

CULTIVATE EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING RELATED TO SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND EQUITY.



TEACHING

This core strategy will...

- Support faculty in integrating principles of sustainability, climate change, energy, and environmental justice into new and existing courses.

How will we know we're successful? We will have...

1. Increased the number of students who participate in applied, experiential, and community-engaged learning and research broadly related to sustainability
2. Increased opportunities for visible, high-impact educational experiences that prepare students to utilize sustainability as a decision-making lens and integrate practices into their professional and personal lives.
3. Increased the number of approved courses for the Compass Curriculum Sustainability requirement
4. Increased the number of students pursuing the Sustainability Minor, as well as the number of majors and Colleges represented by students in the Minor

How will we accomplish this? We will...

1. Integrate sustainability into the Faculty Resource Center's supported topics and suggested resources, and achieve consistent representation in the UCCS Teaching and Learning Conference.
2. Implement consistent evaluation and assessment of sustainability literacy for the entire student body.
3. Foster relationships with Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak Region businesses and organizations to provide consistent internship opportunities, in partnership with UCCS departments and colleges.
4. Strengthen and/or develop partnerships with community and junior colleges to provide direct pathways for transfer students into the interdisciplinary Sustainability Minor and other sustainability-related degree programs.
5. Implement awareness campaigns to various target audiences.
6. Conduct trainings for academic advisors and admissions staff to communicate these opportunities to students.
7. Explore integrating teaching affiliates through the Office of Sustainability

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RESEARCH

This core strategy will...

- Foster and showcase research and creative works that address issues related to sustainability, climate change, energy, and environmental justice.

How will we know we're successful? We will have...

1. Increase the number of faculty involved in sustainability-related research; set metrics through number of publications, grants, etc.
2. Increase the number of faculty and students presenting sustainability-related research at Mountain Lion Research Day, the Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum (CSURF), and at other regional, national, or international conferences.

How will we accomplish this? We will...

1. Develop new platforms, events, workshops, or working groups around the nexus of sustainability and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).
2. Explore annual incentive opportunities to award faculty conducting sustainability-related research.
3. Explore integrating research affiliates through the Office of Sustainability.
4. Work closely with the Office of Research to develop panel to showcase sustainability-related research.

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