

A Sustainable Learning and Working Environment

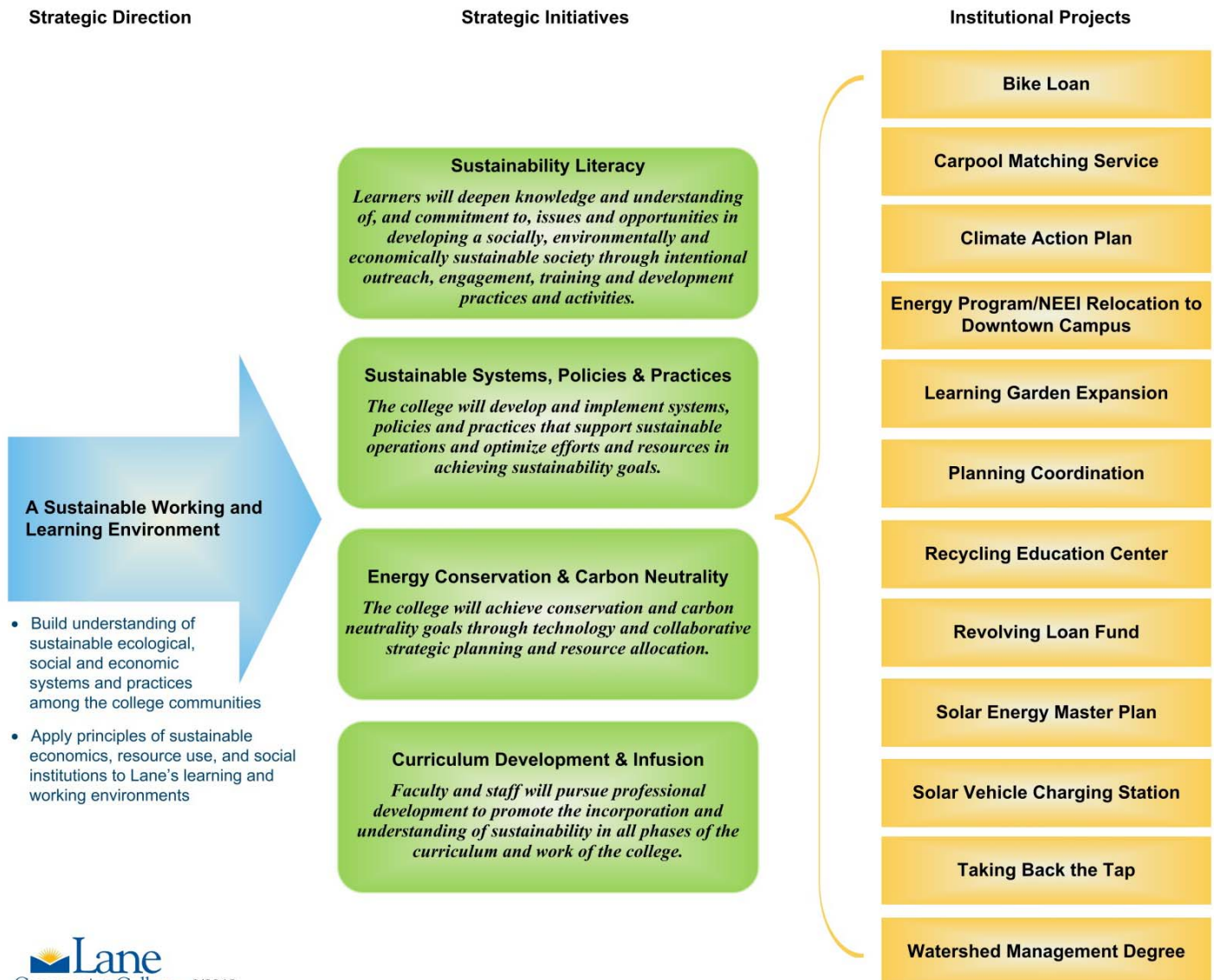
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Build understanding of sustainable ecological, social and economic systems and practices among the college communities

Apply principles of sustainable economics, resource use, and social institutions to Lane's learning and working environments

Source: <http://www.lanec.edu/research/planning/StrategicDirections.htm>

A Sustainable Learning and Working Environment



Introduction:

In recent years, a variety of issues related to climate change and energy use have focused a spotlight of interest and action on sustainability. Increasingly, it is becoming understood that the future health and wellbeing of people around the world will rely on increased understanding of sustainable practices and values such as conservation, better resource utilization, and social equity. Lane's approach to sustainability literacy emphasizes its interdisciplinary nature, encompassing social, environmental, and economic orientations.

Lane will develop policies and procedures that support and encourage students and staff to learn about, understand, and experience the multidimensional significance of sustainability in our lives. Because of its status as a learning college, the college can support sustainability as an interdisciplinary curricular and co-curricular outcome, in which facets of sustainability are infused across the college academic and student affairs areas. All units at Lane promote and practice sustainability in their daily work, applying best practice principles of sustainable economics, resource conservation.

(Source: Strategic Direction Context & Goals)

To achieve sustainability goals and objectives, work is focused and organized around four strategic initiatives: *sustainability literacy*, *sustainable systems, policies and procedures*, *energy conservation and carbon neutrality*, and *curriculum development and infusion*. The institutional projects described below directly support these initiatives.

Institutional Projects:

Bike Lane

"Bike Lane", a bike loan program modeled after the library's laptop checkout program, was piloted during spring term 2012 with ten commuter-style bikes and gear available for loan to students who can't otherwise afford a bike. The program helps students take advantage of the bus-bike network to get to campus and around town, helps lower the college's collective carbon footprint, and encourages health and wellness. Based on strong participation and positive results, the program will triple in size to 30 bikes for fall term 2012. Lead: Mike Sims.

Carpool Matching Service

In 2011-2012, the transportation fee provided funding for a carpool matching service with 950 participants. The service, which the college offers in partnership with Zimride, significantly reduced fall term traffic jams and Lane's greenhouse gas profile. The service is easy to use; in seconds students and employees can set up a profile, search for open seats, or post a ride of their own. With Zimride, users can view photos, music, and radio preferences to ensure an enjoyable ride. Once on the website, students can sign up through Facebook and employees may sign up either through Facebook or by using their lanecc.edu GroupWise address.

Leads: Brian Kelly, Jennifer Hayward.

<http://www.lanecc.edu/mpr/news/rel01449.htm>

<http://www.zimride.lanecc.edu/>

Climate Action Plan

With this Climate Action Plan, the college has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. A team of experts from the college and community have compiled sixty-one actions that will put Lane on a solid path toward carbon neutrality. This plan will be updated and refined as it is reviewed by more members of the college community. As technologies, perceptions, and availability of resources change over the next forty years, sustainability leads will continue to improve the plan accordingly. This is a living document that will help us navigate toward a more sustainable world while providing inspiration and information to help Lane's students to do the same. Leads: Jennifer Hayward, Brian Kelly, Mike Sims, Anna Scott.

<http://www.lanec.edu/sustainability/climateactionplan.html>

Energy Program/NEEI Relocation to Downtown Campus

The Energy Programs and NEEI will be relocating to the new Downtown Campus in winter 2013. Lane's new building, in the heart of downtown Eugene, is designed with several one-of-a-kind features that will allow students to interact with the building as a functioning lab. The project has often been referred to as a 'building that teaches'; it will provide a unique opportunity for people locally, nationally and internationally interested in Energy efficiency and building sciences to come and learn. Lead: Roger Ebbage.

<http://www2.lanec.edu/sites/default/files/collegecatalog/ctenergymgmttech.pdf>

Learning Garden Expansion

Lane's Learning Garden is a student-led initiative that grows healthy, sustainable food for the campus community while providing learning, service, and leadership opportunities for students. The Learning Garden is an interdisciplinary educational model that offers students the opportunity to work with others outside the classroom and have fun. It is an essential part of Lane Community College's core value of Sustainability and has received national attention in KIWI Magazine's "Green College Report" as well as an Outstanding Commitment Award at the 2009 Clinton Global Initiative University.

The Learning Garden offers students leadership experience. It is a great way to be actively involved in implementing sustainability measures on campus. Learning Garden volunteers may qualify for work study, internships, or service learning credit from specific faculty who support the garden with their curriculum. In 2011, students approved an increase of \$0.50 to the student fee to increase the Learning Garden Specialist FTE from 0.4 FTE to 0.7 This enables the Learning Garden Club to hire part time staff to manage Learning Garden activities and maximize productivity.

The garden sold over 5,000 pounds of produce to Lane Conference & Culinary Services in 2011-2012, up from 2,000 the prior year and 800 in 2009-2010. The Learning Garden Club will continue to diligently seek additional funding through grants, community support, and other outside sources. Lead: Jennifer Hayward

<http://www2.lanec.edu/aslcc/voters-information>

<http://www.lanec.edu/sustainability/lgc.html>

Planning Coordination

Sustainability leaders and practitioners on campus are working to develop combined “master” strategic plans to include the sustainability plan, perimeter plan and campus master plan to ensure planning and implementation efforts are aligned and coordinated. Work includes visioning sessions, in-service workshops and committee meetings and will continue throughout 2012-2013. Leads: Claudia Owen, Jennifer Hayward, Brian Kelly, Mike Sims, Anna Scott.

<http://www2.lanecc.edu/sites/default/files/sustainability/120507.pdf>

Recycling Education Center

A new bond-funded Recycling Education Center opened in 2011 in Building 10. This project is the culmination of years of planning and has significantly improved the efficiency and revenue of solid waste management at Lane. The Recycling Education Center also provides opportunities for students in Lane’s Resource Conservation Manager Program to gain real world skills in waste management through internships beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year. Lead: Mike Simms

<http://www2.lanecc.edu/recycle/>

Revolving Loan Fund

The Sustainable Endowments Institute has recognized Lane as a leader in green financing for the college’s commitment to funding energy conservation and renewable energy through utility carryover, bond, and deferred maintenance funding. This revolving loan fund for energy conservation and renewable energy, the only such program at a community college, has been piloted at Lane over the past few years; it will be expanded and institutionalized. Sustainability Office staff will be presenting Lane’s work at several summits and events in the coming year as Lane continues to receive recognition in the area of energy conservation funding and innovation. Leads: Jennifer Hayward, Anna Scott

<http://www.lanecc.edu/facilities/facilitiesoffice.html>

Solar Energy Master Plan

Lane’s initial solar energy master plan goals have been accomplished. Sustainability leads are currently working to develop and begin implementation of a new solar plan. Lead: Anna Scott.

<http://www2.lanecc.edu/sites/default/files/sustainability/cap.pdf>

Solar Vehicle Charging Station

A solar station for electric vehicle charging opened on main campus during spring term 2012. Lead: Anna Scott.

<http://www.lanecc.edu/mpr/news/rel01525.htm>

Taking Back the Tab

The Sustainability Committee voted to support “Taking Back the Tap” and eliminate bottled water sales as soon as fall term 2012. Managers in areas of bottled water sales are partnering in this effort (Foodservices and the Titan Store). Leads: Jennifer Hayward, Mike O’Neal

<http://www2.lanecc.edu/sites/default/files/sustainability/120521.pdf>

Watershed Management Degree

Every place on the planet is part of a watershed.

Students who complete this new degree program will have a local, regional and global awareness of water issues and how they affect communities. Water will be the major geopolitical factor in the world in the coming years. Managing water resources will be a primary objective of governments at every level from local to national and international bodies. Leads: Sarah Whitney, Sarah Ulerik

http://www2.lanecce.edu/sites/default/files/oasa/documents/UP2010-11/UP_10-11_Science/Sci-Initiatives/Developing_a_Watershed_Science_Program-CT_and_Transfer.pdf

<http://www2.lanecce.edu/sites/default/files/collegecatalog/ctwatershedsciencetechnician.pdf>

Sustainability acknowledges the interdependence of society, the economy, and the environment, and it encourages long-term, strategic thinking that promotes effective stewardship of our natural, social, and economic resources. Goliath Business News, Sustainability and Entrepreneurship, 2005