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Earth Week, 2008

Sustainability Annual Report to Campus



Where Success is a Tradition

**CAMPUS
SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE**

APRIL 2008



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SUNY Fredonia

Sustainability Committee

2007-2008

Annual Report to the Campus



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“What Can be Recycled” Handout

Introduction

The SUNY Fredonia Sustainability Committee is pleased to report to the SUNY Fredonia campus the results of committee activities during the past year. This report is an attempt by the committee to inform the campus of the number of sustainability actions that have taken place during the first year of the committee, activities that are currently under way and future sustainability activities for the campus that are being planned.

The SUNY Fredonia Sustainability Committee is a campus-wide committee that was established in March 2007. The Sustainability Committee is charged with beginning a review of the full range of sustainability topics related to the campus. The founding committee includes 24 dedicated members representing faculty, staff and students from throughout the campus. Founding members of the campus Sustainability Committee include:

Tracy Bennett, Chair	Vice President - Administration	Administration
Kevin Cloos	Director of Build. Services & Grounds	Building Services & Grounds
Mark Delcamp	Asst. Director of Building Serv. & Grounds	Custodial Services
Kathy Forster	Asst. Director of Residence Life	Residence Life
Sarah Henry	Staff Assistant	Environmental Health & Safety
Markus Kessler	Director of Facilities Planning	Facilities Planning
Anne Podolak	Director Environmental Health & Safety	Environmental Health & Safety
Jim Pepe	Director of Facilities Management	Facilities Management
Terry Tzitzis	Director of University Services	University Services
Sue Freitas	Head Janitor	Custodial Services
Mike Proffer	Director of Dining Services	FSA
Michael Barone	Director of Public Relations	Public Relations
Christina Jarvis	Associate Professor	English
David Kinkela	Assistant Professor	History
Sherri Mason	Assistant Professor	Chemistry



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Peter Reinelt	Assistant Professor	Economics
Bruce Tomlinson	Associate Professor	Biology
Mike Wygant	Maintenance Supervisor 2	Building Services & Grounds
Jason Mellen	Student	
Robin Hoepfinger	Student	
Maggie Germano	Student	
Robyn Reger	Committee Secretary	Administration

During the past year the committee focused on various sustainability issues, formed subcommittees, and significantly improved campus recycling activities.

To address the various sustainability issues, subcommittees were formed in the following areas:

- Recycling Subcommittee
- Public relations Subcommittee
- Energy Conservation Subcommittee
- Green Building Subcommittee
- Green Landscaping Subcommittee
- Green Cleaning Subcommittee
- Food Subcommittee
- Earth Week Subcommittee
- Department of Environmental Affairs

Each Sustainability subcommittee has prepared an annual report for this document summarizing the purpose and membership of the subcommittee, accomplishments of the past year and sustainability goals for the future. The results of the first year are impressive and much has been accomplished; however, all subcommittees will acknowledge that much more needs to be done. In many ways this initial work of the subcommittees has simply laid the ground work for all of the additional measures that are still necessary to truly become a sustainable campus.



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Highlights of 2007-2008 Academic Year

A major focus of the Sustainability Committee, which was coordinated by the Public Relations Subcommittee, was to immediately improve the visibility of our campus recycling program on campus and to assure that the campus sustainability program had a Web presence by the start of the academic year. A sustainability Web site was established during the summer and has been under construction throughout the 2007-2008 academic year. The site is at:

<http://www.fredonia.edu/gogreen/academics.asp>. The public relations committee also published a weekly ½ page, “Sustainability Comment” ad or article on sustainability topics of interest to the campus in *The Leader*.

The Recycling Subcommittee was the most active subcommittee during the 2007-2008 academic year. Many actions were taken to improve recycling throughout the campus and to publicize the recycling program on campus. Additional recycling containers were located throughout all academic buildings and student residence halls. During the spring 2008 semester the campus participated in the national RecycleMania 10-week recycling competition. The campus also contracted with Abitibi Paper Retriever to locate two dumpsters on campus to assist with the recycling of all paper products. Over 50 recycling locations were established throughout the campus.

Perhaps the most noticeable sustainability activity on campus was the work of the Earth Week Subcommittee. A full slate of activities is scheduled for the week of Saturday, April 19, 2008, through Saturday, April 26, 2008, with a presentation by Ralph Nader on Friday, April 25, 2008, being the highlight of a week filled with presentations, movies and demonstrations. Beginning with “*A Sustainable Taste of Fredonia*” on Saturday, April 19, 2008, and concluding with a “*Campus and Community Electronics Recycling Day*” on Saturday, April 26, 2008, the Earth Week subcommittee presented a full array of sustainability topics to the campus and the committee.



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There are many more highlights presented by each subcommittee in their section of this annual report. Each subcommittee, including over 40 campus employees, can take pride in their solid contribution to the overall campus sustainability effort during the 2007-2008 academic year.

Reports of each subcommittee are presented as follows.



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Recycling Subcommittee Annual Report

The Recycling Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The University Sustainability Committee appointed the Recycling Subcommittee to enhance/create awareness opportunities for recycling on campus, including developing procedures and determining locations for the recycling centers and collection points throughout the campus. Members of the subcommittee include:

Soteris Tzitzis	University Services	Subcommittee Co-Chair
Kevin Cloos	Building Services & Grounds	Subcommittee Co-Chair
Christina Jarvis	English	
Sherri Mason	Chemistry	
Kathy Forster	Residence Life	
Mark Delcamp	Building Services and Grounds	
Jason Mellen	Student Representative	
Robin Hoepfinger	Student Representative	
Amanda Cannon	Student Representative	

Campus wide accomplishments include:

- Purchased and distributed over 200 office paper recycling containers
- Purchased and distributed campus wide trash/paper/cans/bottle containers for lobbies and hallways of buildings
- Purchased and distributed mini recycling containers (around the grounds of the campus)
- Entered into an agreement with Abitibi for the recycling of paper, and placed two bins on campus that have yielded 5.966 tons of paper being recycled (from October 2007 through February 2008)
- Created building recycling centers
- Purchased signage for building recycling centers
- Developed campus Recycling Guidelines
- Developed the Recycling 101 for the Go Green Web site
- Developed the EAP Recycling Flyer



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- Developed the recycling location map for the Go Green Web site

Residence halls accomplishments include:

- Educated Residence Life staff through discussion and posters about proper recycling procedures
- Announced at mandatory residence hall meetings (once each semester) of the new campus wide recycling efforts
- Encouraged Residence Life staff to discuss sustainability concerns through programming efforts
- Promoted sustainability through residence hall bulletin boards and other passive programs
- Encouraged SA environmental group to discuss issues at each residence hall council meeting
- Distributed personal recycling bins (those that were in storage from previous efforts) to residence hall students
- Worked with custodial staff to implement and enhance residence hall recycling efforts during each semester

Goals for 2008-2009 are to increase paper recycling and expand opportunities, develop battery recycling, develop print cartridge recycling, develop a recycling program for large campus events, continue accessing and adding container locations for recycling, add additional recycling centers in the upper floor residence hall recreational rooms, and include recycling/sustainability information in the 2008-2009 Student Handbook and On-Campus Living Guide.



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Public Relations Subcommittee Annual Report

The Public Relations Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The subcommittee was formed to provide public relations assistance for the campus’ sustainability campaign. The members of subcommittee include:

David Kinkela	History	Subcommittee Chair
Sarah Henry	Environmental Health & Safety	
Michael Barone	Public Relations	
Tracy Marafiote	Communication	
Birger Vanwesenbeeck	English	

Our goals were (and are) to create events and programs throughout the academic year to “keep the buzz going” about sustainability. In addition, we are in the process of creating a more formalized procedure for communication with community and campus members.

Accomplishments from the past year include:

- Created the campus sustainability website – www.fredonia.edu/gogreen
- Created a weekly series of public service announcements under the title “Sustainability Comment” in the student newspaper, *The Leader*
- Developed a custom-designed progress meter to support Fredonia’s RecycleMania efforts, installed in the Williams Center, along w/ a corresponding visual on the Website
- Launched a student design competition for the creation of a new sustainability logo
- Will help promote the campus’ Earth Week programming

Primary goals for 2008-2009 are to further promote the ideas and issues of sustainability and specifically to engage the students to serve as the campus champions of these efforts.

- Some ideas include:
 - Presence at campus-wide events:
 - Hockey, soccer, Fredfest



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- Sponsor a green day in the fall and winter (have a sports team wear green shirts)
 - Have collections of recyclables at sports events
 - Customize recycle receptacles designed by art students
- Using the logo from the design competition, we intend to design and implement a comprehensive campus-wide sustainability Public Relations campaign. The goal is to link disparate aspects of campus/student life to sustainability (i.e., electric usage, laundry/water usage, food consumption and waste)



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Energy Conservation Subcommittee Annual Report

The Energy Conservation Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee: The University Sustainability Committee appointed the Energy Conservation Subcommittee to enhance/create awareness opportunities for energy conservation on campus; including developing procedures, policies and actions which would reduce the amount of energy consumed by the campus. To date, the campus has been successful in reducing energy and avoiding additional energy costs. All energy (natural gas, electricity, fuel oil) is measured in millions of BTU's or Therms. Fredonia has reduced its energy usage between 1999 and 2006 by 45,000,000 Therms. This represents:

- 14.4% reduction in energy usage
- Avoided energy costs of \$759,138

The campus grew in size by 8% for the same period. It was the programs outlined below and new construction techniques used in the campus' capital program which allowed these savings to be realized. Jim Pepe is the only member of the Energy Subcommittee at this time.

Highlights for Energy Conservation Subcommittee

- Continue current practice of setting room temperatures based upon information received from the campus Events Management System
- Presented at the first annual New York State Sustainability Conference November 2007 in Saratoga Springs, NY
- Expanded the use of the existing Energy Management System which allows for remote temperature settings, used in conjunction with the first bullet above
- Provided resident hall students with CFL's for use in floor lamps and personal task lighting; each CFL saves \$ 7.00/school in energy usage
- Implemented the NYSERDA sponsored campus plug load analysis report dated November 2005. Fredonia's approach was presented in a paper and panel discussion at the 18th National Energy Services Conference in January, 2008. Continue the following programs that were developed as a result of this report:



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- In conjunction with working with campus Information Technology department, assured computer labs are turned off when not in use, and that sleeping functions are enabled on all monitors to activate after 20 minutes of non use
- Worked with Res Net to collect data and advise residence hall students the savings potential of setting the sleep function on their monitors to activate after 20 minutes of non use
- Used custodial staff to manually turn off exhaust fans serving bathrooms during the semester break

Goals for 2008-2009 will be to increase the awareness of the benefits of conservation to the faculty, staff and students. Continue the use of the programs listed above and introduce new programs for energy conservation. Some specific programs will be:

- Production of Bio Diesel from Faculty Student Association's waste frying oils
- Work with Residence Life to provide the following information to returning and new residence hall students:
 - Using the surge protection plug strip as the means of controlling the power for their computers and electronic games
 - Recommend students purchase only Energy Star labeled appliances, such as a microwave/refrigerator, for use in their residence room
- Continue working with Residence Life to assure windows, refrigerators and other electronic appliances are unplugged before students leave for semester break
- Welcome new members to participate in the Energy Conservation Subcommittee



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Green Building Subcommittee Annual Report

The Building Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The mission of the Sustainability Building Subcommittee (SBS) of SUNY Fredonia is to promote environmentally responsible design, planning, construction and operation of the built environment through education, outreach, networking and building system collaborations. Members of the subcommittee include:

Markus Kessler	Facilities Planning	Subcommittee Chair
Anne Podolak	Environmental Health and Safety	
Michael Wygant	Building Services and Grounds	
Holly Lawson	Chemistry	

The vision of the subcommittee is to achieve a campus built environment, in which sustainable practices have become mainstream.

Goals of this subcommittee are to develop and maintain campus “sustainable design” guidelines and to promote environmental stewardship through:

- Preservation of natural resources
- Cost effective green solutions
- Building construction waste reductions and recycling

Also, to Promote SBS as a respected source of information with regard to a sustainable built environment and to help SUNY Fredonia be recognized as a leader in “Green Building Design. ”

Accomplishments from the past year include:

- The subcommittee has met several times to establish its objectives and begin the process of moving forward with its goals.
- The subcommittee has attended the “Sustainable Construction a Perspective to the Year 2013 Conference” hosted by SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, which was attended by 55 individuals from various universities, colleges, architectural and engineering firms as well as several construction management companies.



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- The subcommittee conducted a site visit to Hamilton College's new science technology building to explore design elements and the construction process. The main focus was on the science teaching labs in order to help the subcommittee understand sustainability requirements related to energy, building material and hazardous waste.

The main goal for 2008-2009 is to begin the process of developing sustainable guidelines related to building materials and contraction practices. Another goal is to work closely with designers to insure that all new construction meets the state standards for green buildings. It is also the intent of the subcommittee to continue to explore new sustainable building design and elements as well as to insure that the campus continues to promote environmental stewardship within the building process.



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Green Landscaping Subcommittee Annual Report

The Green Landscaping Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The subcommittee was established to provide guidance and sound landscaping practices to enhance the campus and protect the natural resources and environment of the campus. The Green Landscaping Subcommittee, with direction from several faculty and staff, is working to develop green landscaping procedures and best practices which may be used throughout the campus. Members of the subcommittee include:

Kevin Cloos	Building Services and Grounds	Subcommittee Chair
Suzanne Freitas	Custodial Services	
Tim Frerichs	Visual Arts & New Media	
Christina Jarvis	English	
Brent Kawski	Facilities Management - Grounds	
Suzanne Strakosh	Biology	
Jon Titus	Biology	
Priscilla Titus	Community Representative	

The Green Landscaping Subcommittee has accomplished many goals including:

- Incorporated green designs into parking lot improvement projects
- Supported the Town of Pomfret Bicentennial Tree Planting Program by purchasing over 50 native trees for planting on campus
- Incorporated many perennials in the planting beds on campus to reduce the number of annuals which require more labor and more water
- Supported the installation of the native garden as part of the Earth Week celebration
- Developed many new planting beds at entrances to buildings

Goals for 2008-2009 include:

- Increase campus community involvement and provide education on best practices
- Reduce need for watering of planting beds by installation of more perennials and installation of many native species plantings



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- Develop grey watering program for watering of planting beds where needed
- Review tree management and recommend green practices to maintain the existing trees
- Continue the annual planting of 30 to 40 trees on campus
- Review use of herbicides and pesticides on campus
- Review the use of ice melt and rock salt for winter ice control on campus roadways and walkways including recommending methods and materials to reduce costs
- Reduce use of gasoline powered mowing equipment by converting green lawn areas to native planting beds at many areas on campus



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Green Cleaning Subcommittee Annual Report

The Green Cleaning Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The Green Cleaning Subcommittee was appointed by the SUNY Fredonia Sustainability Committee to enhance existing custodial operations and become an environmentally friendly department that will benefit employees and the greater campus community and its customers. Subcommittee members include:

Mark Delcamp	Building Services and Grounds	Subcommittee Chair
Kevin Cloos	Building Services and Grounds	
Sue Freitas	Custodial Services	
Kurt Fabritius	Custodial Services	
Pat Weaver	Custodial Services	
Dominic Crino	Custodial Services	
Wayne Dorler	Custodial Services	
Anthony Marino	Custodial Services	

Accomplishments from the past year include:

- Installed a campus wide foam soap product that is Green Seal Certified
- Purchased three environmentally-friendly floor scrubbers
- Assessed two new product lines that are Green Seal Certified
- Assessed various microfiber systems to enhance cleaning operations
- Converted two buildings to a Green Seal Certified toilet tissue
- Supported all recycling efforts on campus

Goals for 2008-2009 are to convert the campus to a new cleaning product line that will be Green Seal Certified, provide training to staff on green products, continual assessment of new environmentally-friendly products, continue purchasing environmentally-friendly equipment.



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Food Subcommittee Annual Report

The Food Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The Food Subcommittee developed a strategy for expanding the purchasing of local foods and food supplies. Action? Met with several shareholders to explore the local possibilities, seek to clarify and define succinctly what is local.

Subcommittee members include:

Bruce Tomlinson	Biology	Subcommittee Chair
Mike Proffer	FSA	
Ben Weidman	Student Representative	
Kevin Cloos	Building Services and Grounds	

Accomplishments from the past year include:

- Reduced the amount of food wasted on campus
- Two subcategories were identified:
 - Consumer Waste – create a plan for systematic education of customers to take only the food they will consume, conduct periodic dish room checks where wasted items are documented and quantified, share data with campus. For example, we publicized that the amount of food wasted on an average day could feed a family of five for three weeks – we need to reduce that amount through education and marketing, so please “Take all you want but eat all you take.”
 - Operator Waste – sharpened production forecasting tools; prepared in more frequent, but smaller batches; assessed recipes and menus to insure sufficient, but not excessive food is offered; evaluated preparation methods to reduce food waste.
- Identify alternative packaging and service ware that reduce trash and are environmentally responsible.



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Goals for 2008-2009 are to continue to recycle in all food service units and to explore bio-diesel use for old fry grease.

Earth Week Subcommittee Annual Report

The Earth Week Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The Earth Week Subcommittee was created with the charge of organizing an entire week of events centered on the spirit of Earth Day (April 22nd). The intent of this event was to:

- Increase awareness with regard to the breadth of sustainability issues
- Increase the active engagement of our student body in organizing an event for which they are invested and see a need
- Educate the campus community, as well as the community at large, about the most prominent environmental issues
- Encourage our entire campus community to be actively engaged in making our campus and, therefore, our society more sustainable
- Increase the visibility of the Sustainability Committee
- Reach out to the larger community as a model of sustainable practices
- Showcase all that our campus is already doing to be more sustainable, as well as our future goals

As one of the primary goals within this project was to encourage the active engagement of the student body, they comprised the principle membership of the subcommittee under the direction of Dr. Sherri A. Mason, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Coordinator of the Environmental Sciences program, and founding member of the Sustainability Committee. Members of the subcommittee include:



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Sherri Mason	Chemistry	Subcommittee Chair
Alyssa Brooke-Gay	Woman’s Student Union	Student Representative
Alicia Fahrner	Environmental Science	Student Representative
Maggie Germano	Department of Environmental Affairs	Student Representative
Redmond Haskins	Political Science Association	Student Representative
Robin Hoepfinger	Department of Environmental Affairs	Student Representative
Nicole LaBarge	Biology Club	Student Representative
Caitlin Levesque	College Democrats	Student Representative
Marie Redlecki	Environmental Science	Student Representative

While the students certainly did provide a substantial amount of the work involved in organizing and implementing the week-long series of events, additional support was provided by many members of the administration and the campus community at-large. Without their support, the plans of the subcommittee would not have been possible. Members-at-large include:

Tracy Bennett	Administration
Kevin Cloos	Building Services and Grounds
Kathy Forster	Residence Life
Christina Jarvis	English
Jim Pepe	Facilities Management
Mike Proffer	FSA

Accomplishments from the past year include:

- Through the combined efforts of all of the members, we were able to establish an impressive set of events beginning on Saturday, April 19, and running through the following Saturday, April 26. The highlight of the week, though, was a speech, a Q&A session and a book-signing event by Mr. Ralph Nader, environmental and consumer advocate.
- The “Sustainable Taste of Fredonia” event occurring on Saturday, April 19, coincided and complemented a number of other events also occurring with the Village of Fredonia and the Pomfret Township. These events included: “Rockin’ the Commons” event simultaneously occurring with the Barker Commons area sponsored by the Fredonia Student Radio Station, an EarthFest event occurring at the Grange Hall in downtown Fredonia sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Northern



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Chautauqua, and a Tree Planting Project occurring throughout the Pomfret Township in commemoration of its 200th anniversary.

- In addition to the above “public” set of events, Walter Simpson, Director of UB Green, also made a special presentation for the Sustainability Committee and additional administrators on the sustainability endeavors at the University of Buffalo and what has and (perhaps more importantly) what has not worked. This presentation was followed by a “Meet and Greet” event, which allowed members to ask Walter additional questions, as well as allowing the subcommittee to discuss the ideas presented at the seminar.

This annual report being due prior to the actual fruition of our Earth Week plans provides some difficulty in summarizing our goals for next year (being still intimately immersed in our goals for this year). Nevertheless, we endeavor to summarize some of those goals here:

- This first year’s set of events is impressive; we need to keep that momentum going, which includes getting another impressive “keynote” speaker.
- Learn from our mistakes. With having little doubt that we will find that some of our events go off without a hitch, while others struggle to take flight. Thus, we must analyze those situations to best understand the causes and how to adjust for those.
- More educational components focused upon particular issues.
- More outreach to the community at-large, including (but not limited to) schools, environmentally focused citizen’s groups, and locally engaged citizen’s groups.
- More vendors and displays.



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Department of Environmental Affairs Subcommittee Annual Report

The Department of Environmental Affairs Subcommittee is pleased to provide the following overview of the subcommittee. The Department of Environmental Affairs is a department of Fredonia’s Student Association (SA). This is a student based group that aims to make the campus more sustainable for future students. It was formed three short years ago. Our focus is to get students more involved, more knowledgeable and more enthusiastic about the issue of sustainability. The Department is also involved in a nationwide campaign for clean energy called the Campus Climate Challenge.

The subcommittee is made up of a core group of 5-7 students with another 10-12 who are actively involved. Members of the subcommittee include:

Maggie Germano	Student Representative	Subcommittee Co-Chair
Robin Hoepfinger	Student Representative	Subcommittee Co-Chair
Lisa Piering	Student Representative	
Andrew Condon	Student Representative	
Katie Tyczynski	Student Representative	
Claire Boyles	Student Representative	
Sarah Covotta	Student Representative	

Over the past year the department has accomplished many goals including, but not only:

- Formed a Sustainability Committee with students, faculty and staff of Fredonia.
- Had a Step it Up! event to pressure Congress to Step it Up! with regulations.
- Traveled with 20 students to Washington, D.C. to participate in Powershift, a conference with students across the nation on environmental training.
- Hosted a Polar Bear Plunge to raise awareness of climate change.
- Held a Clean Energy Panel Discussion with students and faculty.
- Educated/involved many students in planning the Campus Climate Challenge Campaign.
- Supported Sustainability within the Student Association at the State level by pushing and passing a Sustainability Resolution for all SUNY schools.



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Goals for 2008-2009 is to have the President sign onto the Presidents Climate Agreement. Officially advertise the recycling that is in place as well as obtain more bins, reach out to more students and educate/involve them in the campaign, purchase cleaner energy/produce clean energy for the campus, obtain more local and organic food for the campus, purchase/use more sustainable products such as toilet paper, napkins, and non-reusable products such as plastic utensils and styrofoam plates.



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