

Environment & Sustainability Policy

Category: Operations

Approval: PVP

Responsibility: VP Finance and Administration

Date Approved: October 10, 2014

Purpose/Reason for Policy:

To foster and create the conditions for environmental sustainability through all areas of our learning, teaching, research and service as stated in Trent's Vision and Mission Statements.

Scope of this Policy:

This policy will provide direction to the university community in decision-making concerning activities that may impact the environment. It is a statement of Trent University's environmental values and expectations.

Policy Statement:

Trent University is committed to protecting the environment, conserving natural resources, and rehabilitating degraded environments in activities relevant to the university and its operations.

Trent University will work to develop and implement a systematic framework and accompanying set of policies for environment and sustainability issues including for example energy, transportation, finance, buildings, campus grounds, waste, purchasing, residences, food, curriculum and research.

Trent University will foster open dialogue and critical debate at Trent and with the broader community regarding environmental and sustainability issues.

The University has a responsibility, as an institutional citizen, to provide leadership in the environmental and sustainability decision-making processes and initiatives of our community and to contribute to the stewardship of our regional environment.

Responsibilities:

The responsibility to reduce our impacts on the natural environment rests on the entire Trent community and as such, we all have a role in implementing this policy to the greatest extent that we can.

The President and each Vice President will provide leadership for environmental sustainability within the purview of their respective responsibilities and include objectives and successes in their annual planning and reporting where appropriate.

The Sustainability Coordinator, reporting to the Vice President (Finance and Administration), will internally coordinate and communicate policies, programs and activities undertaken to protect the environment and conserve resources. The Sustainability Coordinator will provide an annual report to the President/Vice President Executive Committee (PVP) that will then be shared with the Senate, the Board of Governors, and the Trent Community.

The Environmental Advisory Board will provide a forum for sharing information, discussing and advancing environmental and sustainability issues relevant to the university and its operations. The Environmental Advisory Board provides initial university review of environmental strategies, guidelines and policies about environmental issues that are proposed by members of the university. The EAB will also develop recommendations for new environmental strategies, guidelines and policies. The EAB will be comprised of faculty, staff, students, and community members. The Environmental Advisory Board will develop and review proposals and policies about environmental issues. The Environmental Advisory Board will work in concert with the Sustainability Coordinator.

Students, including for example the Trent Central Students Association, Sustainable Trent or members of the Greening the Campus course, will be key champions for new initiatives and environmental innovations. Their voices will be critical to the work of the Environmental Advisory Board and the Sustainability Office.

Contact Officer:

Chair, Environmental Advisory Board

Date for Next Review:

October 30, 2019

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

- a) Environmental Procurement
- b) Fair Trade Purchasing for Apparel
- c) Purchasing Policy for Fair Trade Certified Goods
- d) Enterprise Risk Management
- e) Health and Safety
- f) Bottled Water, Single Unit
- g) Nature Areas Committee

Policies Superseded by This Policy:

- a) Environmental Policy, 2001

Environmental Advisory Board Terms of Reference

Contact Officer: Chair of the Environmental Advisory Board

Purpose:

To provide the terms of reference for the Environmental Advisory Board.

Guideline

The Environmental Advisory Board's mandate is to provide a forum for discussing and advancing environmental and sustainability issues relevant to the university and its operations.

The Environmental Advisory Board provides initial university review of environmental strategies, guidelines and policies about environmental issues that are proposed by members of the university. The EAB will also develop recommendations for new environmental strategies, guidelines and policies.

The Environmental Advisory Board will provide advice for senior administration or other members of the university community as requested.

The EAB will be comprised of faculty, staff, students, and community members. The membership will be renewed annually and may include:

- Chair (appointed by Senate)
- One other faculty member (appointed by Senate)
- College Head
- 2 staff representatives
- 1 TCSA representative
- 1 Sustainable Trent representative
- 1 GSA representative
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Physical Resources representative
- Housing Services Representative
- Community Member(s)
- Oshawa Campus Representative

The EAB will seek to meet four times annually and will operate on a consensus model of decision-making. Minutes will be recorded and shared with the university community on the EAB website. Administrative support for the committee will be provided by the office of the VP Finance and Administration.

Date Approved: October 10, 2014

Approval Authority: Environmental Advisory Board