President’s Campus Sustainability Task Force has been meeting regularly since Fall 2014 to assess our status and recommend next steps.

Green Team, an informal group of interested faculty, staff, and students, meet weekly during the academic year.

UD will have its first campus sustainability student worker starting soon!

UD was awarded a Sustainable Dubuque grant to support the annual Dump or Donate project (see p. 2).

Students travel abroad for Sustainability in Sweden course (see p. 3).

Students audited campus energy use, waste, and more during J-term 2015 course, Sustainable UD.

Get involved! Attend informal weekly Green Team meetings.

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Hoffman (ahoffman@dbq.edu).

http://libguides.dbq.edu/sustainability
You may have just arrived on campus for the fall. But some of us are already thinking about move-out in May! Why? Because we are committed to helping students keep things out of the landfills!

Dump or Donate is the grassroots project, started by biology major Freedom Malik ('15). What does it mean? Volunteers help students moving out sort unwanted items for recycling or donation to area non-profits.

Here’s how to help:
- Don’t have more stuff at school than you need.
- Move out over a few weeks if you can.
- Use areas provided near residence halls at move-out for anything recyclable or donate-able.
- Volunteer for Dump or Donate! It’s easy & fun. Look for sign-up during spring semester.

Thank you to these community partners:

Spartans Saved:
- 215 shirts
- 56 canned goods
- 55 pairs of shorts
- 54 bags of chips
- 50 kitchen utensils
- 49 pairs of pants
- 40 beverages
- 35 hangers
- 30 plates
- 20 towels
- 18 coats
- 16 waste baskets
- 15 microwave entrees
- 11 textbooks
- 11 bags of candy
- 11 boxes of granola bars
- 10 boxes of mac & cheese
- 10 fans
- 8 lamps
- 7 futons
- 5 reams of paper
- 5 carpets
- 2 fish tanks
- 1 entertainment center
- 1 bottle of bleach
- 1 basketball hoop
And more!

What does a Boeing 747 have to do with sustainability?

Every year during move-out week in May, UD students throw away the equivalent of a Boeing 747 full! We’re fixing that together.

Dump or Donate!

Dr. Hoffman dumpster-diving!

Sustainable Dubuque
Goodwill
Dubuque Rescue Mission
Humane Society
The 2014-15 school year was extended two weeks for a handful of UD students and professor Adam Hoffman. The goal of their trip was to be immersed in the Swedish culture and learn about the “green” ways of life. The group saw bicycles a plenty, solar panels on schools, bio-gas powered buses, and passive eco-houses.

The home base for a majority of the trip was Växjö, Sweden, a city that has been dubbed “The Greenest City in Europe.” One of the most impressive places was a local heating, cooling, and electricity plant run by Växjö Energi AB (VEAB) called Sandvik. Sandvik produces over 95% of their district heating and electricity using renewable biofuels such as sawdust, bark, and peat. Staff return the ash generated by combustion to the forest. The ash contains nutrients, which create a valuable fertilizer as well as combating acidification.

VEAB’s reusable fuel sources are the crown jewel of Växjö’s goal to become fossil free by 2030. To date they have decreased CO₂ nearly 50% while their economy has grown more than 50%. The U.S. can learn much from other countries who are finding ways to live and thrive sustainably. The first step is awareness and spreading the good word to help people implement these activities on a local scale in their daily lives, which is exactly what this trip was all about.
Green Department: Food Service

Food Service is well-known at UD for going green. Chef Andy Mettert discussed what they’ve done & the incredible impact!

Food Service has:
- Gone trayless
- Started composting
- Provided re-usable “To-Go” containers in Heritage Café
- Stopped using Styrofoam containers if possible
- Started an herb garden
- Increased recycling

Why is it important for Food Service to support sustainability?
“Large food service operations generate large amounts of waste. Taking a look at an operation from a sustainability point of view puts the operation in a place to better monitor/control waste and make conscious decisions about how to reduce it.”

Next steps:
- Compostable “to-go” containers for CRWC
- Working closer with local food pantries
- Improving the composting program
- Better informing UD community how to support Food Service efforts

Spartans saved:

300,000 gallons of hot water/year
2000+ pounds of food/week

http://libguides.dbq.edu/sustainability
Why do you care about sustainability?

When I was 6 years old I learned about landfills, air pollution, and deforestation, and I was appalled. I wondered why we as humans thought we had the right to throw anything “away”, when there is really no “away”. It’s about basic human survival. The water crisis is the #1 global risk based on impact to society.

How are you involved with sustainability efforts at UD?

I’m involved in the Green Team and the President’s Task Force. I attend weekly and monthly meetings and collaborate to plan and carry out events. Examples include the Pin Pollution wrestling meet, Web of Life projects, and Dump or Donate. I also supervise the first sustainability student worker on our campus!

What do you see as the next step for sustainability at UD?

Involvement and excitement! UD plans to continue to apply for sustainability grants ranging anywhere from $500.00 to $500,000,000 (yes, you saw that number of 0s correctly!) and I plan to be an integral part of the application process. For us to move forward on campus and complete our goals, we need each and every employee and student on board and excited about it.

http://libguides.dbq.edu/sustainability