings in a central location? :

Yes

A brief description of the management system :

George Mason University installed a comprehensive, integrated facility energy management system utilizing an Ethernet based system to link each facility to the energy management office. This program generated significant savings through improved monitoring and control capability for key systems: heating, cooling, ventilation and lighting. Verification of proper temperature, setpoints, setback or shutdown of systems, monitoring of energy usage real-time and detection of degraded energy efficiency would all contribute to more efficient operation and expected savings.

The percentage of building space monitored with a centralized energy management system :

A description of what systems are shut down during unoccupied periods :

The website URL where information about the institution's use of the technology is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/pc/projects.html>

Energy Metering

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution meter all energy consumption (electricity, natural gas, purchased steam, etc.) for at least one building? :

Yes

A brief description of the metering system :

George Mason University has separate meters for electric, natural gas, irrigation, potable water, and wastewater for the majority of its buildings.

The percentage of building space with energy metering :

The website URL where information about the metering system is available :

Grounds

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that plan and maintain their grounds with sustainability in mind. Beautiful and welcoming campus grounds can be planned, planted, and maintained in any region while minimizing the use of toxic chemicals, protecting wildlife habitat, and conserving water and resources.

Credit
Integrated Pest Management
Native Plants
Wildlife Habitat
Tree Campus USA
Snow and Ice Removal
Landscape Waste Composting

Integrated Pest Management

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's grounds are developed and maintained in accordance with an integrated pest management plan that adheres to the following four-tiered approach:

- 1) Set action thresholds
 - 2) Monitor and identify pests
 - 3) Prevention
 - 4) Control
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The size of the campus grounds :

559 Acres

The size of campus grounds that are maintained in accordance with a four-tiered IPM plan :

559 Acres

A brief description of the IPM plan(s) :

George Mason University (Mason) has several vendors that utilize an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) throughout the campuses within its buildings and on its grounds. For Mason's buildings and up to 15 feet of its exterior perimeter, the plan includes education; inspection; exclusion from the interior; client communication; monitoring; sanitation; mechanical and physical control; application of pesticides; quality control; and documentation. Reports are provided four days out of the week with weekly reviews with the vendor's area manager and quarterly reviews with the vendor's regional manager. Mason was inspected by the Virginia Department of Agriculture in March 2011 and no violations were found.

For all turfgrass, ornamental plants and mulched areas, the vendor will inspect, survey and monitor all applicable areas to determine the location, and levels of possible insect and disease infestations. Based on the results of the inspections, the vendor shall notify Mason of the need to apply unscheduled insecticides and fungicides to control insects and diseases which exceed acceptable thresholds and/or may

cause damage to, or be detrimental to, plant health. The vendor will recommend the insecticides/ fungicides types, dosage rates, number of applications, and location of areas to be treated to control infestation. The vendor shall not use pesticides that are phytotoxic to the host plants. On occasion, preventative control measures may be required to control potential insect and disease problems considered inevitable due to environmental conditions.

The website URL where information about the IPM plan(s) is available :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution prioritize the use of native plant species in landscaping? :

Yes

A brief description of the native plant program, policy, or practice :

Within George Mason University's (Mason) North Sector Plan and Design Guidelines on page 63, it states that a majority, with a minimum of 85%, of all new plants will be native or cultivars of native plants. The remainder of the other new plants, no more than 10%, will be non-invasive exotics.

Mason also has a native plant garden on its main campus which is a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat. Mason students installed this garden and Earth Sangha, a local non-profit focused on promoting the spread of local genetic stock native plants, provided the plants for the garden.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/masterplans/>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have programs in place to protect and/or create wildlife habitat on institution-owned land? :

Yes

A brief description of the wildlife habitat program, policy, or practice :

At George Mason University's (Mason) Fairfax campus, the native plant garden and the garden in the Child Development Center are National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitats. In addition, to minimize turf maintenance, the landscaping team has converted several areas to wildlife habitats that attract native insects and birds: Butterfly Gardens and Bumblebee Havens. Butterflies and moths, bumblebees, and birds (such as golden finches and hummingbirds) have been observed feeding on the flowers (or insects attracted to the blooms) at the sites.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/grounds/grounds/subProject.htm>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Is the institution recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Campus USA program? :

No

A brief description of the institution's Tree Campus USA program :

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Snow and Ice Removal

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution implemented technologies or strategies to reduce the environmental impacts of snow and ice removal? :

Yes

A brief description of the snow and ice removal program, policy, or practice :

George Mason University (Mason) follows the protocol of the Virginia Department of Transportation for the removal of snow and ice for the roads. Mason makes an effort to prudently manage the use of salt, sand, and chemicals to effectively remove the snow and ice, in consideration of limited state financial resources. In addition, for sidewalks, Mason uses magnesium chloride which is less corrosive, less abrasive, and less toxic to plant and animal life and surrounding waterways.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Landscape Waste Composting

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"--- " indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution compost or mulch waste from grounds keeping, including grass trimmings? :

Yes

A brief description of the composting or mulching program :

100% of the George Mason University's landscaping waste, from grass clippings to leaves, are composted or mulched.

The percentage of landscape waste that is mulched or composted onsite :

100

The percentage of landscape waste that is mulched or composted off-site :

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Purchasing

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are using their purchasing power to help build a sustainable economy. Collectively, colleges and universities spend many billions of dollars on goods and services annually. Each purchasing decision represents an opportunity for institutions to choose environmentally and socially preferable products and services and support companies with strong commitments to sustainability.

Credit
Computer Purchasing
Cleaning Products Purchasing
Office Paper Purchasing
Vendor Code of Conduct
Historically Underutilized Businesses
Local Businesses

Computer Purchasing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Silver or higher products. This can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives. This credit does not include specialized computers for which no EPEAT certified products are available. Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution purchases Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Silver and/or Gold registered products for standard desktop and notebook/laptop computers and monitors. This credit does not include specialized computers for which no EPEAT certified products are available.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase EPEAT Silver or higher computers and monitors? :

Yes

The website URL where the EPEAT policy, directive, or guidelines are posted :

<http://fiscal.gmu.edu/Departments/Purchasing/GreenPurchasingPolicy.pdf>

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed :

George Mason University's (Mason) green purchasing policies and preferences are included within its solicitation process. Mason works with vendors that share our commitment to sustainability.

Does the institution wish to pursue points for Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on EPEAT computers)? :

Yes

Expenditures on EPEAT Gold desktop and laptop computers and monitors :

1509517 *US/Canadian \$*

Expenditures on EPEAT Silver desktop and laptop computers and monitors :

295 *US/Canadian \$*

Total expenditures on desktop and laptop computers and monitors :

1522233 *US/Canadian \$*

Cleaning Products Purchasing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase Green Seal™ or EcoLogo™ certified cleaning products. The stated preference can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives to purchase green cleaning products. Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution's main cleaning or housekeeping department(s) and/or contractor(s) purchase Green Seal or EcoLogo certified cleaning products. This credit does not include cleaning products for which no Green Seal or EcoLogo certified products are available.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase Green Seal (tm) or EcoLogo (tm) certified cleaning products? :

Yes

The website URL where the green cleaning product purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines are posted :

<http://fiscal.gmu.edu/Departments/Purchasing/GreenPurchasingPolicy.pdf>

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed :

Within George Mason University's (Mason) policies, there is a preference that cleaning solvents and surfactants shall be biodegradable and phosphate free, citrus based, and Green Seal certified, where their use will not compromise quality of service. Mason works with vendors that share our commitment to sustainability and we have established Green Seal certified products, equipment, and practices as the foundation of our cleaning program.

Does the institution wish to pursue points for Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on cleaning products)? :

Yes

Expenditures on Green Seal and/or EcoLogo certified cleaning products :

582552 *US/Canadian \$*

Total expenditures on cleaning products :

654552 *US/Canadian \$*

A copy of the sections of the cleaning contract(s) that reference certified green products :

Office Paper Purchasing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase recycled content office paper. This can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives to purchase recycled content office paper. Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution purchases recycled content office paper.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase recycled content office paper? :

Yes

The URL where the recycled paper policy, directive, or guidelines are posted :

<http://fiscal.gmu.edu/Departments/Purchasing/GreenPurchasingPolicy.pdf>

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed :

George Mason University's (Mason) green purchasing policies and preferences are included within its solicitation process. Mason works with vendors that share our commitment to sustainability.

Does the institution wish to pursue points for Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on recycled paper)? :

Yes

Expenditures on 10-29 percent recycled-content office paper :

0 *US/Canadian \$*

Expenditures on 30-49 percent recycled-content office paper :

183220 *US/Canadian \$*

Expenditures on 50-69 percent recycled-content office paper :

0 *US/Canadian \$*

Expenditures on 70-89 percent recycled-content office paper (required if claiming points for Part 2) :

0 *US/Canadian \$*

Expenditures on 90-100 percent recycled-content office paper :

0 *US/Canadian \$*

Total expenditures on office paper :

193293 *US/Canadian \$*

Vendor Code of Conduct

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has and acts on a vendor code of conduct or equivalent policy that sets expectations about the social and environmental responsibility of vendors with whom the institution does business. Policies adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have and act on a vendor code of conduct or equivalent policy that sets expectations about the social and environmental responsibility of vendors with whom the institution does business? :

Yes

The website URL where the vendor code of conduct or equivalent policy is posted :

<http://www.eva.virginia.gov/dps/Manuals/docs/vppa.htm>

A copy of the vendor code of conduct or equivalent policy :

[VPPA_2010.pdf](#)

A brief description of programs and strategies institution has implemented to ensure the code is followed, including a brief description of instances when vendor code of conduct has changed purchasing behavior within the last five years, if applicable :

George Mason University (Mason) is a public institution of higher education within the state of Virginia. Therefore, it follows the procurement procedures and processes outlined by the state legislature. Mason chooses and works with vendors that share our commitment to sustainability. Within the Virginia 2.2-4311, the state requires that vendors must have within their contracts with the state the following: vendors must not discriminate because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or other basis. The vendor needs to advertise that it is an equal opportunity employer; must comply with federal, state, and local laws and federal immigration laws; required to comply with state laws; must be a drug free workplace; needs workers' compensation coverage. Within the act there are also preferences for vendors that are small businesses; businesses owned by women, minorities, and service disabled veterans; products with recycled content; products that have less toxicity; and Virginia based products and services.

Historically Underutilized Businesses

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution seek to support historically underutilized businesses, minority-owned businesses, and women owned-businesses? :

Yes

A brief description of how the institution meets the criteria :

The Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM) Program seeks to increase diversity in George Mason University's (Mason) vendor community. Mason seeks to procure at least 40% of its products from SWaM organizations.

Mason seeks to work with and communicate to the delegated purchasing community on a continuing basis to emphasize the importance of diversity in procurement.

Mason conducts training and outreach to ensure SWaM businesses gain access to university contracting opportunities.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://fiscal.gmu.edu/Departments/Purchasing/Purchasing%20main.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution give preference to local products and businesses in its purchasing decisions? Local food purchases, which are covered in OP Credit 6: Food Purchasing, are not included in this credit. :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University (Mason) is a public institution of higher education within the state of Virginia. Therefore, it follows the procurement procedures and processes outlined by the state legislature. Within the Virginia Public Procurement Act dated July 2010, in section 2.2-4324 on page 23, it states that preference shall be given to goods produced in Virginia, goods or services or construction provided by Virginia persons, firms, or corporations. In Mason's requests for proposals, it gives preference to local products and businesses.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://www.eva.virginia.gov/dps/Manuals/docs/vppa.htm>

Transportation

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are moving toward sustainable transportation systems. Transportation is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants that contribute to health problems such as heart and respiratory diseases and cancer. Due to disproportionate exposure, these health impacts are frequently more pronounced in low-income communities next to major transportation corridors. In addition, the extraction, production, and global distribution of fuels for transportation can damage environmentally and/or culturally significant ecosystems and may financially benefit hostile and/or oppressive governments.

At the same time, campuses can reap benefits from modeling sustainable transportation systems. Bicycling and walking provide human health benefits and mitigate the need for large areas of paved surface, which can help campuses to better manage storm water. Institutions may realize cost savings and help support local economies by reducing their dependency on petroleum-based fuels for transportation.

Credit
Campus Fleet
Student Commute Modal Split
Employee Commute Modal Split
Bicycle Sharing
Facilities for Bicyclists
Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
Mass Transit Programs
Condensed Work Week
Telecommuting
Carpool/Vanpool Matching
Cash-out of Parking
Carpool Discount
Local Housing
Prohibiting Idling
Car Sharing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution supports alternative fuel and power technology by including in its motorized vehicle fleet (cars, trucks, tractors, buses) vehicles that are:

1. Gasoline-electric hybrid
2. Diesel-electric hybrid
3. Plug-in hybrid
4. 100 percent electric
5. Fueled with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)
6. Hydrogen fueled
7. Fueled with B20 or higher biofuel for more than 6 months of the year; and/or
8. Fueled with E85 or higher ethanol for more than 6 months of the year.

For this credit, the institution's motorized fleet includes all institution-owned and operated vehicles that are used for transporting people and/or goods. Heavy construction equipment (e.g. excavators and pavers) and maintenance equipment (e.g. lawn-mowers and leaf blowers) are not included in this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Gasoline-electric, non-plug-in hybrid vehicles in the institution's fleet :

1

Diesel-electric, non-plug-in hybrid vehicles in the institution's fleet :

0

Plug-in hybrid vehicles in the institution's fleet :

0

100 percent electric vehicles in the institution's fleet :

38

Vehicles in the institution's fleet that are fueled with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) :

0

Hydrogen fueled vehicles in the institution's fleet :

0

Vehicles in the institution's fleet that are fueled with B20 or higher biofuel for more than 6 months of the year :

0

Vehicles in the institution's fleet that are fueled with E85 or higher ethanol for more than 6 months of the year :

0

Total number of vehicles in the institution's fleet, including all of the above :

226

Student Commute Modal Split

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's students commute to and from campus using more sustainable options such as walking, bicycling, vanpooling or carpooling, taking public transportation, riding motorcycles or scooters, riding a campus shuttle, or a combination of these options. Students who live on campus should be included in the calculation based on how they get to and from their classes.

Submission Note:

These results were gathered during a transportation survey in 2009. Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who use more sustainable commuting options :

17

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who commute with only the driver in the vehicle (excluding motorcycles and scooters) as their primary method of transportation :

83

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who walk, bicycle, or use other non-motorized means as their primary method of transportation. Please note that this may include on-campus residents :

6

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who vanpool or carpool as their primary method of transportation :

3

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who take a campus shuttle or public transportation as their primary method of transportation :

8

The percentage (0-100) of institution's students who use a motorcycle, scooter or moped as their primary method of transportation :

0

The website URL where information about alternative transportation is available :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/>

Employee Commute Modal Split

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's employees (faculty, staff, and administrators) commute to and from campus using more sustainable options such as walking, bicycling, vanpooling or carpooling, taking public transportation, riding motorcycles or scooters, riding a campus shuttle, or a combination of these options. Employees who live on campus should be included in the calculation based on how they get to and from their workplace.

Submission Note:

These results were gathered during a transportation survey in 2009. Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees that use more sustainable commuting options :

14

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees who commute with only the driver in the vehicle (excluding motorcycles and scooters) as their primary method of transportation :

86

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees who walk, bicycle, or use other non-motorized means as their primary method of transportation. Please note that this may include on-campus residents :

3

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees who vanpool or carpool as their primary method of transportation :

4

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees who take a campus shuttle or public transportation as their primary method of transportation :

7

The percentage (0-100) of institution's employees who use a motorcycle, scooter, or moped as their primary method of transportation :

0

The website URL where information about alternative transportation is available :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/>

Bicycle Sharing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data in this field is for FY 2012.

---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a bicycle-sharing program or participate in a local bicycle-sharing program? :

Yes

A brief description of the program, including an indication of its scope (e.g., the number of bicycles the program makes available, participation levels, etc.) :

Capital Bikeshare has over 1525+ bicycles in their network at over 160+ stations across Washington, D.C. and Arlington, VA. The bikes can be return it to any station near the rider's destination. There are 18 bikes near George Mason University's Arlington campus with another 10 being installed in front of Founders Hall.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Facilities for Bicyclists

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have indoor and secure bike storage, shower facilities, and lockers for bicycle commuters in at least one building? :

Yes

A brief description of the facilities :

In addition to having bike storage, shower facilities, and lockers for bicyclists at numerous buildings on campus, George Mason University has a Bicycle Commuter Benefit Program for its faculty and staff. A bicycle commuter receives a \$20 voucher each month good at area bike shops; two complimentary daily parking passes per month; and use of shower facility at the Recreation and Athletic Center and/or Aquatic Center without becoming a member.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/bikecommuterchoice.html>

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution developed a bicycle plan? :

Yes

A brief description of the plan :

Within George Mason University's (Mason) Transportation Master Plan, Mason has a transportation goal to reduce single occupancy vehicles on campus by 5% by 2014 and by 10% by 2020, from 2010 levels. Mason hopes to achieve this by investing in its transportation infrastructure including improving the network of bicycling routes on campus; supporting bicycle amenities such as more storage and shower facilities; and creating connections to surrounding bicycle facilities in the community.

Mason holds a semi-annual Bike to Mason Day to promote bicycling to campus. On average, 125 people participate in the Bike to Mason Days. Mason is a Silver rated Bicycle Friendly University.

The website URL where information about the plan is available :

http://transportation.gmu.edu/pdf/GMU_FairfaxCampus_TransMgmtPlan_Final.pdf

Mass Transit Programs

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer free or reduced price transit passes and/or operate a free campus shuttle? :

Yes

A brief description of the program(s), (s), including availability, participation levels, and specifics about discounts or subsidies offered (including pre-tax options) :

George Mason University (Mason) has a robust commuting program where:

--Mason Shuttles operates several different shuttles providing free service to Mason students and employees.

--Students, faculty, and staff ride free on Fairfax City buses with a valid ID.

--Full time employees commuting to work on public transportation can request up to \$125 per month from the State of Virginia to cover commuting costs.

In 2010, Mason employees and students made 330,000 trips by Fairfax City's Cue Bus and 600,000 trips by Mason shuttles. This makes a big impact on greenhouse gas emissions and these modes of transportation are more sustainable than driving alone.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/index.html>

Condensed Work Week

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer a condensed work week option for employees? The institution does not have to offer the option to all employees in order to earn this credit. :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University (Mason) strongly supports flexible work schedules for its employees. It has numerous flexible work options including a compressed work schedule, flextime, job sharing, remote work, and telework.

Mason has found that flexible work options can be a great strategic tool for supervisors for faculty/staff retention; continuity of operations; productivity enhancement; and extended office coverage (compressed schedules). For faculty and staff, the benefits are putting commuting time to a different purpose, reducing commuting costs, productivity enhancement, and work/life balance.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://hr.gmu.edu/worklife/flex/TypesofFlexibleWork.pdf>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer a telecommute program for employees? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University (Mason) strongly supports flexible work schedules for its employees. It has numerous flexible work options including a compressed work schedule, flextime, job sharing, remote work, and telework.

Mason has found that flexible work options can be a great strategic tool for supervisors for faculty/staff retention; continuity of operations; productivity enhancement; and extended office coverage (compressed schedules). For faculty and staff, the benefits are putting commuting time to a different purpose, reducing commuting costs, productivity enhancement, and work/life balance.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://hr.gmu.edu/worklife/flex/TypesofFlexibleWork.pdf>

Carpool/Vanpool Matching

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution participate in a carpool/vanpool matching program? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

Mason Zimride is a fun and easy way to share the seats in a car or catch a ride. With Zimride, participants can find friends, classmates, and coworkers going the same way. Mason Zimride helps participants offer or request rides for commutes, road trips, and popular events. If participants have a car, split costs by offering rides. If participants don't have a car, they can find rides where they need to go. Mason Zimride requires an @gmu.edu email address. Participants can also sign-in using a Facebook account if they are part of the George Mason University network.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://zimride.gmu.edu/>

Cash-out of Parking

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution allow commuters to cash out of parking spaces (i.e., it pays employees who do not drive to work)?

:

No

A brief description of the program :

While commuters cannot cash out of parking spaces, at George Mason University, those that carpool or use alternative methods of transportation can receive 2 free daily parking permits per month, which is worth approximately \$14. Full time employees commuting to work on public transportation can also request up to \$125 per month from the State of Virginia to cover commuting costs.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

Carpool Discount

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer reduced parking fees for car and van poolers? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

At George Mason University, car and van poolers can save money with a shared parking permit and reduced vehicle expenditures. Secondly, those that carpool can access 25 premium preferred parking spots. Finally, those that carpool or use alternative methods of transportation at least three days a week, can receive two free daily parking permits per month, which are valued at approximately \$14 per month.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://transportation.gmu.edu/>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have incentives or programs to encourage employees to live close to campus? :

Yes

A brief description of the incentives or programs :

George Mason University (Mason) has luxury apartments on campus for any Mason employee, graduate, or professional student to rent. Rental rates for this housing are priced slightly below market rates for comparable units. There is an established selection procedure which will prioritize applicants by categories with preference given to new faculty and staff.

The website URL where information about the incentives or programs is available :

<http://www.masonvale.com/fairfax-va-apartments.asp>

Prohibiting Idling

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution adopted a policy prohibiting idling? :

No

A brief description of the policy :

George Mason University has guidelines that prohibit idling for campus facilities vehicles and will investigate expanding it to a university-wide policy.

The website URL where information about the policy is available :

Car Sharing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution participate in a car sharing program, such as ZipCar or HourCar? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University (Mason) has 2 Zipcar available at Mason Pond on main campus and others available at nearby mass transit stops. Mason students, faculty, and staff can join Zipcar for only \$35/year.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://www.zipcar.com/gmu>

Waste

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are moving toward zero waste by reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting. These actions mitigate the need to extract virgin materials, such as trees and metals. It generally takes less energy and water to make a product with recycled material than with virgin resources. Reducing waste generation also reduces the flow of waste to incinerators and landfills which produce greenhouse gas emissions, can contaminate air and groundwater supplies, and tend to have disproportionate negative impacts on low-income communities. Waste reduction and diversion also save institutions costly landfill and hauling service fees. In addition, waste reduction campaigns can engage the entire campus community in contributing to a tangible sustainability goal.

Credit
Waste Reduction
Waste Diversion
Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion
Electronic Waste Recycling Program
Hazardous Waste Management
Materials Exchange
Limiting Printing
Materials Online
Chemical Reuse Inventory
Move-In Waste Reduction
Move-Out Waste Reduction

Waste Reduction

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has implemented source reduction strategies to reduce total waste generation (garbage, recycling, and compost) per weighted campus user compared to a 2005 baseline.

Total waste generation includes all materials recycled, composted, and disposed of as trash except construction, demolition, electronic, hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal and non-regulated chemical waste, which are covered in *OP Credit 19: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion*, *OP Credit 20: Electronic Waste Recycling Program*, and *OP Credit 21: Hazardous Materials Management*.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Weight of materials recycled, 2005 baseline year :

849 Tons

Weight of materials composted, 2005 baseline year :

0 Tons

Weight of materials disposed as garbage, 2005 baseline year :

2537 Tons

Weight of materials recycled, performance year :

927 Tons

Weight of materials composted, performance year :

0 Tons

Weight of materials disposed as garbage, performance year :

3292 Tons

List the start and end dates of the waste reduction performance year :

Jan 1, 2011 to Dec 31, 2011

On-campus residents, 2005 :

[STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

3840

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

14117

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

15182

On-campus residents, performance year :

5389

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

16997

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

15822

Time period for weighted campus user (list the consecutive 12 month period that most closely overlaps with waste reduction performance year) :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Indication of whether institution has a stated commitment to waste-reduction goals, such as zero waste :

No

A brief description of the plan of action to achieve waste reduction goals :

George Mason University has several programs to minimize our waste, responsibly purchase, and promote recycling. Mason has a green purchasing policy; a green cleaning program; a surplus store where departments across campus can get items for free; a book buyback and donation program; donating items from Patriot Pack Out during Move-Out in residential life; and recycles cardboard, white paper, mixed paper, 1 through 7 plastics, glass, aluminum, and metal.

The website URL where information about the institution's waste reduction initiatives is available :

<http://green.gmu.edu/campussustainability/wasteminandrecycling.html>

Waste Diversion

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution diverts materials from the landfill or incinerator by recycling, composting, reusing, donating, or re-selling.

This credit does not include construction, demolition, electronic, hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal and non-regulated chemical waste, which are covered in *OP Credit 19: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion*, *OP Credit 20: Electronic Waste Recycling Program*, and *OP Credit 21: Hazardous Materials Management*.

Submission Note:

Data for this field is from calendar year 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Materials recycled, composted, reused, donated, re-sold, or otherwise diverted :

932 Tons

Materials disposed in a solid waste landfill or incinerator :

3292 Tons

A brief description of programs, policies, infrastructure investments, outreach efforts, and/or other factors that contributed to the diversion rate :

George Mason University (Mason) has several programs that divert waste, primarily its recycling program; Patriot Pack Out, its residential halls move-out program; and its surplus program. Mason was not able to include its surplus program at this time since transactions are tracked in dollars and not in weight.

Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution diverts non-hazardous construction and demolition waste from the landfill and/or incinerator.

Soil and organic debris from excavating or clearing the site do not count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Amount of construction and demolition materials recycled, donated, or otherwise recovered :

9016 Tons

Amount of construction and demolition materials landfilled or incinerated :

9454 Tons

A brief description of programs, policies, infrastructure investments, outreach efforts, and/or other factors that contribute to the diversion rate for construction and demolition waste :

George Mason University (Mason) has committed to designing and constructing buildings that meet, at the minimum, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards and the Virginia Energy Conservation and Environmental Standards. Within LEED, there are credits associated with construction and demolition waste diversion which the university tracks. While Mason has its buildings built to LEED Silver standards and the Virginia Energy Conservation and Environmental Standards, Mason has limited budget to complete the LEED certification process for each new building. Therefore, LEED Silver or higher certification is pursued for a limited number of Mason's new buildings. Within the nine buildings completed at Mason in FY10, two are registered for the LEED Silver certification. The numbers listed above are for those projects. The construction and demolition waste for the other projects are the responsibility of the contractors and responsibly disposed of but not specifically tracked.

Electronic Waste Recycling Program

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has a program in place to recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish all electronic waste generated by the institution. Institution takes measures to ensure that the electronic waste is recycled responsibly.

Part 2

Institution has a program in place to recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish electronic waste generated by students. Institution takes measures to ensure that the electronic waste is recycled responsibly.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program in place to recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish all electronic waste generated by the institution and take measures to ensure that the electronic waste is recycled responsibly? :

Yes

Does the institution have a program in place to recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish electronic waste generated by students and take measures to ensure that the electronic waste is recycled responsibly? :

No

A brief description of steps taken to ensure that e-waste is recycled responsibly, workers' basic safety is protected, and environmental standards are met :

George Mason University (Mason) has an environmental, health, and safety office that monitors, audits, recycles and/or disposes of Mason's chemical, hazardous, universal and a select amount of electronic waste safely. Mason's EHS office has a program to collect and recycle rechargeable batteries, printer cartridges, and cell phones. For surplus computers and electronic equipment, these are collected by Mason's surplus program for reuse by other departments within the university or are auctioned off if there are no interested parties.

A brief description of the electronic waste recycling program for institution-generated materials :

George Mason University (Mason) has a program to recycle rechargeable batteries, printer cartridges, and cell phones. For surplus computers and electronic equipment, these are collected by Mason's surplus program for reuse by other departments within the university or are auctioned off if there are no interested parties.

A brief description of the electronic waste recycling program for student-generated materials :

The website URL where information about the e-waste recycling program is available :

Hazardous Waste Management

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has strategies in place to safely dispose of all hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste and seeks to minimize the presence of these materials on campus.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have strategies in place to safely dispose of all hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste and seek to minimize the presence of these materials on campus? :

Yes

A brief description of steps taken to reduce hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste :

The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) department at George Mason University (Mason) tracks waste disposal costs and tonnage, and actively works with faculty and staff to identify ways to minimize waste streams.

A brief description of how the institution safely disposes of hazardous, universal, and non-regulated chemical waste :

George Mason University (Mason) trains personnel who generate hazardous waste on proper handling of wastes, as well as how to store waste until it is collected by the Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) department. Training includes how to determine if a waste is hazardous, how to store waste, and completing and labeling of waste containers. EHS collects hazardous waste from the university's laboratories and Facilities shops, and segregates these wastes according to hazard class until the waste can be picked up for transport to a treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facility.

Mason utilizes hazardous waste disposal companies that are approved to transport wastes to TSD facilities. Whenever possible, Mason works with companies that are also approved to operate TSD facilities. By working with waste disposal companies operating their own TSD facilities, this reduces the amount of transport necessary prior to final disposition of the university's wastes. As required by the US Environmental Protection Agency, EHS maintains copies of all hazardous waste manifests.

The website URL where information about hazardous materials management is available :

<http://ehs.gmu.edu/index.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a surplus department or formal office supplies exchange program that facilitates reuse of materials? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University (Mason) collects surplus equipment and furniture from departments all over campus. Reusable equipment and furniture are stored at the warehouse to be redistributed to any Mason departments. After a period of time, the items get auctioned and the proceeds go to the state.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

<http://fiscal.gmu.edu/Departments/Central%20Receiving/surplus.html>

Limiting Printing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution limit free printing for students in all computer labs and libraries? :

Yes

A brief description of how printing is limited :

In the last few years, George Mason University's Print Services eliminated the ability for students, faculty, and staff to use printers for free on campus, and started charging for paper. As a result, paper usage plummeted within the year this change took place.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Is the institution's default not to print course catalogs, course schedules, and directories, but instead make these materials available online? :

Yes

A brief description of the practice :

George Mason University (Mason) is a state institution of higher education within Virginia. As such, Mason follows and implements executive orders enacted by the Governor of Virginia. Within Virginia Executive Order 19 (2010) it states Virginia's government must set the example in its use of all resources. Every effort should be made for publications of the executive branch agencies and institutions to be published in electronic form only, unless there is a statutory or regulatory requirement to the contrary, or a substantial portion of the intended recipients of the publication cannot be reached electronically.

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/physicalplant/energy/policies/main.html>

Chemical Reuse Inventory

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution implemented a campus-wide inventory system to facilitate the reuse of laboratory chemicals? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

George Mason University's (Mason) Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) works with laboratory faculty and staff to identify unused chemicals that could be utilized by another instructor or research team. When these chemicals are identified, EHS sends an email to the appropriate Lab Safety Liaisons to notify them of the type and amount of chemical available. Unless a researcher or instructor has requested that EHS flag a particular chemical for them, the unused chemicals are available on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Once the chemicals have been tagged for the appropriate researcher(s), EHS arranges for the researcher to retrieve, deliver, and transport the chemical(s) to the recipient laboratory.

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

Move-In Waste Reduction

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data for this field was for FY 2012.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program to reduce residence hall move-in waste? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

Housing and Residence Life collects and compresses cardboard boxes, gives out reuseable water bottles, and provides move-in room assignments and information electronically as part of its move-in program.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

Move-Out Waste Reduction

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program to reduce residence hall move-out waste? :

Yes

A brief description of the program :

In order to facilitate waste reduction at George Mason University (Mason), the Office of Community Relations, in collaboration with the Office of Recycling and Waste Management, instituted an end-of-year move-out recycling program in 2007 called Patriot Pack Out. Through this streamlined, low cost, volunteer outreach program, resident students who are leaving for the summer are encouraged to conveniently donate unwanted clothes and appliances, as well as unopened food items, which are delivered to charities benefitting our local community. In the past, these items would have just been left behind in the residence halls for university waste management staff to clear, attempt to separate, and haul to appropriate locations.

In 2010, Mason collected a total of 8,180 pounds of recyclable materials from the Patriot Pack Out Program. From this collection, the university donated 1,384 pounds of food to Food for Others. It has been estimated that 1 pound of food = 1 meal. Based on a family of four, Mason's donation to Food for Others fed 346 families. The university also donated 6,796 pounds of clothing and small appliances to the Clock Tower Thrift Shop in Falls Church, which benefits Northern Virginia Family Services (NVFS). The Director of Business Services for NVFS estimates a revenue value of \$26,721 toward their programs benefitting Fairfax County families.

The website URL where information about the program is available :

http://communityrelations.gmu.edu/patriot_pack_out/ppo_index.html

Water

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are conserving water and making efforts to protect water quality. Pumping, delivering, and treating water is a major energy user, so institutions can help reduce energy consumption and the greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy generation by conserving water. Likewise, conservation and effective stormwater management are important in maintaining and protecting finite groundwater supplies. Water conservation and effective stormwater management also reduce the need for effluent discharge into local surface water supplies, which helps improve the health of local water ecosystems.

Credit
Water Consumption
Stormwater Management
Waterless Urinals
Building Water Metering
Non-Potable Water Usage
Xeriscaping
Weather-Informed Irrigation

Water Consumption

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has reduced its total water consumption per weighted campus user compared to a 2005 baseline.

Total water consumption includes both potable and non-potable water.

Submission Note:

Water consumption is in KGAL units for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Water consumption, 2005 baseline year :

133082 Gallons

Water consumption, performance year :

192574 Gallons

List the start and end dates of the water consumption performance year :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

On-campus residents, 2005 :

3840

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

14117

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, 2005 :

15182

On-campus residents, performance year :

5389

Non-residential/commuter full-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

STARS Reporting Tool | AASHE | Sierra Magazine

16997

Non-residential/commuter part-time students, faculty, and staff members, performance year :

15822

Time period for weighted campus user (list the consecutive 12 month period that most closely overlaps with water consumption performance year) :

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Indication of whether institution has a stated commitment to water use reduction goals :

A brief description of the plan of action to achieve water use reduction goals :

The website URL where information about the institution's water conservation initiatives is available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/campussustainability/water.html>

Stormwater Management

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has adopted a stormwater management policy, plan, and/or strategies that mitigate the stormwater runoff impacts of new construction, major renovation, and other projects that increase paved surface area on campus or otherwise significantly change the campus grounds.

The policy, plan, and/or strategies address both the quantity and quality (or contamination level) of stormwater runoff.

The policy, plan, and/or strategies cover the entire campus. While the specific strategies or practices adopted may vary depending on project type and location, this credit is reserved for institutions that mitigate stormwater runoff impacts consistently during new construction. Implementing a strategy or strategies for only one new development project is not sufficient for this credit.

Policies adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution has adopted a stormwater management policy, plan, or strategies that mitigate the stormwater runoff impacts of ongoing campus operations.

The policy, plan, or strategies address both the quantity and quality (or contamination level) of stormwater runoff.

Though specific practices adopted may vary across the campus, the policy, plan, and/or strategies cover the entire institution. Implementing strategies for only one building or area of campus is not sufficient for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a policy, plan, and/or strategies to reduce stormwater runoff from new development projects? :

Yes

Does the institution have a policy, plan, and/or strategies to reduce stormwater runoff from ongoing campus

operations? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's stormwater management initiatives :

The Storm Water Management Program at George Mason University (Mason) consists of minimizing the impacts of runoff associated with land disturbance such as flooding, erosion and water pollution. Due to current developmental expansion, Mason's goal is to find cost-effective alternatives that provide water quantity and quality control while complying with laws and regulations. Moreover, as land disturbing activities take place, Mason continues to incorporate measures that protect and/or improve natural areas during and after construction. In addition to the ongoing efforts to preserve the natural landscape, Mason strives to reduce impervious areas as much as possible and create more vegetated regions.

The website URL where information about the institution's stormwater management initiatives, plan or policy is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/planning/PoliciesStandardCodes.htm>

Does the institution have a living or vegetated roof? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's living or vegetated roof :

In 2006, George Mason University constructed its first vegetated roof located in Fairfax campus, outside of Research I building. The facility covers an area of approximately 64 X 16 square feet filled with a variety of hardy and aesthetically pleasant plants that seamlessly blend into landscaping. The filtration properties of this facility help to eliminate pollutants while reducing storm water runoff.

Does the institution have porous paving? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's porous paving :

In the ongoing effort to reducing impervious areas, George Mason University (Mason) continues to enhance the implementation of porous pavement. Mason currently contains more than one acre of pervious pavement in Fairfax campus. Permeable pavement is mainly used in low-traffic areas such as back roads, housing facilities and bike racks. The use of pervious pavement not only reduces the runoff concentrations but also enhances the natural process of filtration.

Does the institution have retention ponds? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's retention ponds :

George Mason University (Mason) has currently two retention (wet) ponds serving as both storm water management (SWM) and best management practice (BMP) facilities. The first retention pond is located on the south-east portion of Fairfax Campus (Mason Pond). Mason Pond treats approximately 125 acres, which is equivalent to more than a third of the total campus area. It retains nearly 8 acre-feet of storm water and it outfalls into an existing detention pond (Braddock Pond) located south-west of campus. The second pond (Prince STARS Reporting Tool | AASHE | Sierra Magazine

William Pond) is located in the middle of Prince William campus and it treats close to 60 acres of the site. Prince William Pond discharges into an existing unnamed tributary.

Does the institution have stone swales? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's stone swales :

Though not engineered, George Mason University's Grounds Department utilizes existing river stone swales as a method to mitigate existing drainage problems.

Does the institution have vegetated swales? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's vegetated swales :

At George Mason University (Mason) there are several vegetated swales which treat, convey and partially infiltrate storm water runoff at different locations of Fairfax and Prince William Campus. In some cases, these swales are implemented in conjunction with other structures such as check dams, which are used to slow runoff and enhance infiltration, where steep slopes are present. Such swales are vegetated with water-resistant plants. A variety of small grass swales can also be found on the west side of Fairfax Campus; these work essentially as drainage ditches, but they latently provide more infiltration and pollutant removal. All of Mason's existing swales are used mostly as pre-treatment for other existing SWM/BMP facilities.

Does the institution employ any other technologies or strategies for stormwater management? :

Yes

A brief description of other technologies or strategies for stormwater management employed :

Other technologies used in storm water management at George Mason University (Mason) include:

1. Detention Ponds: There are two existing detention (dry) ponds used as both SWM and BMP facilities.
 - a. Krasnow Pond: Located north-east of Fairfax Campus. It treats a drainage area of 7.5 acres and outfalls into an existing unnamed tributary.
 - b. FSH Pond: Located north-east of Fairfax campus. It treats a drainage area of 14.7 acres and outfalls into an existing unnamed tributary.
2. Extended Detention Ponds:

Braddock Pond: Located south-west of Fairfax Campus. It treats a drainage area of 190 acres and serves as an outfall for Mason's East Fairfax Campus.

3. Rain Gardens:

Mason has three rain gardens located on north-east portion of the Fairfax Campus. Each rain garden is composed of a variety of native perennial plant species, which require minimal maintenance (wildflowers, shrubs and small trees). Rain gardens allow the storm water to penetrate into the ground and restore the water table, while simultaneously removing pollutants.

4. Grasscrete: A pre-fabricated structure made out of reinforced concrete with voids to be filled with grass. Grasscrete has been installed as an alternative to ordinary concrete in different locations within Fairfax and Prince William campuses, such as, fire access roads, low-traffic roads, and other areas where emergency traffic is required. Its drainage capabilities are roughly the same as regular grass; therefore, Grasscrete has been beneficial in Mason's effort to reduce impervious areas.

Waterless Urinals

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use at least one waterless urinal? :

Yes

A brief description of the technology employed :

George Mason University has several Zurn Waterless Urinals within the Volgenau School of Engineering.

The website URL where information about the technology is available :

Building Water Metering

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have building-level water consumption meters for at least one building? :

Yes

A brief description of the water metering employed :

Many of George Mason University's buildings have potable water and wastewater meters.

The percentage of building space with water metering :

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

Non-Potable Water Usage

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data from this field is for FY 2012.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use non-potable water (e.g., harvested rainwater or graywater) for irrigation and/or other applications? :

Yes

A brief description of the source of non-potable water and how it is used :

The George Mason University's Child Development Center Garden has a new irrigation system from Water Management, Inc. The irrigation system utilizes rainwater to water the garden.

The percentage of irrigation water usage from recovered, reclaimed or untreated sources :

0

The percentage of building space using water from recovered, reclaimed or untreated sources :

0

The percentage of water used in utility plants from recovered, reclaimed or untreated sources :

0

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use xeriscape landscaping techniques, including the selection of drought tolerant plants? :

Yes

A brief description of the program or practice :

George Mason University uses a majority of native plants, which are appropriate to the regional climate and therefore need less maintenance and watering.

The website URL where information about the program or practice is available :

Weather-Informed Irrigation

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use weather data or weather sensors to automatically adjust irrigation practices? :

Yes

A brief description of how weather data or sensors are used :

On George Mason University's (Mason) Fairfax campus there are sensor technologies in place where if the sensors detect rainfall, it will override the irrigation schedule. On Mason's Prince William campus, the irrigation system takes into consideration weather data and adjusts its irrigation practices accordingly.

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

Planning, Administration & Engagement

Coordination and Planning

This subcategory seeks to recognize colleges and universities that are institutionalizing sustainability by dedicating resources to sustainability coordination, incorporating sustainability into their primary campus plans, and developing plans to move towards sustainability. Staff and other resources help an institution organize, implement, and publicize sustainability initiatives. These resources provide the infrastructure that fosters sustainability within an institution. Strategic and physical campus plans guide an institution and its physical development. These important documents establish an institution's priorities and influence budgeting and decision making. Incorporating sustainability into these plans is an important step in making sustainability a campus priority and may help advocates implement sustainable changes. Sustainability plans and climate plans provide a road map for how to achieve sustainability goals.

Credit
Sustainability Coordination
Strategic Plan
Physical Campus Plan
Sustainability Plan
Climate Action Plan

Sustainability Coordination

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a sustainability committee, office, and/or coordinator that are tasked by the administration or board of trustees to advise on and implement policies and programs related to sustainability on campus.

The committee, office, and/or coordinator focus on sustainability broadly (i.e. not just one sustainability issue, such as climate change) and cover the entire institution. A committee, office, or coordinator that focuses on just one department or school within the institution does not count for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a sustainability committee? :

Yes

The charter or mission statement of the committee or a brief description of the committee's purview and activities :

The Executive Steering Committee at George Mason University (Mason) has the responsibility to ensure the highest-impact sustainability projects are prioritized and funded. They will provide guidance to the Office of Sustainability on university priority and will advocate for high-impact sustainability projects with the senior executive staff at Mason.

Responsibilities:

- Set goals and priorities for university sustainability
- Make recommendations to the budget group about how the university budget should support these goals and priorities
- Review progress against established goals and priorities

Members of the committee, including affiliations :

Tom Ashcraft, School of Art
Guilbert Brown, Budgeting and Planning
Tom Calhoun, Facilities
Barbara Clark, Fiscal Services

Rick Davis, Undergraduate Education
Sharon deMonsabert, Engineering
Kimberly Eby, Faculty Development
Joy Hughes, Chief Information Officer
Alissa Karton, University Life
Mark Kraner, Auxiliary Enterprises
Christine LaPaille, University Relations
Laura Phelps, Information Technology Unit
Paul Schopf, Oceanography
Daniel Sklarew, Provost's Office
Mark Stahley, Budget and Planning
Lenna Storm, Office of Sustainability
Daniel Walsch, University Relations
Daniel Waxman, Auxiliary Enterprises
Martha Wescoat-Andes, College of Science
Andrew Wingfield, New Century College

The website URL where information about the sustainability committee is available :

Does the institution have a sustainability office? :

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability office :

The mission of the sustainability office is to use the strengths of George Mason University - innovation, responsiveness, flexibility, and community strength - to provide leadership in environmental, social, and economic stewardship on our campuses and throughout the local and global communities of which we are a part.

The responsibilities of the Sustainability Office include:

- Provide a strategic direction for the evolution of sustainability on Mason's campuses.
- Provide policy recommendations to the administration that improve our operational efficiency and contribute to our long-term economic and environmental sustainability.
- Assist in the creation of processes and standards across campus that promote the sustainability of Mason.
- Collaborate with faculty, staff, and students to create a central hub for communicating sustainability initiatives.
- Coordinate the activities of the Executive Steering Committee.
- Participate in the coordination of campus-wide awareness and engagement campaigns, such as Earth Week, Green Rush, Fall for the Book, and others.
- Work with the Provost's Office to encourage the integration of sustainability principles into curricula across the university.
- Interface with local, regional, and national organizations and working groups that can further the sustainability interests of George Mason University.
- Implementing a climate action plan that will lead Mason to climate neutrality as per the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

The number of people employed in the sustainability office :

The website URL where information about the sustainability office is available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/about/index.html>

Does the institution have a sustainability coordinator? :

Yes

Sustainability coordinator's name :

Ms. Lenna Storm

Sustainability coordinator's position title :

University Sustainability Manager

A brief description of the sustainability coordinator's position :

The Sustainability Manager responsibilities include integrating sustainability activities into course work, promoting student campaigns to spread awareness at the grass-roots level, working with department heads to discuss ways they can “green” their operations, coordinating a comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory in support of Mason’s commitment to climate neutrality, developing a sustainability program budget, seeking related grant opportunities, establishing standards and policies that can be implemented at the university level, and using her business sense and her knowledge in environmental science and policy to educate at the executive level and suggest policy changes that will help balance the financial pressures of going green with realistic sustainability needs.

The website URL where information about the sustainability coordinator is available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/about/staff.html>

Strategic Plan

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's current, formally adopted strategic plan or equivalent guiding document includes sustainability at a high level. The plan covers the entire institution.

An amendment to the strategic plan may count for this credit, as long as the institution always presents the amendment with the original plan.

Neither a physical campus plan (which is covered in *PAE Credit 3: Physical Campus Plan*) nor an independent sustainability plan (which is covered in *PAE Credit 5: Sustainability Plan*) counts for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Year the strategic plan or equivalent was completed or adopted :

2008

Does the institution's strategic plan or equivalent guiding document include the environmental dimensions of sustainability at a high level? :

Yes

A brief description of how the strategic plan or amendment addresses the environmental dimensions of sustainability :

As part of Goal Five in George Mason University's (Mason) Strategic Goals for 2014, Mason strives to extend global and local awareness in the environmental area. Mason will follow the following strategic actions to accomplish that:

Goal 5-6: Integrate sustainability into both academic and extracurricular programs. Teaching next generations about the importance of environmental stewardship should be a goal for all programming on campus supported by the office of the Provost and the office of University Life. In research and education alike, and as a focus for Mason's collaborations with universities and scientific centers in other parts of the world, there should be expansion of inter-unit activity involving Environmental Science and Policy, the strong University activities in climate dynamics and earth observation, conflict analysis and communication.

Goal 5-7: Measurably advance toward achieving climate neutrality. Global citizenship includes monitoring the carbon footprint the

University makes. Achieving climate neutrality is essential for academic institutions as centers for research on means of achieving this neutrality.

Does the institution's strategic plan or equivalent guiding document include the social dimensions of sustainability at a high level? :

Yes

A brief description of how the strategic plan or amendment addresses the social dimensions of sustainability :

In addition to incorporating sustainability into its academic and extracurricular programs and advancing towards climate neutrality, within George Mason University's (Mason) Strategic Goals for 2014, Goal Three is to develop systems that enhance program quality and build on Mason's history as a university that embraces diversity; Goal 3-3 states that Mason will devise a recruitment strategy to attract racially and ethnically diverse faculty and staff; Goal 2-4 states that Mason will maintain programs and services for historically underrepresented student populations; part of Goal Five also states that Mason will develop more fully as a global university to promote increasing global competence among students; and Goal Six states that Mason will build upon productive relationships in the community.

Does the institution's strategic plan or equivalent guiding document include the economic dimensions of sustainability at a high level? :

Yes

A brief description of how the strategic plan or amendment addresses the economic dimensions of sustainability :

In addition to incorporating sustainability into its academic and extracurricular programs and advancing towards climate neutrality, and the additional programs mentioned above, within George Mason University's (Mason) Strategic Plan for 2014, Goal 3-1 states that Mason will also achieve competitive compensation for faculty and staff; Goal Two states that Mason will assure student access to an affordable college education; Goal 2-3 strives to increase financial aid and scholarships to competitive levels with peer institutions; and Goal 4-2 states that Mason will work with economic development agencies to provide programs, training, and interaction consistent with mutual development strategies.

The website URL where information about the strategic plan is available :

http://provost.gmu.edu/documents/FINAL_Strategic_Goals_for_2014.pdf

Physical Campus Plan

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's current plan for its physical campus (commonly referred to as the campus master plan) includes sustainability at a high level.

An amendment to the plan may count for this credit, as long as the institution always presents the amendment with the original plan.

Neither a strategic plan (which is covered in *PAE Credit 2: Strategic Plan*) nor an independent sustainability plan (which is covered in *PAE Credit 4: Sustainability Plan*) counts for this credit.

Plans developed at the system level are eligible for this credit. Likewise, multiple plans which together cover the institution's entire physical campus are eligible for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution's physical campus plan include sustainability at a high level? :

Yes

A brief description of how the physical campus plan or amendment includes sustainability :

Within George Mason University's (Mason) 2002 master plan, it incorporated strategies to efficiently use its land resources for development; promoted a pedestrian and bicycle friendly campus; outlined transportation strategies; and strategically preserved woodlands, wetlands, and waterways to maintain the campus image and provided for ecological diversity. It also established 'ecological corridors' following drainage ways, streams, and topography, that buffered development, preserved essential natural features and provided for a connective network of walking trails and bikeways.

Within Mason's 2009 North Sector Master Plan and Design Guidelines, it built upon the 2002 master plan and encouraged a park concept; has sound practices for storm water management; restoration; resource efficiency; retention of natural species and habitat; and construction to LEED standards.

The year the physical campus plan was developed or adopted :

2002

The website URL where the physical campus plan is available :

<http://facilities.gmu.edu/masterplans/universitymasterplan.pdf>

Sustainability Plan

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a sustainability plan that was developed with input from faculty, staff, and students. The plan includes measurable goals with corresponding strategies and timeframes to achieve the goals. The plan need not be formally adopted.

The plan covers multiple sustainability topics and issues. Plans focused exclusively on climate change, which are covered by *PAE Credit 5: Climate Plan*, are not eligible for this credit.

Strategic or master plans that cover sustainability may count for this credit if they meet the other criteria outlined above.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a sustainability plan that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of how multiple stakeholder groups were involved in developing the plan :

George Mason University (Mason) has implemented an organizational and decision making structure for sustainability-the Executive Steering Committee for Sustainability. The Steering Committee consists of various groups on campus from students, administration, facilities, academics, research, auxiliary enterprises, technology, and art. Each of these groups has a different purpose and goals, but together ensures the vertical and horizontal integration of sustainability activities with the entire campus community.

A brief description of the plan's measurable goals :

In 20 years, George Mason University (Mason):

- Mason is carbon-neutral, employing all possible renewable energy sources before purchasing renewable energy credits to offset remaining emissions
- Has an active and solvent Sustainability Endowment Fund to fund capital projects, research fellowships, and grant-matching opportunities in place
- All new buildings are constructed with low-impact development standards and innovative practices using whole-systems thinking
- All old buildings are reused and renovated to the highest standards of efficiency and livability in mind

- Open space has been preserved and diversified into various types of uses, to accommodate the varied needs of an active campus community
- Affordable and healthy temporary and permanent housing is made available for faculty and staff who wish to reduce their commute time to work
- All students are required to participate in a minimum number of service learning hours to promote sustainability on campus in order to graduate; all students are exposed to sustainability principles in their coursework where applicable
- Fleet vehicles are all run on biofuels or electricity
- Mason's campuses are walkable and bikable not only on campus but getting to and from campus; electric shuttles are provided for on-campus transportation where possible
- Organic, local, and alternative food options are available to all on-campus diners
- Mason recycles a majority of our total waste by weight
- Sustainable purchasing policies inform and enforce low-impact options for all major items purchased on campus
- Fair trade, organic, and sweatshop-free products are the standard practice when providing goods and services to the campus community
- The campus is a functional self-sustaining city in its own right, making it an enjoyable place to live, work, and relax by employing smart design practices for sustainable communities
- All employees of the university are treated with respect and paid a living wage appropriate for the surrounding area
- All faculty and staff are encouraged to lead one community-based service activity that includes their students every year and integrates real-world learning opportunities

A brief description of how progress in meeting the plan's goals is measured :

Metrics will be reported in progress updates to the ACUPCC and within Mason's Strategic Plan, Transportation Master Plan, and University Master Plan processes. Metrics include reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; establishment and fundraising for sustainability focused funds; number of buildings that meet US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver or higher standards; space density calculations for Mason's campuses; number of fleet vehicles that run on electricity or alternative energy sources; percent of food options that are locally grown, organic, or sustainable sourced; percent of recycling; survey results of Mason's Quality of Worklife Task Force (QWL); community service hours and service learning hours to name a few metrics.

The website URL where more information about the sustainability plan is available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/about/vision.html>

The year the plan was developed or last updated :

2008

Climate Action Plan

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a formal plan to mitigate its greenhouse gas emissions. The plan includes a measurable, numerical goal or goals and a corresponding date or dates by which the institution aims to achieve its goal(s). The plan has been adopted by the institution's administration.

A formal sustainability plan (i.e. a plan that has been adopted by the administration) counts for this credit if it includes climate change goals, strategies, and corresponding timeframes. Such a plan may also count toward *PAE Credit 4: Sustainability Plan*.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a plan to mitigate its greenhouse gas emissions that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief summary of the climate plan's long-term goals :

By 2020, George Mason University aims to have a 50% reduction in energy intensity metrics from its 2006 baseline and a 20% reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions. By 2050, George Mason will achieve an 80% reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions from its 2006 baseline.

A brief summary of the climate plan's short-term goals :

By 2014, the University will maintain its net greenhouse gas emissions at 2006 levels and decrease energy intensity metrics by 10% from 2006 baseline, or about 2% per year starting in 2010.

Year the climate plan was formally adopted or approved :

2010

An indication of whether institution has made a commitment to reduce GHG emissions a specific amount by a target

year :

Yes

List which emissions (scope 1, 2, and/or 3) are included in its GHG emissions commitment :

Total scopes 1, 2, and 3 emissions

The reduction level (percentage) institution has committed to :

20%

The baseline year the institution used in its GHG emissions commitment :

June 30, 2006

The baseline emissions level institution used in its GHG emissions commitment :

99548

The target year the institution specified in its GHG emissions commitment :

June 30, 2020

The website URL where information about the climate plan is available :

http://rs.acupcc.org/site_media/uploads/cap/84-cap.pdf

Diversity and Affordability

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are working to advance diversity and affordability on campus. In order to build a sustainable society, diverse groups will need to be able to come together and work collaboratively to address sustainability challenges. People of color and low-income communities tend to suffer disproportionate exposure to environmental problems. This environmental injustice happens as a result of unequal and segregated communities. To achieve environmental and social justice, society must work to address discrimination and promote equality. The historical legacy and persistence of discrimination based on racial, gender, religious, and other differences makes a proactive approach to promoting a culture of inclusiveness an important component of creating an equitable society. Higher education opens doors to opportunities that can help create a more equitable world, and those doors must be open through affordable programs accessible to all regardless of race, gender, religion, socio-economic status and other differences. In addition, a diverse student body, faculty, and staff provide rich resources for learning and collaboration.

Credit
Diversity and Equity Coordination
Measuring Campus Diversity Culture
Support Programs for Underrepresented Groups
Support Programs for Future Faculty
Affordability and Access Programs
Gender Neutral Housing
Employee Training Opportunities
Student Training Opportunities

Diversity and Equity Coordination

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a diversity and equity committee, office, and/or coordinator that are tasked by the administration or board of trustees to advise on and implement policies, programs, and trainings related to diversity and equity on campus.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a diversity and equity committee? :

No

The charter or mission statement of the committee or a brief description of the committee's purview and activities :

George Mason University does not have a centralized diversity and equity committee because coordination of diversity initiatives and programs, across campus, is decentralized. There are multiple groups, boards and committees located in various academic and nonacademic units that perform these functions.

Members of the committee, including job titles and affiliations :

The website URL where information about the diversity and equity committee is available :

Does the institution have a diversity and equity office? :

Yes

A brief description of the diversity office :

The Office of Equity and Diversity Services (OEDS) monitors the university's continuing commitment to equal opportunity in its employment and educational practices. The OEDS reports to the president of the university and is responsible for the implementation of all equal opportunity policies, including the disability reasonable accommodation policy and the administration of the discrimination

grievance procedures. Through educational workshops, the OEDS ensures that members of the campus community understand their rights and responsibilities, specifically in regard to maintaining a learning and working environment free from illegal discrimination. It works collaboratively with other campus entities and the surrounding community to ensure physical and program access for persons with disabilities and to create, design, and disseminate programs that bring diverse people together in an encouraging and welcoming environment.

The number of people employed in the diversity office :

12

The website URL where information about the diversity and equity office is available :

<http://equity.gmu.edu/>

Does the institution have a diversity and equity coordinator? :

Yes

Diversity coordinator's name :

Mr. Corey Jackson

Diversity coordinator's position title :

Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity Services

A brief description of the diversity coordinator's position :

The Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity Services (AP&D) is the chief diversity coordinator at Mason. This position is a direct report to the president of the university and leads a staff of twelve full-time employees.

The AP&D leads the university's efforts to ensure the educational benefits of a diverse student body and workforce. He or she helps design, review, plan, and implement programs and organizational efforts that ensure a diverse and inclusive workforce and student body; works collaboratively with all the academic and administrative units on campus and with the surrounding community; and ensures that the link between diversity and excellence is understood and integrated into the university community. Specifically, the AP&D uses his or her skills to effect change in a large, complex organizational environment in order to:

- Implement new and innovative multicultural programs, diversity programs, and/or affirmative action-equal opportunity programs;
- Coordinate efforts that deal with diversity and human resource case management, student diversity programs, and employee programs that implement diversity efforts;
- Provide leadership within a collaborative environment and act as a skilled change agent and consensus builder;
- Responsible for the investigation and resolution of student and employee complaints of discrimination and will advise administration about resolving them through investigative and other intervention techniques; and
- Responsible for enforcing all federal and state requirements for affirmative action and equal opportunity.

The website URL where information about the diversity and equity coordinator is available :

<http://equity.gmu.edu/>

Measuring Campus Diversity Culture

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution assesses attitudes about diversity and equity on campus and uses the results to guide policy, programs, and initiatives.

Institution may measure its culture of diversity and equity using one assessment for the entire institution or using separate assessments that taken together cover the entire institution.

Assessments conducted during the previous five years are eligible for this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution assessed attitudes about diversity and equity on campus in a way that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the assessment(s) :

Every three years, the Quality of Worklife Task Force (QWL) at George Mason University (Mason) administers a survey to all university employees about work life at Mason, including sources of stress and satisfaction on the job, as well as areas in the workplace that need improvement. The QWL surveys are developed and distributed in an effort to gather the broadest possible input from the members of the university community in order for Task Force recommendations to be consistent with university needs.

Year the assessment was last administered :

2009

A brief description of how the results of the assessment(s) are used in shaping policy, programs, and initiatives :

One of the most significant impacts the QWL task force has had in the past was recommending improvements to the OEDS's various diversity trainings, education initiatives, and advocacy effort.

The website URL where information about the assessment(s) is available :

Support Programs for Underrepresented Groups

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has mentoring, counseling, peer support, affinity groups, academic support programs, or other programs in place to support underrepresented groups on campus.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have mentoring, counseling, peer support, affinity groups, academic support programs, or other programs in place to support underrepresented groups on campus? :

Yes

A brief description of the programs sponsored by the institution to support underrepresented groups within the student body :

The Office of Diversity Programs and Services (ODPS) at George Mason University (Mason) supports Mason's diverse student and faculty population. Throughout the year, ODPS sponsors a variety of programs for students and faculty, including lectures, concerts, awards, and seminars. The office works specifically with African Heritage, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Pacific American, American Indian, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning populations.

ODPS advocates for students rights by coordinating the following services:

- Academic Appeals
- Bias Incidents Reports
- Classroom Climate
- Collaborate with other university offices to ensure equal treatment of underrepresented groups
- Community Building
- Grade Disputes

They coordinate training opportunities which include Diversity Workshops and Seminars, Mentoring Program Development, Safe Zone Program for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Resources (LGBTQ) allies and manage the Student Transition and Empowerment Program (STEP). Another program is Brother to Brother, Sister to Sister that engages students about relationships across gender lines. They also organize several national cultural celebrations, such as, the American Indian and Alaskan Native Heritage Month, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Black History Month, Middle Eastern & South Asian Cultural & Religious Events, Hispanic Heritage Month, MLK Celebration, and PRIDE Week.

As part of George Mason University's continuing commitment to upholding the letter and spirit of the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities, the university maintains the Office of Disability Services. Under the administration of University Life, the center implements and coordinates reasonable accommodations and disability-related services that afford equal access to university programs and activities. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is available to serve all students with disabilities, including those with cognitive (e.g., learning, psychological, and closed head injury), sensory, mobility, and other physical impairments. Exam accommodations provide students with disabilities an equal opportunity as their inclusive peers to reflect the knowledge they have gained during a particular subject's course of study. All students who have a need for materials in an alternative format, if they qualify, may request this service through the ODS. ODS also provides Sign Language interpreting/transliterators services for eligible students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. These services are also available for faculty, staff and campus events.

The Office of International Programs and Services (OIPS) has been host and home to thousands of students, researchers, and faculty members from around the world. The OIPS assists students with international regulatory and visa matters; academic advising services and social and cultural programming. The OIPS is a "one-stop shop" for all new incoming international students. They can check-in with OIPS and receive all the necessary information they need upon arrival at George Mason University, including class schedule and catalogs, campus telephone directories, housing, transportation, on-campus jobs, immunization, health and insurance information, counseling services, career services, English Language Institute free language workshops, etc. Students can also sign up for OIPS trips and find out more about international student programs for the academic year.

A brief description of the programs sponsored by the institution to support underrepresented groups within the faculty :

The Association of Black Faculty, Administrators, and Staff (ABFAS) promotes the well-being of the Black community at Mason. They promote the recruitment of Black faculty, administrators, staff, and students; assist in the recruitment and retention of Black undergraduate and graduate students; encourage equitable utilization of Black faculty, administrators, and staff throughout the university community; and organize and maintain a support network for Black faculty, administrators, staff, and students.

A brief description of the programs sponsored by the institution to support underrepresented groups within the staff :

The Association of Black Faculty, Administrators, and Staff (ABFAS) promotes the well-being of the Black community at Mason. ABFAS Members visited the White House in 2011. ABFAS celebrated Black History Month event at George's (February 18th, 2011): The ABFAS members hosted Celebrating the Educators - Sharing the Legacy in support of Mason's Black History Month festivities. Dr. Peter Stearns, University Provost, opened the evening's festivities and Dr. Mark Hobson, Dept. of Communication, served as keynote speaker for the event.

The website URL where more information about the programs in each of the three categories is available :

Support Programs for Future Faculty

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution administers and/or participates in a program or programs to help build a diverse faculty throughout higher education.

Such programs could take any of the following forms:

- Teaching fellowships or other programs to support terminal degree students from underrepresented groups in gaining teaching experience. (The terminal degree students may be enrolled at another institution).
 - Mentoring, financial, and/or other support programs to prepare and encourage undergraduate or other non-terminal degree students to pursue further education and careers as faculty members.
 - Mentoring, financial, and/or other support programs for doctoral and post-doctoral students from underrepresented groups.
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution administer and/or participate in programs that meet the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's programs that help increase the diversity of higher education faculty :

George Mason (Mason) University is a partner institution in the Preparing Future Faculty (or PFF) Doctoral Internship Program. The PFF experience allows doctoral students to complete their professional academic training through workshops, seminars, and colloquia. The PFF program seeks to improve the quality of preparedness of graduate students, particularly minority graduate students, for academic careers. It was organized initially by the Council of Graduate Schools and the Association of American Colleges and Universities, with funding from the Pew Charitable Trusts. The program presents an integrated view of the roles of a professional academic through such activities as the following:

- Workshops on development of professional credentials, seeking employment, and long range career plans
- Seminars on designing courses, teaching techniques, and solving instructional problems
- Case studies of ethical issues in academic life
- Hands-on instruction in the uses of new technology for teaching and research
- Presentations on the governance and functions of academic departments and institutions
- Campus visits to different types of institutions (liberal arts colleges, comprehensive universities, community colleges, etc.)

In 2009, the Mason Provost's Office and the Office of Equity and Diversity Services (OEDS) co-sponsored a site visit with Howard University as part of our PFF partnership. Nineteen doctoral candidates attended the day-long seminar that included workshops on grant writing and teaching portfolios. The students also attended a luncheon where they were able to connect with Mason faculty, as well as President Merten, Provost Stearns, and the Association of Black Faculty, Administrators, and Staff.

In 2010, several members of Mason OEDS' staff participated in a PFF recruiting event held at Howard University in Washington, DC. The purpose of the event was to inform several Ph.D candidates of color about teaching and research opportunities at Mason that were being offered through the PFF program.

The website URL where more information about the program(s) is available :

Affordability and Access Programs

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has policies and programs in place to make it accessible and affordable to low-income students. Such policies and programs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Policies and programs to minimize the cost of attendance for low-income students
- Programs to equip the institution's faculty and staff to better serve students from low-income backgrounds
- Programs to prepare students from low-income backgrounds for higher education such as the federal TRIO programs
- Scholarships for low-income students
- Programs to guide parents of low-income students through the higher education experience
- Targeted outreach to recruit students from low-income backgrounds
- Other admissions policies or programs
- Other financial aid policies or programs

Institutions are not required to have programs or policies in each of the above areas in order to earn this credit. They may pursue the policies and programs that are appropriate for their context.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have policies and programs in place to make it accessible and affordable to low-income students?

:

Yes

A brief description of the institution's participation in federal TRIO programs :

TRIO is not offered at George Mason University.

A brief description of the institution's policies and programs to minimize the cost of attendance for low-income students? :

The Early Identified Program (EIP) is an innovative, multi-year college preparatory program for high school students. Program activities are free and are held on the Fairfax and Prince William Campuses of George Mason University (Mason). Admission to Mason is guaranteed to those who successfully complete both the EIP program and an academic program in high school.

Each year Mason and EIP offer participants the opportunity to apply and interview for four-year, full-tuition scholarships and other smaller awards. Currently to be considered for a scholarship, an EIP student must be receiving a high school diploma with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2 and apply for Federal Financial Aid. A student's participation in EIP and academic performance will dictate their ability to apply for any of the scholarships offered through the scholarship process. Once students are identified as being eligible for the scholarship, they will submit an application and be interviewed by a committee comprised of individuals from Mason and other EIP stakeholders.

The four-year, full-tuition scholarship covers the cost of in-state tuition only, and does not cover room and board, meals, books, or lab or other fees. The EIP actively pursues support for other scholarships from private sponsors and donors, but cannot guarantee the number of scholarships offered in a given year.

Mason also has a financial aid workshop in the winter to help seniors in the process of applying for aid via the FAFSA.

A brief description of the institution's programs to equip the institution's faculty and staff to better serve students from low-income backgrounds :

George Mason University does not sponsor such programs.

A brief description of the institution's programs to prepare students from low-income backgrounds for higher education :

The Early Identified Program (EIP) is an innovative, multi-year college preparatory program for high school students. Program activities are free and are held on the Fairfax and Prince William Campuses of George Mason University. Admission to George Mason University is guaranteed to those who successfully complete both the EIP program and an academic program in high school. Financial aid is available to program participants who apply to George Mason University and show need.

A brief description of the institution's scholarships for low-income students :

The Association for Legal Professionals Scholarship (VALS) -Scholarship will be awarded to a student based on need, ambition and merit for the purpose of furthering his/her education in the legal field.

The Bailey Family Foundation-College Scholarship Program - Applicants for the Bailey Family Foundation College Program Scholarship must possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and be registered at a participating college or university. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and be U.S. citizens pursuing their undergraduate degree.

Infinite Acts of Kindness (IAK) Scholarship – Infinite Acts of Kindness (IAK) is a nonprofit organization that enhances the personal and professional development of low income single mothers. Applicant must be a single mother currently residing in the United States; a single mother who has earned a high school diploma or GED; enrolled or planning to enroll in a full- or part-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school; enrolled and attending the full 2011-2012 academic school year; and in good standing.

A brief description of the institution’s programs to guide parents of low-income students through the higher education experience :

George Mason University does not offer programs specifically for parents of low-income students.

A brief description of the institution’s targeted outreach to recruit students from low-income backgrounds :

Mason College Dream Tour Day: The program targets disadvantaged youth who would otherwise not likely be considering going to college and exposes them to college life. The program targets youth between age 11 and 15, who still have the opportunity to improve their grades and get ready for college.

A brief description of the institution’s other admissions policies and programs :

N/A

A brief description of the institution’s other financial aid polices or programs :

N/A

A brief description of the institution’s other policies and programs not covered above :

N/A

The website URL where information about programs in each of the areas listed above is available :

<http://diversity.gmu.edu/students.php>

Gender Neutral Housing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer housing options to accommodate the special needs of transgender and transitioning students (either as a matter of policy or as standard practice)? :

No

A brief description of the program, policy, or practice :

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

Employee Training Opportunities

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make cultural competence trainings and activities available to all employees? :

Yes

A brief description of the cultural competence trainings and activities :

At George Mason University (Mason) the Office of Equity and Diversity Services Training Division offers two courses specifically on Cultural Competency and Awareness. The first course, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, introduces participants to ideas regarding diversity and its benefits. Participants explore ways to recognize differences that are not always apparent on the surface. The second course, Cultural Awareness to Cultural Competency, is an interactive and experiential training that explores skills that go beyond recognition of cultural differences. This training includes the best methods to adapt or address these differences through diverse group experiences. The scenarios used to teach these diversity concepts are tailored to faculty and staff issues.

The website URL where information about the trainings and activities are available :

<http://equity.gmu.edu/education.html>

Student Training Opportunities

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

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Does the institution make cultural competence trainings and activities available to all students? :

Yes

A brief description of the cultural competence trainings and activities :

At George Mason University (Mason) the Office of Equity and Diversity Services Training Division offers two courses specifically on Cultural Competency and Awareness. The first course, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, introduces participants to ideas regarding diversity and its benefits. Participants explore ways to recognize differences that are not always apparent on the surface. The second course, Cultural Awareness to Cultural Competency, is an interactive and experiential training that explores skills that go beyond recognition of cultural differences. This training includes the best methods to adapt or address these differences through diverse group experiences. The scenarios used to teach these diversity concepts are tailored to student issues.

The website URL where information about the trainings and activities are available :

<http://equity.gmu.edu/education.html>

Human Resources

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that have incorporated sustainability into their human resources programs and policies. This includes recognition for treating and remunerating their workers responsibly and fairly. An institution's people define its character and capacity to perform; and so, an institution's achievements can only be as strong as its community. An institution can bolster the strength of its community by making fair and responsible investments in its human capital. Such investments include offering benefits, wages, and other assistance that serve to respectfully and ethically compensate workers. Investment in human resources is integral to the achievement of a healthy and sustainable balance between human capital, natural capital, and financial capital.

In addition, this subcategory recognizes faculty and staff training and development programs in sustainability. Faculty and staff members' daily decisions impact an institution's sustainability performance. Equipping faculty and staff with the tools, knowledge, and motivation to adopt behavior changes that promote sustainability is an essential activity of a sustainable campus.

Credit
Sustainable Compensation
Employee Satisfaction Evaluation
Staff Professional Development in Sustainability
Sustainability in New Employee Orientation
Employee Sustainability Educators Program
Childcare
Employee Wellness Program
Socially Responsible Retirement Plan

Sustainable Compensation

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator

Human Resources & Payroll

Criteria

Institution evaluates, and updates as appropriate, its wages and benefits policies and its guidelines for contractors operating on campus to ensure that total compensation (wages plus benefits) for all on-campus workers is sufficient to enable these employees to meet their basic needs, as defined by the institution. This evaluation is completed at least once every three years.

Student workers are not covered by this credit.

While wages and total compensation set in the following ways may constitute sustainable compensation, institutions should conduct a basic needs assessment to ensure that the total compensation is adequate before claiming points for this credit:

- Paying prevailing wages for job type or classification
- Paying average or above average wages for the region or city where the institution is located
- Paying minimum wages or a set amount above the minimum wage

Policies and practices adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total number of employees working on campus (including contractors) :

Number of employees (including contractors) that the institution ensures earn sustainable compensation :

A brief description of how the institution ensures that its lowest-paid workers (including contractors, if applicable) receive sustainable compensation :

The most recent year total compensation for the institution's lowest-paid workers (including contractors, if applicable) was evaluated to ensure that it was sustainable :

The website URL where information about the institution's compensation policies and practices is available :

Employee Satisfaction Evaluation

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Criteria

Institution conducts a survey or other evaluation that allows for anonymous feedback at least once every five years to measure employee satisfaction. The survey or equivalent may be conducted institution-wide or may be done by individual departments as long as all departments are covered by a survey. The institution has a mechanism in place to address issues raised by the evaluation.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution evaluate employee satisfaction in a way that meets the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's methodology for evaluating employee satisfaction :

Since 2000, Mason has had a triennial Quality of Work Life survey. The first two surveys (2000 and 2003) were conducted with a sample of Mason employees, however beginning in 2006, all university employees were invited to participate in the survey. The survey is comprehensive, touching on a number of work/life issues including salary, benefits, work unit relationships, fairness and autonomy/growth. The findings are compiled by a distinguished faculty member in our Psychology Department. Input from faculty and staff through the Quality of Work Life survey has been responsible for the creation of our Telework/Flextime policy (2002), renamed Flexible Work in 2008, the Mason shuttle between the Fairfax and Prince William campuses, and much more. In late 2010, the Quality of Work Life Task Force assessed the survey and felt that it was getting a little long. A number of questions had been added over the 10 year span of the survey. To streamline it, the Task Force decided to maintain a core 15-20 question survey and continue to administer it every 3 years. In between survey periods, the Task Force plans to administer short, timely surveys on topics of interest to faculty and staff. The Task Force administered a "Flex Census" in February of 2011 asking for faculty and staff input on flexible work options and alternate transportation options at Mason. Over 1000 people took the survey.

The year the employee satisfaction evaluation was last administered :

2009

The website URL where information about the institution's employee satisfaction evaluation process is available :

<http://qwl.gmu.edu/>

Staff Professional Development in Sustainability

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Criteria

Institution makes available training and/or other professional development opportunities in sustainability to all staff at least once per year.

Separate training opportunities for each department would count for this credit, as long as each staff member has an opportunity to learn about sustainability at least once per year.

It is not necessary that each staff member attend such trainings; the credit is based on making training *available* to all staff.

This credit applies to staff members only; it does not include faculty members.

The following training opportunities are not sufficient for this credit:

- Specialized training for a small group of staff
 - The opportunity to participate in an institutional sustainability committee or group
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make training and professional development opportunities in sustainability available to all staff? :

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability trainings and professional development opportunities available to staff :

George Mason University's (Mason) Office of Sustainability provides professional development opportunities to all Mason employees during Faculty and Staff Enrichment Day and during Earth Month.

During the Faculty Staff Enrichment Day, the the Office of Sustainability presented sustainability efforts at Mason, discussed ways departments could go green, answered questions, and encouraged sharing of best practices among the attendees.

In April, a variety of professional development options – some 30 in total -- were provided as part of Earth Month including workshops on sustainable food; building rain barrels; film screenings on pertinent, local, environmental issues; dialogues with distinguished speakers about climate change issues; guided tours of trails on campus; and an environmental expo.

The website URL where information about staff training opportunities in sustainability are available :

<http://sustainability.gmu.edu/>

Sustainability in New Employee Orientation

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Criteria

Institution covers sustainability topics in new employee orientation and/or in outreach and guidance materials distributed to new employees, including faculty and staff.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution cover sustainability topics in new employee orientation and/or in outreach and guidance materials distributed to new employees, including faculty and staff? :

Yes

A brief description of how sustainability is included in new employee orientation :

George Mason University (Mason) currently covers a number of sustainability topics in new employee orientation including flexible work options such as telework, commuter choice (up to \$125 for full-time employees who utilize public transportation to get to work), Mason's bicycle commuter program (\$20 certificate good at many area bike stores if an employee rides a bike to work 8 times per month), and alternate modes of transportation (car pooling, van pooling, zimride, and zip cars).

Mason will be adding a sustainability slide to our orientation presentation that refers to recycling efforts on campus as well as other sustainability options. During orientation, trainers encourage new employees to support the Patriot Packout program (a recycling effort at the end of the academic year with Mason volunteers collecting from various drop off locations around the university) and encourage employees to volunteer and contribute with Virginia's Community Service Leave.

The website URL for the information about sustainability in new employee orientation :

<http://hr.gmu.edu/worklife/flex>

Employee Sustainability Educators Program

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution administers or oversees an ongoing faculty/staff peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program. In the program, employee sustainability educators are formally designated and receive formal training or participate in an institution-sponsored orientation. The institution offers financial or other support to the program.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total number of people employed by the institution :

5646

Program name (1st program) :

Green Patriot Program

Number of employees served by the program (1st program) :

339

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (1st program) :

The Green Patriot is an environmentally-minded faculty or staff member whose mission is to work with the Office of Sustainability to cultivate an atmosphere of sustainability at George Mason University (Mason). Green Patriots help to increase environmental knowledge and foster positive environmental behavior by providing effective tools and information to their colleagues and coworkers.

Individuals interested in serving as a Green Patriot will fill out an application form available on the Office of Sustainability website. Participation in the program will be contingent on the approval of an individuals' supervisor, and the completion of a Green Patriots Service Contract, committing them to their term of service.

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (1st program) :

Green Patriots attend a program orientation in the summer as well as brief trainings on various sustainability topics hosted by the Office of Sustainability on a regular basis. Peer-to-peer meetings with Green Patriots from other departments allow participants in the program

to share best sustainable practices across the university.

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (1st program) :

George Mason University's (Mason) Office of Sustainability hosts the orientation, training programs, and special recognition programs. In addition, Green Patriots are showcased on the Office of Sustainability's website and newsletter and receive a certificate of appreciation each year.

The website URL where information about the program is available (1st program) :

Program name (2nd program) :

Number of employees served by the program (2nd program) :

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (2nd program) :

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (2nd program) :

A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (2nd program) :

The website URL where information about the program is available (2nd program) :

Program name(s) (all other programs) :

Number of employees served by the program(s) (all other programs) :

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (all other programs) :

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (all other programs) :

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program(s) (all other programs) :

The website URL where information about the program(s) is available (all other programs) :

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an on-site child care facility, partner with a local facility, and/or provide subsidies or financial support to help meet the child care needs of students, faculty, and staff? :

Yes

A brief description of the child care program, policy, or practice :

George Mason University (Mason) has an on-site Child Development Center (CDC) on the Fairfax campus (where approximately 84% of employees work) for children ages 2-5. The CDC is open to the entire Mason community.

The university also offers complimentary access to

Sittercity.com

for all faculty, staff, and graduate students at Mason.

Sittercity.com

is an online database of caregivers for children as well as seniors, pets, house sitting, housekeeping, and tutoring. The annual retail price for a subscription to the site is roughly \$120; Mason's corporate agreement with

Sittercity.com

brings that cost to zero.

A local daycare center near the Prince William campus offers faculty/staff a 5% discount on tuition.

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://www.gmu.edu/depts/cdc>

Employee Wellness Program

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an employee assistance or wellness program that provides counseling, referral, and well-being services to employees? :

Yes

A brief description of the employee wellness program, policy, or practice :

George Mason University (Mason) has a range of employee wellness services including counseling, referral, and well-being services. Mason's health benefits (a choice of a PPO, HMO, and HDHP) includes an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that provides up to 4 free visits per instance on a range of issues including:

- marital and family problems
- child or adult care issues
- alcohol and/or drug abuse
- balancing work and family
- depression and anxiety
- work-related concerns
- financial or legal problems
- career transition issues
- personal growth and development

The EAP also has an extensive library of resources available on nearly 200 different personal and professional topics – everything from “acute stress disorder” to “working with others”. Non-benefits eligible employees can call Mason's Employee Relations office for referral to services within the community.

The health insurance plans also covers wellness at 100% including, but not limited to, a routine annual check up, routine immunizations, two routine dental check ups, pap test, mammography, prostate exam, and colonoscopy.

Additionally, as a public university in Virginia, Mason’s employees have access to CommonHealth, the wellness benefit for state employees. CommonHealth includes:

- Preparing for Parenthood (Prenatal program)
- Quit for Life (Smoking Cessation)

--WeightWatchers (50% reimbursement for eligible employees)

--Area fitness center discounts

--Quarterly programming that can be brought into individual departments upon request on topics such as “Home Safe Home”, “Take a Break” (stress reduction), “Outdoor Adventures” and “Every Calorie Counts.”

Beginning in 2008, Mason created an interdepartmental effort to highlight wellness at the university. Currently over 20 departments participate in “Wellness by Mason” encouraging the Mason community to address three pillars of wellness: exercise, general wellness and preventive screenings. Partners within Wellness by Mason offer a range of services and events including:

--Free (through our health insurance plans) or very low cost (\$5 from Student Health Services) flu shots on campus

--Resolution Solution (a friendly exercise competition)

--Happy Heart Walk

--Victim’s Annual 5K Run/Walk

--Mason Walk In’ (an indoor walking program)

--Walking Wednesdays and Take a Walk Tuesdays

--Life Planning Seminars

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://hr.gmu.edu/benefits/health/value.php>

Socially Responsible Retirement Plan

Responsible Party

Janet Walker

Work/Life Communications Coordinator
Human Resources & Payroll

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer a socially responsible investment option for retirement plans? :

Yes

A brief description of the socially responsible investment option for retirement plans :

George Mason University (Mason) offers two mutual fund options specifically designated as “socially conscious” funds. Faculty and staff can designate investments in their retirement accounts to any of the two different socially conscious options offered through TIAA-CREF. The fund selections are Social Choice and Social Choice Equity.

The “Social Conscious” mutual fund class designation can be found in the respective vendor prospectus or the quarterly performance information for the latest investment performance available at the following website:

<http://hr.gmu.edu/benefits/retire/tiaa.php>

The website URL where information about the program, policy, or practice is available :

<http://hr.gmu.edu/benefits/retire/tiaa.php>

Investment

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that make investment decisions that promote sustainability. Most institutions invest some of their assets in order to generate income. Together, colleges and universities invest hundreds of billions of dollars. Schools with transparent and democratic investment processes promote accountability and engagement by the campus and community. Furthermore, institutions can support sustainability by investing in companies and funds that, in addition to providing a strong rate of return, are committed to social and environmental responsibility. Investing in these industries also supports the development of sustainable products and services. Finally, campuses can engage with the businesses in which they are invested in order to promote sustainable practices.

Throughout this subcategory, the term “sustainable investment” is inclusive of socially responsible, environmentally responsible, ethical, impact, and mission-related investment.

Credit
Committee on Investor Responsibility
Shareholder Advocacy
Positive Sustainability Investments
Student-Managed Sustainable Investment Fund
Sustainable Investment Policy
Investment Disclosure

Committee on Investor Responsibility

Criteria

Institution has a formally established and active CIR or similar body that makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on socially and environmentally responsible investment opportunities across asset classes, including proxy voting. The body has multi-stakeholder representation, which means its membership includes faculty, staff, and students and may include alumni, trustees, and/or other parties.

Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system and/or a separate foundation of the institution should report on the investment policies and activities of those entities.

A general committee that oversees the institution's investments does not count for this credit unless social and environmental responsibility is an explicit part of its mission and/or agenda.

This credit applies to institutions with endowments of US \$1 million or larger. Institutions with endowments totaling less than US \$1 million may choose to omit this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a committee on investor responsibility or similar body that meets the criteria for this credit?

:

The charter or mission statement of the CIR or other body, which reflects social and environmental concerns, or a brief description of how the CIR is tasked to address social and environmental concerns :

Members of the CIR, including affiliations :

Recent examples (within the past 3 years) of CIR actions :

The website URL where information about the committee is available :

Shareholder Advocacy

Criteria

There are two possible approaches to earning this credit.

1) Institution filed or co-filed one or more shareholder resolutions that address sustainability or submitted one or more letters about social or environmental responsibility to a company in which it holds investments, during the previous three years.

and/or

2) Institution has conducted a negative screening of its entire investment pool within the last three years. This could take the form of prohibiting investment in an industry (e.g. tobacco or weapons manufacturing) or participating in a divestment effort (e.g. companies operating in South Africa during apartheid). The negative screen includes selling all but \$2,000 or less of the affected direct holdings and writing a letter to all fund managers encouraging them to remove affected holdings as well.

Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system and/or a separate foundation of the institution should report on the shareholder advocacy activities of those entities.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution filed or co-filed one or more shareholder resolutions that address sustainability during the past three years? :

Has the institution submitted one or more letters about social or environmental responsibility to a company in which it holds investments during the previous three years? :

Has the institution conducted a negative screening of its entire investment pool within the last three years? :

A brief description of how the institution (or its foundation) has engaged in shareholder advocacy that promotes sustainability during the previous 3 years. :

The website URL where information about the negative screen, divestment effort, and/or direct engagement with companies in which the institution holds investments is available :

Positive Sustainability Investments

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution invests in any of the following:

- Sustainable industries, such as renewable energy or sustainable forestry
- Businesses selected for exemplary sustainability performances
- Sustainability investment funds, such as a renewable energy investment fund
- Community development financial institutions (CDFI)
- Socially responsible mutual funds with positive screens.

Investment in a socially responsible mutual fund with only negative screens (i.e. one that excludes egregious offenders or certain industries, such as tobacco or weapons manufacturing) does not count for this credit.

Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system and/or a separate foundation of the institution should report on the investment policies and activities of those entities.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total value of the investment pool :

96289567 US/Canadian \$

Value of holdings in sustainable industries, such as renewable energy or sustainable forestry :

0 US/Canadian \$

Value of holdings in businesses selected for exemplary sustainability performances :

1612000 US/Canadian \$

Value of holdings in sustainability investment funds, such as a renewable energy investment fund :

0 US/Canadian \$

Value of holdings in community development financial institutions (CDFIs) :

0 US/Canadian \$

Value of holdings in socially responsible mutual funds with positive screens :

0 US/Canadian \$

A brief description of the companies, funds, and/or institutions referenced above :

By fiscal year 2011, George Mason University (Mason) held positions, both in debt and in equity, in companies that have high environmental, social, and governance rankings. These included companies such as IBM, Wells Fargo, Oracle, and Microsoft in Mason's current and past portfolio.

The website URL where information about the institution's sustainability investment activities is available :

Student-Managed Sustainable Investment Fund

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a student-managed sustainable investment fund through which students are able to develop socially and/or environmentally responsible investment skills and experience with governance? :

A brief description of the student-managed sustainable investment fund :

The website URL where information about the fund is available :

Sustainable Investment Policy

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a policy, practice or directive to consider the social and/or environmental impacts of investment decisions, in addition to financial considerations? :

A brief description of the sustainable investment policy :

The website URL where information about the policy is available :

Investment Disclosure

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make a snapshot of its investment holdings, including the amount invested in each fund and/or company and proxy voting records, available to the public? :

A brief description of the institution's investment disclosure practices :

The website URL where information about investment disclosure available :

Public Engagement

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that give back to their communities through community service, engagement, and partnerships. Volunteerism and the sense of compassion that community service helps develop are fundamental to achieving sustainability. From tutoring children to removing invasive species to volunteering at a food bank, students, faculty, and staff can make tangible contributions that address sustainability challenges through community service. Community engagement can help students develop leadership skills while deepening their understandings of practical, real-world problems. Institutions can contribute to their communities by harnessing their financial and academic resources to address community needs. For example, faculty research and courses can focus on how to address community problems. In addition, colleges and universities can offer incentives for their graduates to pursue careers that fill community needs, and schools can use their prominence to advocate for sustainability outside of their institutions.

Credit
Community Sustainability Partnerships
Inter-Campus Collaboration on Sustainability
Sustainability in Continuing Education
Community Service Participation
Community Service Hours
Sustainability Policy Advocacy
Trademark Licensing
Graduation Pledge
Community Service on Transcripts
Farmers' Market

Community Sustainability Partnerships

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has formal partnership(s) with the local community, including school districts, government agencies, non-profit organizations, or other entities, to work together to advance sustainability within the community.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution participate in community sustainability partnerships that meet the criteria for this credit? :

Yes

A brief description of the institution's sustainability partnerships with the local community :

George Mason University (Mason) has numerous partnerships with the community at the local and national level on sustainability issues. Collaborations with the local counties include efforts such as the Mason Sustainability Institute, a program that empowers those in Northern Virginia to become sustainability stewards for their homes, communities, and the region; water quality monitoring; and assisting with the county's first greenhouse gas inventory. Mason provides educational material and interactive experiences to local K-12 schools on topics such as aquatic ecosystems; watershed protection; education about the Potomac River; and the benefits of going green with a focus on renewable energy sources. National partnerships include efforts such as the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment, a week-long summit that encourages and inspires 250 high school leaders from across the country who desire a unique experience focused on successful careers in this dynamic industry; joint research on wetlands mitigation; and lichen bio-monitoring. For more information, please refer to the URL below.

The website URL where information about sustainability partnerships is available :

<http://communityrelations.gmu.edu/engaged/environment.asp>

Inter-Campus Collaboration on Sustainability

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution collaborates with other colleges and universities to support and help build the campus sustainability community.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution collaborate with other colleges and universities to support and help build the campus sustainability community? :

Yes

A brief summary of papers, guides, presentations, and other resources the institution has developed to share their sustainability experience with other institutions :

George Mason University (Mason) has shared its sustainability experiences with other colleges and universities through various papers and presentations. Mason has submitted several case studies on issues such as green dining, starting an organic garden, recycling efforts, and habitat restoration to the National Wildlife Federation's Campus Ecology website. Mason has presented at the Metro DC Sustainability Group on issues such as organic gardening, stormwater management, biodiesel conversion, and student training on environmental protection. Mason has also presented at the annual conference for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education on rewards and recognitions and prioritization of non-market sustainability benefits. Additionally, Mason presented Mason's sustainability policies and approach to climate action in panel discussions at the 2008 and 2009 Virginia Sustainable Building Network's Greening Virginia Universities and Colleges Conferences.

The names of local, state, regional, national, and other campus sustainability organizations or consortia in which the institution participates and/or is a member :

George Mason University (Mason) participates in numerous local, state, regional, and national sustainability consortiums to share best practices. While not all inclusive, some of the organizations that Mason participants in are the Metro DC Sustainability Group; Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education; American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment; Virginia Sustainability Group; NoVA Outside, an Alliance of Environmental Educators; and Virginia Sustainable Building Network to name a few.

A brief summary of additional ways the institution collaborates with other campuses to advance sustainability :

George Mason University (Mason) has been highlighted in several articles about sustainable dining in higher education in periodicals such as College Services Magazine and On Campus Hospitality Magazine.

Mason also conducts several conference calls with other campuses interested in learning more about performance contracts and working with an energy services company.

The website URL where information about cross-campus collaboration is available :

Sustainability in Continuing Education

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution offers continuing education courses that are focused on or related to sustainability.

Courses that can be taken for academic credit are not included in this credit. They are covered by the *Curriculum* subcategory.

Part 2

Institution has a sustainability-related certificate program through its continuing education or extension department.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer continuing education courses that are focused on or related to sustainability? :

Yes

Number of sustainability continuing education courses offered :

29

Total number of continuing education courses offered :

219

Does the institution have a sustainability-related certificate program through its continuing education or extension department? :

Yes

A brief description of the certificate program :

George Mason University (Mason) has several sustainability focused and related certificate programs including the Sustainability for Existing Buildings Certificate Program which started in 2010, the Sustainability Facility Professional Certificate Program that started in 2011, the Geographic Information Systems Certificate Program started in 1999, and the Applied Conservation Science Certificate

[STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

Program that started in 2008.

Year the certificate program was created :

1999

The website URL where information about sustainability in continuing education courses is available :

<http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/>

Community Service Participation

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution engages its student body in community service, as measured by the percentage of students who participate in community service.

Institutions may exclude non-credit, continuing education, and/or part-time students from this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011. The FY11 community service data is a conservative number and not comprehensive. George Mason University (Mason) tracks its service learning programs, alternative break programs, and signature volunteer programs. Data concerning number of students and student volunteer hours within the service, volunteer, and Greek organizations are limited. Mason is working on developing a mechanism to track that data.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of students engaged in community service :

2445

Total number of students, which may exclude part-time, continuing education and/or non-credit students :

18819

The website URL where information about the institution's community service initiatives is available :

<http://clce.gmu.edu/>

Community Service Hours

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution engages students in community service, as measured by average hours contributed per full-time student per year.

Institutions may exclude non-credit, continuing education, and/or part-time students from this credit.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011. The FY11 community service data is a conservative number and not comprehensive. George Mason University (Mason) tracks its service learning programs, alternative break programs, and signature volunteer programs. Data concerning the number of students and student volunteer hours within the service, volunteer, and Greek organizations are limited. Mason is working on developing a mechanism to track that data. For this credit, Mason estimated that each member involved in its Greek system contributed at least one hour of volunteer time.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of student community service hours contributed during a one-year period :

24632

Total number of students, which may exclude part-time, continuing education and/or non-credit students :

18819

The website URL where information about the institution's community service initiatives is available :

<http://clce.gmu.edu/>

Sustainability Policy Advocacy

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution advocates for federal, state, or local public policies that support campus sustainability or that otherwise advance sustainability.

The policy advocacy must be done by the institution, not by students or a student group.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution advocated for federal, state, and/or local public policies that support campus sustainability or that otherwise advance sustainability? :

Yes

A brief description of how the institution engages in public policy advocacy for sustainability, including the issues, bills, and ordinances for or against which the institution has advocated :

George Mason University's (Mason) President Merten has signed the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment committing Mason to achieving climate neutrality. Secondly, President Merten signed a call for public debate "in which the US presidential candidates share their views on the issues of the environment, health and medicine, and science and technology policy." Lastly, President Merten also signed several letters to Congress to enact the Higher Education Sustainability Act.

The website URL where information about the institution's advocacy efforts are available :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution is a member of the Fair Labor Association or Worker Rights Consortium.

Part 2

Institution has signed on to participate in the Designated Suppliers Program.

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Is the institution a member of the Worker Rights Consortium? :

Yes

Is the institution a member of the Fair Labor Association? :

Yes

Has the institution expressed intention to participate in the Designated Suppliers Program? :

No

The website URL where information about the institution's participation in the WRC, FLA, and/or DSP is available :

Graduation Pledge

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution administer a graduation pledge through which students pledge to consider social and environmental responsibility in future job and other decisions? :

No

A brief description of the graduation pledge program :

The website URL where information about the graduation pledge program is available :

Community Service on Transcripts

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution include community service achievements on student transcripts? :

A brief description of the practice :

The website URL where information about the practice is available :

Farmers' Market

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution host a farmers' market for the community? :

No

A brief description of the farmers' market :

The website URL where information about the market is available :

Innovation

Innovation

These credits recognize institutions that are seeking innovative solutions to sustainability challenges and demonstrating sustainability leadership in ways that are not otherwise captured by STARS.

Credit
Innovation 1
Innovation 2
Innovation 3
Innovation 4

Innovation 1

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

- 1) Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, groundbreaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
 - 2) In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as Tier One credits.
 - 3) The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome should have occurred within the past three years.
 - 4) The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.
 - 5) An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted.
 - 6) Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.
 - 7) Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.
 - 8) While the practices that led to receiving an award may be appropriate for an innovation credit, winning awards and/or high sustainability rankings in other assessments is not, in and of itself, grounds for an innovation credit.
 - 9) Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution's region or school type are eligible for innovation credits.
 - 10) When the innovation is part of a partnership, the summary provided must clearly describe the institution's role in the innovation.
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

A brief description of the innovative policy, practice, program, or outcome :

The Smithsonian Institution and George Mason University (Mason) have formed the Smithsonian-Mason Global Conservation Studies Program, which prides itself on providing unique academic conservation experiences for undergraduates, graduates, and professionals. A [STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

highlight of this collaboration is the Smithsonian-Mason Undergraduate Semester in Conservation Studies conducted at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) in Front Royal, Virginia. The curriculum of 16 credit hours is an interdisciplinary set of classes designed as an experiential, hands-on learning environment for tomorrow's conservation leaders.

With unparalleled interactions with the scientists, researchers, and resource managers of SCBI and George Mason University, who also serve as guest lecturers, undergraduates are introduced to the nuances and challenges of conservation through a semester as immersive as many abroad.

All undergraduate university students in biological, wildlife, environmental and ecology sciences are encouraged to apply, as are those individuals seeking to gain a broad conservation perspective to apply to other fields, such as economics, business, journalism, and others. The semester constitutes a minor in conservation studies, and faculty will work together with home institutions in the transfer of credit hours. The Smithsonian–Mason Program began with 15 undergraduate students in the fall of 2008. The program is currently being expanded. In fall of 2012, the program will be able to accept 60 undergraduate students and 60 graduate students and professionals.

A letter of affirmation from an individual with relevant expertise :

[SI-MGCSP Letter of Support AAA.pdf](#)

The website URL where information about the innovation is available :

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/SCBI/ConservationEducation/Smithsonian-Mason/default.cfm>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

- 1) Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, groundbreaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
 - 2) In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as Tier One credits.
 - 3) The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome should have occurred within the past three years.
 - 4) The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.
 - 5) An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted.
 - 6) Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.
 - 7) Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.
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 - 9) Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution's region or school type are eligible for innovation credits.
 - 10) When the innovation is part of a partnership, the summary provided must clearly describe the institution's role in the innovation.
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

A brief description of the innovative policy, practice, program, or outcome :

The Container Space is located adjacent to George Mason University's (Mason) School of Art. The School of Art converted an old shipping container into "a prototype for a zero-carbon mobile exhibition gallery and community space."

The shipping container is a recycled object itself. The container stood deteriorating in a field for two decades before it was re-purposed, utilizing found and recycled materials from the garbage and the local community. The container was acquired by Tom Ashcraft, Associate Professor of Sculpture, who was interested in the innovative uses of containers and their modularity.

Recycling & sustainability are key conceptual features of the Container Space. Because most shipping containers were made in North Korea or China where there historically have been few regulations on what kinds of chemicals can be used inside containers, the students first ripped out all of the original wood and rusty bolts inside. For the container's interior walls, the students chose a paint containing zero volatile organic compounds. Then the students repurposed used shipping pallets to replace the deteriorated floor. All of the pallets were retrieved from the trash or donated by local businesses overflowing with pallet stock. The students then installed custom skylights made from several pieces of recycled frosted glass, which were placed at angles corresponding to the degrees of the Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn. Finally, the Container Space is off-the-grid and powered by a 130 watt solar panel, a deep cycle battery, and lit by two strings of LEDs.

The shipping container formally opened in December 2009 and has hosted numerous art exhibits. For more information, click on

<http://www.containerspace.org/home/about>

A letter of affirmation from an individual with relevant expertise :

[Mason STARS Container Space.pdf](#)

The website URL where information about the innovation is available :

<http://www.containerspace.org/home/about>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

- 1) Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, groundbreaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
 - 2) In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as Tier One credits.
 - 3) The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome should have occurred within the past three years.
 - 4) The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.
 - 5) An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted.
 - 6) Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.
 - 7) Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.
 - 8) While the practices that led to receiving an award may be appropriate for an innovation credit, winning awards and/or high sustainability rankings in other assessments is not, in and of itself, grounds for an innovation credit.
 - 9) Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution's region or school type are eligible for innovation credits.
 - 10) When the innovation is part of a partnership, the summary provided must clearly describe the institution's role in the innovation.
-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

A brief description of the innovative policy, practice, program, or outcome :

The Student Training for Environmental Protection (STEP) Summer Program is designed to give students the skills they need to become effective environmental advocates. It is a week-long course facilitated by some of the best youth organizers in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.
[STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

During the week, students learn how to create or extend strong and successful groups that will be able to run effective environmental campaigns on their campuses or in their communities. STEP participants engage in interactive discussions about environmental issues in a holistic manner that include social and economic considerations. Topics include environmental racism, anti-oppression, and others such as:

Organizing skills: Recruiting, Leadership Development, Coalition building, Campaign planning, Event planning

Communication Skills: Public speaking, How to get media attention, Message development, Lobbying

George Mason University's (Mason) Sustainability Outreach Coordinator initiated the program in 2009. The STEP program is open to any Mason student as well as any college aged student. With financial support from Mason, the STEP program covers food and housing for accepted students. Students can also apply for scholarships if they need further financial support. Interested students fill out an application to be part of the STEP program.

As an example of its effectiveness in training, students from Mason that attended past STEP programs were able to utilize the training they received to organize and advocate for a student green fund at Mason that advances sustainability issues and benefits the entire Mason community.

A letter of affirmation from an individual with relevant expertise :

[STEP Support Letter.pdf](#)

The website URL where information about the innovation is available :

<http://www.gmu.edu/org/environment/step.html>

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo

Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

- 1) Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, groundbreaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
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-

Submission Note:

Data was originally submitted for Mason's STARS v. 1 report on August 9, 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

A brief description of the innovative policy, practice, program, or outcome :

In 2007, George Mason University's (Mason) Board of Visitors pledged that all of Mason new buildings will be designed and built to a minimum of US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standard. Mason's first LEED [STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

building designed and completed after that commitment was the Mason Inn, which was certified at the LEED Gold level. Mason Inn was the first LEED Gold Conference Center and Hotel in Virginia and in the region. The Mason Inn opened in July 2010 and received its LEED Gold certification in December 2010.

The construction team at Mason Inn worked hard to incorporate many sustainable design and operational practices not often seen on Mason's campus, in a hotel, or in the region at the time such as having over 90% of daylighting and views in its regularly occupied spaces; over 30% of its construction materials were made from recycled content; close to 30% of its construction material were sourced locally; a high amount of rapidly renewable materials in its interior; a comprehensive green housekeeping program where 90% of its products were green certified; modified the building managers' standard customer survey to include sustainability questions; an in-room recycling program; attractive and water efficient landscaping; and a transparent integrated pest management program that communicated to employees and guests if the hotel was applying pesticides.

Mason Inn also incorporates other sustainability practices in its design and operations such as:

- Use of energy efficient lighting
- Water saving devices
- Use of lighting motion sensors in offices, storerooms, and public areas
- Washing towels and bed linens on guest demand
- Use of recycled paper products
- Use of uniforms from recycled or recyclable material for team members
- Implemented paperless communications throughout the entire hotel and conference center
- Use of sugar cane based food to-go containers
- Use of suggested seafood from the Monterrey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Program
- Use of fresh herbs from our Executive Chef's Garden
- Use of thermal pots and shuttles for coffee service
- Food, wine, and other products are purchased locally or domestically
- Energy conservation practices
- Sustainable tabletop decor in all food outlets
- All marble counter tops are from recycled marble
- Each guestroom has a welcome packet that informs the guest about Mason Inn's sustainability commitment

A letter of affirmation from an individual with relevant expertise :

[Mason Inn STARS innovation credit Letter.pdf](#)

The website URL where information about the innovation is available :

<http://news.gmu.edu/articles/5362>

Supplemental

Supplemental Data

The supplemental section includes reporting fields that are not part of STARS, but that have been requested by campus survey organizations (the Sustainable Endowments Institute, The Princeton Review, and Sierra magazine). Institutions that wish to share their data with one or more of these organizations should complete the fields in full or contact the relevant organization(s) for guidance regarding minimum reporting requirements.

Credit
New Student Orientation
Food Education
Food and Beverage Purchases
Confinement-Free Food Purchases
Vegetarian-Fed Food Purchases
Hormone-Free Food Purchases
Seafood Purchases
Dishware
Energy Initiatives
Energy Use by Type
Procurement
Bike Sharing
Water Initiatives
Endowment
Sustainability Staffing

New Student Orientation

Criteria

Institution provides details about how it incorporates sustainability into new student orientation.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Food Education

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides education about eco-positive food and gardening techniques.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Are students educated in an academic class about how to make eco-positive food choices? :

Yes

Provide a brief description :

For example, within Sustainability in Action class (EVPP 480), students read and discuss how they can lessen their impact on the earth through conscious choices about the way they eat.

Are students educated in dining facilities about how to make eco-positive food choices? :

Yes

Provide a brief description :

Speciality events.

Are students educated during orientation about how to make eco-positive food choices? :

Provide a brief description :

Are students educated in other venues about how to make eco-positive food choices? :

Yes

Provide a brief description :

Health and Wellness Expos, Sustainable Food Day, and Sustainable Food Summit are a few examples of venues.

Is there a program by which students are encouraged to and/or taught how to grow their own food? :

Yes

Provide a brief description of the program :

Adjacent to student residential halls, the George Mason University (Mason) Potomac Heights Vegetable Garden provides students with the opportunity to grow their own food. In addition, the Mason Sustainability Institute provides sustainability-oriented education and skills development for Mason and its surrounding communities. Several of these workshops relate to sustainable food.

Food and Beverage Purchases

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details of its food and beverage purchases.

Submission Note:

Food and beverage expenditures are tracked with a 250 miles radius.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage of food and beverage expenditures that were processed within 100 miles of the institution by a company that is not publicly traded :

5

The percentage of food and beverage expenditures that were grown within 100 miles of the institution :

6.75

List what tool your institution is using to track this information (e.g. Center for Environmental Farming Systems or CBORD) :

List items procured for dining services from on-campus organic garden(s) :

Herbs

The percentage of total food and beverage expenditures spent by dining services to procure items from on-campus organic garden(s) :

1

List all Fair Trade certified items purchased :

Italian Roast 1 & 5 pound bags

Confinement-Free Food Purchases

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details of its confinement-free animal product purchases.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Type of cage-free / free-range eggs purchased :

Percentage purchased :

Comments :

Type of confinement-free product purchased (1st product) :

Confinement free chicken

Percentage purchased (1st product) :

0.50

Comments (1st product) :

Data for FY11

Type of confinement-free product purchased (2nd product) :

Confinement free fish

Percentage purchased (2nd product) :

0.50

Comments (2nd product) :

Data for FY11

Type of confinement-free product purchased (3rd product) :

Percentage purchased (3rd product) :

Comments (3rd product) :

Type of confinement-free product purchased (4th product) :

Percentage purchased (4th product) :

Comments (4th product) :

Vegetarian-Fed Food Purchases

Criteria

Institution provides details of its vegetarian-fed animal product purchases.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Hormone-Free Food Purchases

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details of its hormone-free animal product purchases.

Submission Note:

Data for this field is for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Type of hormone-free product purchased (1st product) :

Milk (skim, 2%, whole, and chocolate)

Percentage purchased (1st product) :

100

Comments (1st product) :

All produce from Harrisburg Dairies are hormone-free

Type of hormone-free product purchased (2nd product) :

Creamer

Percentage purchased (2nd product) :

100

Comments (2nd product) :

All produce from Harrisburg Dairies are hormone-free

Type of hormone-free product purchased (3rd product) :

Heavy cream

Percentage purchased (3rd product) :

100

Comments (3rd product) :

All produce from Harrisburg Dairies are hormone-free

Type of hormone-free product purchased (4th product) :

Hard and soft cheeses

Percentage purchased (4th product) :

100

Comments (4th product) :

All produce from Harrisburg Dairies are hormone-free

Type of hormone-free product purchased (5th product) :

Yogurt

Percentage purchased (5th product) :

100

Comments (5th product) :

All produce from Harrisburg Dairies are hormone-free

Seafood Purchases

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details of seafood products purchased that meet Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines.

Submission Note:

Mason has significantly more seafood items which are Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel certified. This is a listing of a few of them for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Type of seafood product purchased that meets Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines (1st product) :

Anchovy Filet

Percentage purchased (1st product) :

100

Standard used (1st product) :

Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel

Comments (1st product) :

Type of seafood product purchased that meets Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines (2nd product) :

Calamari

Percentage purchased (2nd product) :

100

Standard used (2nd product) :

Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel
[STARS Reporting Tool](#) | [AASHE](#) | [Sierra Magazine](#)

Comments (2nd product) :

Type of seafood product purchased that meets Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines (3rd product) :

Catfish Filet

Percentage purchased (3rd product) :

100

Standard used (3rd product) :

Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel

Comments (3rd product) :

Type of seafood product purchased that meets Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines (4th product) :

Clam Strips

Percentage purchased (4th product) :

100

Standard used (4th product) :

Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel

Comments (4th product) :

Type of seafood product purchased that meets Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel standards and/or Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch guidelines (5th product) :

Cod Filet

Percentage purchased (5th product) :

100

Standard used (5th product) :

Marine Stewardship Council Blue Ecolabel

Comments (5th product) :

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details of the dishware its provides at its dining services locations.

Submission Note:

Data for this field is for FY 2011.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer reusable dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Does the institution offer plastic dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Does the institution offer polystyrene (Styrofoam) dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Does the institution offer post-consumer recycled content dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Does the institution offer biodegradable / compostable dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Does the institution offer other types of dishware at its dining services locations? :

Yes

Provide a brief description. :

At Mason we use environmentally friendly and biodegradable take out serviceware which are made from a variety of different products like sugar cane, corn (PLA – poly lactic acid) and potato byproducts.

Energy Initiatives

Criteria

Institution provides details about its energy initiatives.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Energy Use by Type

Criteria

Institution reports its energy use by type.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Procurement

Criteria

Institution provides details about its procurement efforts.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Bike Sharing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution reports the number of bicycles available through bike sharing programs.

Submission Note:

Capital Bikeshare has over 1525+ bicycles in their network at over 160+ stations across Washington, D.C. and Arlington, VA. The bikes can be return it to any station near the rider's destination. There are 18 bikes near George Mason University's Arlington campus with another 10 being installed in front of Founders Hall.

By the fall of 2012 there will be 20 bikes available at Mason's Fairfax campus.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The number of bicycles available through bike sharing programs :

28

Water Initiatives

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution provides details about its water initiatives.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Is there is a ban or restriction on selling or distributing bottled water on campus? :

Yes

Provide a brief description of any bottled water ban or restriction :

According to Climate Action Plan, a 5% reduction in bottled water by 2012.

Does the institution meter any of its non-potable water usage? :

No

The percentage of urinals on campus that are waterless :

Endowment

Criteria

Institution provides details about its endowment.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.

Sustainability Staffing

Responsible Party

Margaret Lo
Sustainability Assistant Manager
Sustainability

Criteria

Institution reports the amount of weekly time worked by people employed in the sustainability office, if applicable (in full-time equivalent).

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The amount of weekly time worked by people employed in the sustainability office (in full-time equivalent) :

4

FTE staff on payroll :

4

FTE student intern/fellow :

2