

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Subject: Sustainability Reference: C-I-a

Source: President Eff. Date: April 19, 2011

Approval Auth: President Approved: _____

Remarks: Replaces previous policy dated February 21, 2011.

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1.0 Purpose

The purpose of the college-wide policy on sustainability is to acknowledge that a total commitment by college personnel, departments, and resources is required to contribute to the initiative of climate neutrality with the goal of conserving and protecting the environment.

1.1 Policy

It is the policy of McLennan Community College to finance, plan, design, construct, renovate, and maintain campus and facilities in a manner that enhances the sustainability of the campus. Any new construction or major renovation will strive to meet LEED certification with the goal to achieve the minimum of silver certification.

1.2 Definitions

LEED rating

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. There are four levels of LEED certification which are (1) certification, (2) silver, (3) gold, and (4) platinum. To obtain a rating, a building must meet pre-requisites in five categories: sustainable site planning, improved energy efficiency, materials and resources conservation, indoor environmental quality, and water conservation.

Sustainable building (green building)

Sustainable building integrates design, construction, methods, and materials that enhance environmental quality for the planet as well as the building occupants.

1.3 Procedure and Responsibilities

The college will appoint a campus sustainability committee who will be responsible for promoting sustainability through students, personnel, and campus activities.

The college construction planning committee and design teams will work together to ensure that planning, designing, construction, and renovating college owned property and facilities meet sustainable guidelines.

The construction planning and design committee will recommend the targeted level for LEED certification. The Vice President, Finance & Administration, after discussion with the President, will approve the level sought.

1.4 Actions

Dr. Dennis Michaelis, McLennan Community College President Emeritus, signed the American College & University President's Climate Commitment in the spring of 2007 (as President).

The college president designated Mr. Sid Ross as sustainability officer and the contact person for sustainability issues.

The college president appointed an ad hoc committee from the President's Leadership Seminar to review sustainability on campus and to make recommendations for actions to help begin full implementation of the initiative. The committee made its report on November 2, 2007, and the tenets of the report will form the basis for action from this point forward.

1.5 Summary

The college strongly supports climate neutrality and conserving and protecting the environment. Therefore, sustainability in curriculum design and conservation activities will become part of the core of campus strategic planning. To further this goal, every construction project will be evaluated and will address to the fullest extent possible sustainable building practices. This includes the design, construction, efficient use of resources, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, water conservation, and the protection of land and water environments.