Sustainable Community

 Development Initiative

Strategic Plan

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2011

Strategic Plan

224 Lake ontario Hall

Allendale, MI., 49401

Sustainable Community Development Initiative

# Table of contents

Objective 1 3 - 17

* Objective 1.1
	+ Strategy 1.1a – Sustainable Conversations 3
	+ Strategy 1.1b – Lunchtime Sustainability Series 4
	+ Strategy 1.1c – SCDI Marketing and Communication Materials 5
	+ Strategy 1.1d – Student Sustainability Workshop 6
* Objective 1.2
	+ Strategy 1.2a – Campus Sustainability Week 7
	+ Strategy 1.2b – Sustainability Speakers 8
	+ Strategy 1.2c – Campus Sustainability Calendar 9
	+ Strategy 1.2d – Sustainability Development Certificate Program 10
* Objective 1.3
	+ Strategy 1.3a – SCDI Website 11
	+ Strategy 1.3b – Student Survey 12
	+ Strategy 1.3c – Sustainability Pledges 13
* Objective 1.4
	+ Strategy 1.4a – Sustainable Agriculture Project 14
	+ Strategy 1.4b – Sustainable Community Reinvestment Fund 15
* Objective 1.5
	+ Strategy 1.5a - Jobs for the New Economy Database 16
	+ Strategy 1.5b – Internships 17

Objective 2 18 - 21

* Objective 2.1
	+ Strategy 2.1a – Sustainability Related Courses in Curriculum 18
	+ Strategy 2.1b – ESD Comparison 19
	+ Strategy 2.1c – Talloires Declaration 20
* Objective 2.2
	+ Strategy 2.2a – Educate the Educators Program 21

Objective 3 22 - 29

* Objective 3.1
	+ Strategy 3.1a – Campus Projects and Impact Report 22 - 25
	+ Strategy 3.1b – Sustainable Community Reinvestment Fund 26
	+ Strategy 3.1c – Climate Inventory and Climate Action Plan 27
* Objective 3.2
	+ Strategy 3.2a – Sustainability Assessment 28
	+ Strategy 3.2b – Department Meetings 29

Objective 4 30 - 36

* Objective 4.1
	+ Strategy 4.1a – Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership 30
	+ Strategy 4.1b – Regional W. Michigan Community Sustainability Partner. 31
	+ Strategy 4.1c – UNU RCE ESD Designation 32
	+ Strategy 4.1d – W. Michigan Sustainable Purchasing Consortium 33
* Objective 4.2
	+ Strategy 4.2a – Sustainable Development Best Practices 34
	+ Strategy 4.2b – Seeds of Promise 35
	+ Strategy 4.2c – Model Communities Initiative 36

# Sustainable Conversations

**Bart Bartels and Norman Christopher**

**Objective 1.1**

**Strategy 1.1a**

**Report (Bart)**: Hold sustainable conversations and talks as a guest lecturer among college curriculum as invited.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dates of Presentations** | **Audience** | **Number in Attendance** |
| 7.22.10 | Marketing class | 25 |
| 8.20.10 | Scholar’s Institute | 50 |
| 10.20.10 | CSAL | 200 |
| 10.23.10 | Make a Difference Day | 300 |
| 10.27.10 | Kisler Housing students | 30 |
| 11.11.10 | LIB 100 | 50 |
| 1.10.11 | LIB 400 | 50 |
| 2.4.11 | ENS 201 | 30 |
| 2.16.11 | BIO 401 – Pollution | 30 |
| 2.25.11 | ENS 201 – Climate | 50 |
| 3.2.11 | Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority | 75 |
| 3.16.11 | Student Life | 80 |
| 3.21.11 | Theta Chi Fraternity | 20 |
| 3.28.11 | ENS 201 – Economic | 50 |
| 4.20.11 | ENS 401 – reviewer | 50 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **1,090** |

**Report (Norman)**: The estimated number of student presentations (FY 2011) was 8 and total of students was approximately 175.

**Metric**: Total number of presentations – 23; total number of students - 1,265

# Lunchtime Sustainability Series

**Andrea Marz and Graduate Assistant**

**Goal 1**

**Objective 1.1**

**Strategy 1.1b**

Facilitate co-curricular bi-monthly lunchtime sustainability discussions.

**Report**: In the process of developing schedule and logistics for monthly Lunchtime Sustainability Talks for the 2011-2012 academic year. The talks feature a brief TED talk relating to some aspect of sustainability and the rest of the time is group discussion on the topic. As in the past, we will have a sign in sheet at each event to track attendance.

# SCDI Marketing and Communication materials

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 1.1**

**Strategy 1.1c**

Develop with Institutional Marketing the appropriate SCDI marketing and communications materials.

**Report**: Printing of the Sustainability Guide was successful. Institutional Marketing helped make the Sustainability Guide available on the Sustainable Community Development Initiative website.

**Website**: <http://gvsu.edu/sustainability/>

# Student Sustainability Workshop

**Jennifer Jordan**

**Objective 1.1**

**Strategy 1.1d**

Provide support to continuing development of the Student Sustainability Workshop (Peer-to-Peer Program).

**Report**: The Sustainable Student Leader program was designed to engage a wide range of students in discussion about sustainability. At the workshop, students would work with their peers to think about what sustainability meant and then also learn about the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) concept. The larger goal of the workshop was for the students to become sustainably responsible student leaders in their student organization, university, and larger community. For the 2010-2011 school year, 24 students engaged in the Sustainable Student Leader program.

Currently, the Sustainable Student Leader program is being re-evaluated. Not only will students have the educational aspect of the program, but will also have the opportunity to complete a sustainable service project on campus. A survey will be conducted at the end of November 2011 to evaluate how the service and education affected them, their student organizations, the university, and the larger community.

**Metric**: Percentage of students reached by the program

**FY 2011**: 24

# Campus Sustainability Week

**Jennifer Jordan**

**Objective 1.2**

**Strategy 1.2a**

Hold annual Campus Sustainability Week activities.

**Report**: For Campus Sustainability Week 2010, there were many different events throughout the week, including TEDxGrand Valley, the cookoff, Make a Difference Day, and the Sustainability Champions Awards Breakfast, just to name a few. Two of the largest student supportive events were TEDxGrand Valley and Make a Difference Day. TEDxGrand Valley, an independently organized TED events, hosted a series of speakers shared prepared short talks – noted at 18 minutes or less – about sustainability (150 in attendance). James Kofi-Annan, a child trafficking survivor, gave a separate presentation to about 150. Make a Difference Day is a day for students, faculty, and staff to give back to the Grand Rapids community. 300 were in attendance for the 2010 Make a Difference Day. Sustainability truly was a grand tradition for Grand Valley’s 50th Anniversary and Campus Sustainability Week 2010.

For Campus Sustainability Week 2011, we challenge students to try to live a low impact life for one week through the No Impact Experiment, which is a program based off of Colin Beavan’s No Impact Man. Each day, students, faculty, and staff will build upon daily challenges, starting with lowering their consumption on Sunday to unplugging and relaxing on the following Sunday. Main events are planned throughout the week, with smaller events on the Allendale and DeVos campuses.

**Metric**: Cumulative number of students participating on CSW events.

**FY 2010**: 600 participants

# Sustainability speakers

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 1.2**

**Strategy 1.2b**

Partner with GVSU colleges and other institutions of higher learning to host sustainability speakers

**Report**: Approximately 150 students were present at the combined events of the Grand Rapids Community College Libuse Binder Events.

# Campus Sustainability Calendar

**Bart Bartels and Andrea Marz**

**Goal 1**

**Objective 1.2**

**Strategy 1.2c**

Develop and maintain an overall annual Campus Sustainable Activities calendar and review each year to assess adequate coverage.

**Report**: Worked with the web team to have an RSS feed of any event entered on the GVSU campus calendar that has a sustainability category to post to our homepage. This allows for the sustainability events to be auto generated on the SCDI home page. Even if we are not aware of a sustainability event, if they select that it is sustainability related when they post it to the GVSU campus calendar, it will post on our website.

Also, utilizing Basecamp for external events, conferences and speaking engagements for SCDI team members.

# sustainable development certificate program

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 1.2**

**Strategy 1.2d**

Develop an overall weeklong sustainable development certificate program for students.

**Report**: A 3 to 5 day sustainability certificate and education program is being planned for the summer of 2012, including Seidman College of Business, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, and the College of Public, Nonprofit, and Health Administration. Dean George Grant has taken the lead on this.

**Metric**: Addition of the Sustainable Development Certificate program to the curriculum.

# SCDI Website

**Andrea Marz and Web Editor**

**Goal 1**

**Objective 1.3**

**Strategy 1.3a**

Work with Institutional Marketing to refine and upgrade the SCDI website.

**Report**:

|  |
| --- |
| **Facebook** (as of August 2011) |
| 124 monthly active users |
| 296 people like this |

|  |
| --- |
| **Twitter** (as of August 2011) |
| 475 followers |

|  |
| --- |
| **Website Hits** (2011) |
| January | 2,400 |
| February | 2,170 |
| March | 2,103 |
| April | 3,299 |
| May | 3,102 |
| June | 1,791 |
| July | 1,741 |

# Student Survey

**Bart Bartels**

**Goal 1**

**Objective 1.3**

**Strategy 1.3b**

With Institutional Marketing, conduct a student sustainability survey on campus to determine overall awareness, understanding, and importance of applied sustainable development best practices.

**Report**: A survey has been created and will be distributed to all students in the third week of September of 2011. Many of the questions were also part of the 2009 survey so we will be able to measure progress.

**Survey**: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5VP9S7C>

# Sustainability Pledges

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 1.3**

**Strategy 1.3c**

**Report**: Use the SCDI website to encourage students to sign the Sustainability Pledge.

|  |
| --- |
| Sustainability Pledges per Year\* |
| 2008 – 09 | 194 |
| 2009 – 10 | 280 |
| 2010 – 11  | 337 |

\*Each year starts on July 1

**Metric**: For FY 2011, the Sustainability Pledges were up 27% from FY 2011.

# Sustainable Agriculture Project

**Levi Gardner**

**Objective 1.4**

**Strategy 1.4a**

Develop a Sustainable Agriculture plan.

**Report**: During 2011, the GVSU Sustainable Agriculture Project (formerly the GVSU Community Garden) has served as a learning platform for a variety of faculty, staff, and students. The following is just a brief list of highlights from 2011 to date.

* More than 100 LIB 100 students logged over 400 volunteer hours during spring and summer workshops at the SAP farm. These visits included discussions of education, experiential learning, and the ideals of sustainable agriculture.
* Students from Central and Union High Schools learned about organic agriculture and sustainable food systems from managing their own section of the gardens at the SAP farm during their summer stay at GVSU.
* More than 125 lbs of food have been grown for 12 CSA memberships held by GVSU students, staff, and faculty. The revenue from these shares have helped to continue covering costs for tools, supplies, and seeds for the SAP farm.
* Beets, radishes, turnips, lettuce, peas, beans, zucchini, melons, basil, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, okra, and a number of other crops are growing using small-scale organic agriculture techniques.
* 2 paid internships and 1 for-credit internship are in process for students from BIO, NRM, and LIB interested in sustainable food systems.
* A 30’ x 72’ hoop house has been ordered and is scheduled to be built in August of 2011.
* The SAP farm is assisting Prof. Michael Henshaw and Laura Goldsmith of biology in conducting an experiment evaluating the potential for biological control of the polistes wasp.

Financial support has been provided by SCDI, Sustainable Agriculture Research Education (SARE) of the USDA, GVSU Student Senate via Farm Club, BCOIS, and CLAS to continue supporting the sustainable agricultural efforts of the SAP farm.

# Sustainable Community Reinvestment fund

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 1.4**

**Strategy 1.4b**

Encourage students to apply for campus sustainable development projects using the Sustainability Community Reinvestment Fund (SCRF).

**Report**: In this inaugural year of the Sustainable Community Reinvestment Fund, SCDI received 2 grant applications from student groups. Both of theses applications were approved for a total of $1260.

# Jobs for the New economy database

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 1.5**

**Strategy 1.5a**

Work with Career Services to create and maintain a database of jobs for the New Economy.

**Report**: Dominic Cony-Beare has transitioned well into his new internship. He has both a business and statistics background. The database contains a” top down” level of Jobs for the New Economy, including green, clean energy, and sustainability jobs, that have been compiled from reports that have been issued by organizations and publications. Most of these jobs reports focus on clean technologies. The database also contains a “bottom up” level of local companies that are in the individual New Economy job sectors. In March 2010 the Bureau of Labor Statistics issued a report identifying all the NAICS and SOC codes for these jobs. All those codes have now been filled in. Some of the individual sector companies have also been identified such as those in the energy storage market. Overall, it is estimated that ~100,000+/- Jobs for the New Economy are in Michigan today, which is not inclusive of all markets. The baseline data comes from the Michigan Green Jobs Report.

Additionally, Career Services also expects to issue a survey to its top local employers, ~100 companies in West Michigan, to better track these types of jobs as they are posted on the Career Services website. The SCDI is focusing on the required skill sets that students need upon graduation to obtain a job in the New Economy including basic skill sets, leadership skill sets, and applied sustainable development skill sets.

**Metric**: The SCDI will be tracking the number of students that obtain jobs in the New Economy. In the recent past, there have been a number of these students including: Kyle Denning, Dan Kuipers, Adrianna Paz, Shane McGrath, Thad Cummings, Rennie Ramial, Emily Martin, Jonathan Klooster and others that have obtained a job in the New Economy and also remained in West Michigan.

# Internships

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 1.5**

**Strategy 1.5b**

Help students obtain paid and non-paid internships, volunteering opportunities, senior and capstone projects that result in applied sustainable development learning opportunities in West Michigan.

**Report**: Year End Report on the paid and unpaid internships created during the FY 2011.

**Metric**:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Skill Sets learned** | **Number of Internships placed** |
| Campus Dining | Composting cost analysis | 1 |
| Campus Sustainability Week | Organized and marketed a sustainable concert | 2 |
| Facilities | Improved signage for recycling bins | 1 |
| Grand Haven High School | Cost analysis to replace Styrofoam plates | 1 |
| Grand Rapids | Social Media (unpaid) | 1 |
| Grand Rapids | MPA (unpaid) | 1 |
| Grand Rapids TRAT Team | Cost analysis, MPA, MBA | 3 |
| ooVoo Team | Telepresence implementation and cost analysis for the Athletic Department | 5 |
| ooVoo Volunteer | Telepresence cost analysis for ooVoo users outside the AD | 1 |
| SCDI website | Management of the website and creation of newsletter | 1 |
| Seeds of Promise | MSW, MPA | 4 |
| Sustainable Agriculture Project | Sustainable farming practices | 4 |
| Sustainable Community Development Initiative | MPA Graduate Assistant | 1 |
| Sustainable Community Development Initiative | Liberal Studies | 1 |
| West Michigan Sustainable Purchasing Consortium | Marketing survey | 1 |
| **TOTAL** | **27** |

# Sustainability related courses in curriculum

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 2.1**

**Strategy 2.1a**

Conduct an inventory of all sustainability emphases, theme, certificates, as well as sustainability related majors and minors, curriculum, and courses across all the GVSU colleges.

**Report**: A new survey is being created to update he education for sustainability related courses.

# ESD Comparison

**Bart Bartels**

**Goal 2**

**Objective 2.1**

**Strategy 2.1b**

Create ESD comparison to leading and peer universities.

**Report**: At this point the following list of schools has been established for comparisons. No analysis has been done at this point to compare Grand Valley to these institutions.

Peers:

* University of Northern Iowa
* Portland State University

Perceived Leaders:

* American University
* Duke University
* Middlebury College
* University of Colorado at Boulder
* Indiana University
* Oregon State University

Categories:

* Education and Research
	+ Co-curriculum
	+ Curriculum
	+ Research
* Operations
	+ Climate
	+ Energy
	+ Waste
	+ Water
* Planning
	+ Diversity
	+ Investment
	+ Human Resources
	+ Public Engagement

# Talloires Declaration

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 2.1**

**Strategy 2.1c**

Ensure GVSU meets all the requirements of being a signatory to the Talloires Declaration through the development of ESD.

**Report**: GVSU is a signatory to this international organization of colleges and universities that have a commitment to environmental sustainability. The organization is voluntary and focuses on environmental education for sustainable development. An updated report needs to be written of GVSU activities by the end of the calendar year 2011. The importance of environmental education for students is critical as a recent 2010 Princeton Review survey of incoming freshman college students indicates that over the last few years an increasing number of students, approximately 65%, now make their decisions based on colleges and universities that offer these environment sustainability and related programs.

**Metrics**: Annual Requirement Review

# Educate the Educators program

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 2.2**

**Strategy 2.2a**

Create an Educate the Educators Program.

**Report**: Norman Christopher was the guest speaker at the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing (approximately 35 in attendance) and the Muskegon Community College (approximately 40 in attendance) on faculty day discussion on.

**Metric**: Participation in pre-school year ESD discussions for faculty members.

# Campus Projects and impact Report

**Bart Bartels, Norman Christopher, and Jennifer Jordan**

**Objective 3.1**

**Strategy 3.1a**

Work with Administration, Facilities Services and Campus Dining on specific projects of interest including waste minimization, Recyclemania!, composting, LEED building energy savings, etc. Develop GVSU’s third “Sustainability Indicator Report” in the form of a sustainable impact report.

**Report**: Below under “Impact Report”

**Metric**: Annual cost savings, cost avoidance, and value creation for each project listed below in the “Impact Report”.

**Impact Report**

Community Involvement

* Students
	+ 2010 – 2011 totals
		- Student participants – 10,491
* Academic Units
	+ Total – 822,786 hours
		- Volunteer dollar amount ($21.36 per hour) - $17,241,408.96
* 50 for 50
	+ Hour recorded for challenge
		- Individuals recorded hours – 634
		- Challenge completed – 301
		- Total hours reported – 26,232.5
		- Volunteer dollar amount ($21.36/hour) - $560,326.20
	+ Community organizations statistics
		- Community organizations affected – 930
		- Economic impact - $519,151
* Website
	+ For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/service/

Economic Impact

* GVSU Campus
	+ Provides $680.4 million in local economic impact (2010)
	+ Affects 10,265 jobs

Education

* Information is from a 2008 survey. A new survey is being created for more up to date information.
* Majors/Minors
	+ 1.7% of GVSU student population enrolled in sustainability related minor
* Themes
	+ 25% of GVSU student population enrolled in sustainability related theme
* Overall Students Enrolled in Sustainability courses
	+ 13%
		- 21% increase since 2005 with 1,299 enrolled for winter 2009
* Website
	+ For more information, visit http://gvsu.edu/sustainability/education-curriculum--198.htm

Energy and Climate

* Facilities
	+ Energy conservation projects create $1,350,112 in one-time savings
	+ Energy conservation projects create $1,565,267 in annual avoided costs with an average payback of less than two years
* Housing
	+ Energy competitions reduce costs by an average of $11,265 per year
* Climate
	+ Have cut Scope 1 and 2 CO2e emissions by 2,879 Metric Tons per year compared to 2006.
		- Savings of $44,235 according to the price trade of carbon
	+ Since 2006 GHG emissions have been cut by over 20% on a square footage basis
* Carbon Exchange
	+ $15.36 is the average price trade of carbon on the European Energy Exchange
		- Low end is $12.33 and high end is $18.40

Food

* Campus Dining
	+ Campus dining has numerous initiatives, such as buying locally, being the first university in Michigan to commit to using cage-free eggs, and much more.
		- Cage free eggs
		- Fair Trade
		- Local produce
		- Meatless Mondays
	+ Benefits of local produce
		- The average food travels 1,500 miles. This accounts to over 30,800 tons of greenhouse emissions for transportation of the food every year.
	+ Website
		- For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/campusdine/sustainability-68.htm
* Farmer’s Market
	+ Running June through October of each year, the Farmer’s Market is a great way for the GVSU community to buy local.
	+ Website
		- For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness/farmer-s-market-88.htm
* Sustainable Agriculture Project
	+ Located on Luce Street of the Allendale campus, the Sustainable Agriculture Project started with a group of students/faculty/staff in 2008.
	+ Website
		- For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/sustainableagproject/

Health and Wellness

* Total number of employees working on GVSU campus
	+ 3,115
* Different Faculty/Staff programs
	+ Benefits
* Prescription drug plan partnership saves $1.5 million per year
	+ 80/20 percent cost sharing will save the university about $2 million per year
* Wellness
	+ Healthy ChoicesParticipants – 160
	+ Know Your Numbers Participants – 602
* Benefits
	+ Economic
		- * National average savings between $2.30 and $10.10 per every dollar spent on health and wellness employee program
				+ Average of $6.20
	+ Health
		- Decreased affluent diseases, such as type II diabetes and obesity
* Website
	+ For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness/

Institutional Marketing

* Institutional Marketing can and does provide tools to enhance the image and visibility of the university
* A comprehensive report was completed
	+ 2,387.38 trees saved
	+ 748,141.51 gallons of water saved
	+ 88,242.19 pounds eliminated in solid waste
	+ 400,122.32 pounds eliminated in atmospheric emissions
* Website
	+ For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/im/

LEED Building

* Savings from LEED buildings
	+ 30% less energy
	+ 40% less water
	+ 75% less material than regular buildings
* GVSU LEED buildings
	+ LEED Certified – 455,304 ft2
	+ LEED Silver certified – 363,781 ft2
	+ LEED Gold certified – 195,101 ft2
	+ Total LEED building space – 1,014,186 ft2
* LEED buildings saves 15% over traditional new buildings
* Website
	+ For more information, visit http://www.gvsu.edu/sustainability/leed-certified-buildings-at-gvsu-131.htm

Purchasing

* GVSU spends more than $45 million annually in sustainable procurement including construction, renovation, and minority vendor purchases.
* Paper purchases
	+ $6,812 spent on paper with 10-29% recycled content in FY2010
	+ $293,014 spent on paper with 30-40% recycled content in FY2010
	+ $2,849 spent on paper with 90-100% recycled content in FY2010
* Green Cleaning supplies - $17,000 in FY2010 (Green Seal or Eco Logo)
* Event Services - Grand Valley's L.V. Eberhard Center was one of the first four venues in the state to earn the Green Venues Michigan Leader certification from the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth (DELEG).

Transportation

* All routes on The Rapid are free for GVSU students, faculty, and staff, including routes to and from the Allendale campus, Pew Grand Rapids campus, and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.
* Bus Rider Statistics
	+ 2 million total, as of mid February 2011 (2010 – 2011)
	+ 25,705,407 total miles ridden on the bus
	+ $11,567,433.15 saved in auto operating costs
	+ 1,285,270 gallons of gas saved
	+ $4,048,601.60 in gas savings
* Commuter Statistics
	+ Students who walk/bike/other non-motorized (primary transportation) – 25%
	+ Van/carpool (primary transportation) – 3%
	+ Bus (primary transportation) – 33%
* Website
	+ For more information, visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/bus/>

Tele-presence

* ooVoo Team implemented tele-presence in the Athletic department
	+ With in 6 weeks the group documented over $6,800 in net savings

Waste Minimization

* Waste Minimization Statistics (Recycled Products)
	+ 663.6 tons of paper, cardboard, books, glass, plastic, tin
		- 2851 tonnes CO2e avoided
	+ 71.0 tons of compost
		- 71 tonnes of CO2e avoided
	+ 24.7 tons of metal
	+ 13.6 tons of computers
	+ 0.9 tons of batteries
	+ 3.7 tons from Project Donation
	+ 7.5 tons of pallets
	+ 2.8 tons of florescent light bulbs
	+ 787.8 tons of recycling
	+ 1357.3 tons of material were sent to the land fill
	+ 36.7% of GVSU waste was recycled in 2010
	+ Source:http://stopwaste.org/docs/appendix\_e.\_summary\_of\_stopwaste.org\_program\_analysis.pdf

Water

* Have reduced the campus water consumption by almost 25 million gallons per year compared to 2005.
* Native landscaping
	+ Economically, installation of an acre of native prairie costs about a quarter the cost of an acre of sod and maintenance is one fifth as much.
	+ By substantially reducing the quantity of stormwater, native landscaping reduces the need of infrastructure thereby cutting construction costs.
	+ Ecologically, fifty percent of the rainwater remains on sight, limiting runoff and adding to plant growth, reducing compaction, and sequestering carbon.
* Trayless dining – reduces water consumption by about 1.6 million gallons per year
* Savings

# Sustainable Community Reinvestment Fund

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 3.1**

**Strategy 3.1b**

Provide marketing and promotion as well as overall leadership to the Sustainable Community Reinvestment Fund (SCRF).

**Report**:

* **Freedom Formal – A** $60 Grant assisted in funding a charity event that raised $1200, featured Miss Michigan as the keynote, and led to a Lanthorn Article.

* **Food Pantry** - $1075 in grants were matched by $500 from the pantry. Those funds enabled 315 vouchers to be given to students in need. Those vouchers then supported local farmers at the GVSU Farmer’s Market.
* **Water Filters** - $1200 was granted to the Student Environmental Coalition and GVSU Facilities to install 2 water bottle filling stations. Those stations measured plastic bottles averted from landfill. At year-end, each station displayed over 7,000 for a total of 14,000 bottles in just a few months. Grand Haven High School, Muskegon Community College, and University of Chicago have all inquired about the process.
* **Children’s Enrichment Center** - A $439.38 loan to replace disposable dishes with reusable dishes is leading to a savings of $6,884.62 over the next 3 years. In addition CEC has cut their waste by two bags of garbage per day. This waste minimization leads to a reduction in CO2e emissions of 10,800 pounds per year.
* **ooVoo Conference Room –** A $5,600 loan was issued to the Athletic Department for creation of a tele-presense conference room. A group of interns has been able to document net savings from this program of $6852.95 in the last two months. The payback period was about 6 weeks.

**Metric**: While the RIO did not reach its target of 10%, a very successful project was introduced at year end. The ooVoo Conference room will have a significant affect on returns going forward. For FY 2011 the return was slightly negative.

# Climate inventory and climate action plan

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 3.1**

**Strategy 3.1c**

Maintain an up to date GVSU climate inventory and overall Climate Action Plan.

**Report**: Grand Valley has completed its carbon inventory for each year dating back to 2001. At this time FY2010 is the last completed inventory but calculation of FY2011 will begin shortly. The first GVSU Climate Action Plan was completed in January of 2010. An update to the plan will take place every other year with the next plan due in January of 2012.

|  |
| --- |
| **Carbon Footprint** (FY 2010) |
| Scope 1 Emissions | 14,363.3 MTCO2e |
| Scope 2 Emissions | 39,496.4 MTCO2e |
| Scope 3 Emissions | 28,311.9 MTCO2e |
| **TOTAL Net Emissions** | **81,990.6 MTCO2e** |

# Sustainability assessments

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 3.2**

**Strategy 3.2a**

Maintain an up to date active AASHE Sustainability Tracking and Reporting Rating System (STARS) that provides campus wide sustainability assessment data.

**Report**: GVSU has undertaken a campus wide assessment of sustainability through the STARS program. Data was collected from many departments of campus and input into the STARS system. That data was for one of three categories, Education and Research, Operations, or Planning, Administration and Planning. Results indicated a Silver Rating for FY 2010 and a score of 54.15. Data will be updated for FY 2011.

**Link**: (details of the GVSU STARS results)

https://stars.aashe.org/institutions/grand-valley-state-university-mi/report/2011-01-31/

# Department Meetings

**Jennifer Jordan**

**Goal 3**

**Objective 3.2**

**Strategy 3.2b**

Work with individual GVSU departments to set up unit meetings and establish “Sustainability Leaders”.

**Report**:

* June
	+ Executive Secretaries
		- Thursday, June 2 at 8.30 a.m. in JHZ Board Room
		- Contact – Katie Snider (1.2183)
	+ Career Services (Allendale and DeVos)
		- Tuesday, June 7 at 8.15 a.m. in 202E DeVos
		- Contact – Susan Smith (1.3311)
	+ News and Information Services
		- Tuesday, June 14 at 10 a.m. in 133 Lake Michigan Hall
		- Contact – Sherry Bouwman (1.2221)
	+ Budget and Financial Analysis
		- Tuesday, June 21 at 10 a.m. in 116 Lake Michigan Hall
		- Contact – Kay Klosawski – 1.2831
	+ Children’s Enrichment Center
		- Thursday, June 23 at 10 a.m. in Children’s Enrichment Center
		- Contact – Jessica Mirana-Bevier (1.5437)
* July
	+ Financial Aid
		- Wednesday, July 6 at 9 a.m. in 106 STU
		- Contact – Jenna Poll (1.3234)
* August
* September
	+ Continuing Education (Administration, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Traverse City, and Holland)
		- Thursday, September 1 at 10 a.m. in 302C DeVos
		- Contact – Susan Naber (1.7352)

# Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.1**

**Strategy 4.1a**

Provide administrative and leadership development to the greater Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership.

**Report**: The “CSP” has now grown to approximately 200 endorsing member stakeholder organizations. The new leadership team under the direction of Mayor Heartwell (chair), President Ender of GRCC, and President Haas of GVSU has gained traction and vitality since the beginning of the 2011 calendar year. The next level of local leadership in sustainable development is evident among the members of the leadership team. Key initiatives for the Grand Rapids CSP include: redesign and maintenance of the CSP website [www.grpartners.com](http://www.grpartners.com); updating reports for the Grand Rapids United Nations University Regional Center of Excellence in Education for Sustainable Development (UNU RCE ESD); and planning an upcoming CSP program and activity on October 18, 2011. GVSU provides administrative support to the CSP through Andrea Marz.

**Metric**: Bi-monthly meetings of the CSP Leadership Team to meet CSP goals. CSP minutes are maintained and available to CSP leadership team members.

# regional west michigan community sustainability partnership

**Bart Bartels and Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.1**

**Strategy 4.1b**

Host and facilitate regional sustainable development activities of the other Regional West Michigan Community Sustainability Partnership with Grand Rapids City taking the lead.

**Report**: There are 5 “CSP’s” in West Michigan including Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Holland/Zeeland, Spring Lake/Grand Haven, and Portage/Kalamazoo/Battle Creek. GVSU hosts a regional meeting of all the CSP’s on the Allendale campus once every 4 months. John Koches, from AWRI, provides facilitation for this group. A recent meeting was held and there were a number of key ongoing regional sustainable development activities and programs including: energy efficiency and energy conservation (Haris Alibasic, City of Grand Rapids); GreenTown event in Kalamazoo (Jill Armstrong, A5); Sustainable Community Voices on WGVU Shelley Irwin show monthly (Renae Hesselnk);City of Holland Energy Management Plan (Mark Vanderploeg); and UNU RCE ESD program and activity support.

**Metric**: Minutes are available for all regional CSP meetings.

One area that the efforts regional CSP has decided to focus on is the energy efficiency and conservation. The goal is to be able to present the aggregate affect of all the regional CSP that can then be used as a baseline to measure future improvement. The decision to collect this information has only recently been made so there are no results to report at this time. This team is being led by Haris Alibasic, Office of Energy and Sustainability, City of Grand Rapids.

# UNU RCE ESD Designation

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.1**

**Strategy 4.1c**

Assist with the data basing and inventory of ESD for the 22 West Michigan colleges, universities, and theological seminaries including overall impact in support of the United Nations University Regional Center of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development (UNU RCE ESD) designation.

**Report**: A separate UNU RCE ESD team within the CSP has been formed to comply with new UNU RCE procedures for the UNU RCE portal. All new reporting forms for the Grand Rapids RCE will be forwarded to the UNU by September 2011.

**Metric**: UNU REC reporting guidelines.

# West michigan sustainable purchasing consortium

**Bart Bartels**

**Objective 4.1**

**Strategy 4.1d**

Help support the continuing development of the West Michigan Sustainable Purchasing Consortium (WMSPC).

**Report**: For the past few years the WMSPC has struggled to increase membership and sales volume through its website. This spring Bart offered to get a student involved to conduct a survey of members to gather some feedback and gather ideas for improvement. A marketing student (Michelle Nguyen) volunteered to survey the membership. The questions asked included:

1. What kind of products would you like the purchasing consortium to offer?
2. How do you purchase products now, especially paper products?
3. What vendors do you currently buy from?
4. What would the WMSPC have to do for you to start purchasing from this organization?

The responses were collected and then distributed to WMSPC Committee members in July of 2011. The committee will meet at the end of August 2011 to determine next steps based on the feedback from the student survey.

**Metric**:

* Annual Sales = $89,000.52 of 30% recycled content paper and $23,811.02 of 100% recycled content paper for a total of $112,811.50.
* Grand Valley hours volunteered – 40 (split between staff and a student from March to July 2011)

# Sustainable Development Best Practices

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.2**

**Strategy 4.2a**

Ensure the successful execution of the GVSU and City of Grand Rapids Sustainable Development Best Practices services contract including the Office of Energy and Sustainability, the Transformation Research and Analysis Team (TRAT) and the Customer First Response Team (CFR).

**Report**: The current GVSU-City of Grand Rapids services contract ends September 2011. At this stage it is anticipated that the services contract will be renewed. There are 8 GVSU students, Olwen Urquhart, and Norman Christopher that provide these sustainable development best practices. The services have in the past primarily been in support of Haris Alibasic and the Office of Energy and Sustainability. Last October the City requested the formation of the Transformation Research and Analysis Team (TRAT). Currently four graduate level students have completed 20 TRAT team projects. The Mayor, City Executive Team, City Department Heads, and City Commissioners all have been granted 100 free hours of sustainable development research on best practices in the area of their choice. We have recently completed a cost-benefit analysis for the 20 TRAT projects that has been started with the City Executive Team and the City Commissioners. The TRAT team concept has also gained interest at GVSU, Muskegon, and Holland.

**Metric**: Annual renewal of City Support Services contract.

# Seeds of Promise

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.2**

**Strategy 4.2b**

Provide leadership and administrative support to the successful development of the Seeds of Promise sustainable development initiative.

**Report**: A paper is being written by the GVSU faculty, which will be available September 2011.

**Metric**: Evaluate upon request.

# Model communities initiative

**Norman Christopher**

**Objective 4.2**

**Strategy 4.2c**

Provide leadership and support to Future Search and the Model Communities Initiative in Holland and Zeeland.

**Report**: The Model Communities Initiative in Holland and Zeeland held a 2 day facilitated workshop to gain traction on this community development program. The program is built on three foundational areas including governance, business, and education. It is being sponsored by ~75 community leaders. There was also a recent update in Lansing from the Business Leaders for Michigan. Several CEO’s remarked that business overall is beginning to rebound, even though many of the data points and metrics being monitored and tracked do not yet show a significant upward trend.

**Metric**: Progress made on Model Communities Plan, including available updates.