

## **[Revised Draft] Sustainability Committee Bylaws, 20 April 2016**

1. The Sustainability Committee is the committee name. The Sustainability Committee is a Regular Standing Advisory Committee of the UCCS Faculty Assembly.
2. We define sustainability broadly by the following terms:
  - a. Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (per Brundtland Report, 1987);
  - b. Improving the quality and equity of human life while respecting and working to maintain the full variety of biological diversity found on Earth;
  - c. Acting with respect for humanity and human rights, economic justice, physical and natural systems, and evolutionary processes.
3. The Sustainability Committee strives to create a welcoming, inclusive environment for all interested faculty members, staff, and students, and to involve as many disciplines and perspectives as possible from across campus to improve teaching, research, operations, and practical works related to sustainability.
4. The membership consists of an unlimited number of tenure-track, tenured, and non-tenure track full-time (TT and NTT) faculty at UCCS who are interested in contributing to sustainability efforts on campus and/or beyond campus. Adjunct faculty, lecturers, staff members, and students interested in sustainability or working on sustainability programs are also fully included on the committee, its discussions and activities, but are not voting members per Faculty Assembly Bylaws. Committee membership shall be updated at outset of each semester; missing more than two consecutive meetings will result in a loss of membership, unless absences are cleared with the chair. Sabbaticals and other approved leaves will also not count against membership.
5. Voting members are full-time TT and NTT faculty committee members who have attended at least two Sustainability Committee meetings in the previous twelve (12) months. Formal decisions and policies must be passed by a majority of voting members present; tie votes will be considered failed votes; if insufficient voting members are present for a legitimate quorum, then measures shall be tabled. Electronic voting will be permitted, but is discouraged as important discussions and context provided by in-person deliberations may be missing.
6. The committee is headed by a Chair who serves for two years. The chair will be chosen by a majority of voting members present, typically at the final spring semester committee meeting of the chair's final term.
7. Meeting times, dates, and locations will be communicated via email to the Committee list and, when appropriate (e.g. at the start of each semester) to the faculty-L and staff-L lists. Every attempt will be made to make meeting times and locations convenient for as many members as possible, and on a schedule that is planned for a full semester. Notice of upcoming meetings should be made at the outset of each semester, and with a reminder approximately one week in advance of each meeting. The committee is expected to meet approximately four times per semester (eight times per academic year).
8. The purpose of the committee is to advance sustainability ideas and efforts at UCCS in diverse ways, including: curriculum, scholarly and creative works, faculty development, and campus

policies. The committee's work is guided by the [UCCS Strategic Plan](#) and [UCCS Sustainability Strategic Plan](#).

9. The committee also reviews and provides relevant advice to components of the Compass Curriculum and Sustainable Development minor.
10. The committee has no jurisdiction over the Office of Sustainability and its staff, but may (and often does) work cooperatively with these sustainability-related campus programs and activities.
11. The Sustainability Committee also recognizes the importance of and encourages linkages with campus diversity and inclusiveness initiatives, food services, procurement, transportation, campus operations, and connections that reach beyond the campus to broader Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region.
12. Committee bylaws may be amended by a quorum of voting members present, and notice of proposed changes to the bylaws shall be communicated to the committee at least two weeks in advance of any vote.
13. The Chair is responsible for:
  - Ensuring that the committee meets regularly
  - Notifying committee members of agenda and meeting times
  - Ensuring the recording and approval of meeting minutes, to be shared electronically within one week of the relevant meeting
  - Submitting written committee reports to the UCCS Faculty Assembly prior to regular meetings of the Faculty Assembly
  - Informing the President of Faculty Assembly of any vacancies that should be filled
  - Attending monthly meetings of the Faculty Assembly to report on committee activity
14. Responsibilities of committee members include: a) regular attendance to scheduled committee meetings; b) providing suggestions as appropriate for agenda items and topics/projects for committee activity; c) advocating and modeling sustainable practices and ideas.

**Approved by the Sustainability Committee, \_\_\_\_\_**

**May 2016**