

# Salisbury University

## University Green Board Constitution

**Mission Statement:** The Sustainability Fee and Committee, is a resource to allow students, and faculty and staff to advance sustainable practice, culture, infrastructure and education on Salisbury University's Campus.

### Article 1: Allocation of Funds, and Project Criteria:

#### Section 1.1: Allocation:

- I. The funds will be managed by the University Green Board (UGB). The UGB will be composed of undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty and staff members. The UGB will work closely with students and faculty on proposed projects to advance sustainable practices around the Campus.
- II. All project proposals are due by November 1<sup>st</sup> each year. The UGB will budget a portion of the fund for unforeseen opportunities that may arise in the Spring Semester.
- III. Any funds not allocated in a given academic year are to roll over into the next academic year.
- IV. The UGB has the time of one (1) month before it must report to those who secure funding from the UGB.
- V. A nominal portion of the fund may be used to support the UGB, promote and advertise UGB sustainability projects; including a visible unified educational campaign to promote sustainable practices around the Campus. All uses must be voted on and passed by a majority of the UGB.
- VI. All projects must have an educational / public awareness aspect budgeted.
- VII. Each project is given a set budget, if the project exceeds the given budget those in charge of the project may reapply for additional funding the following spring, if UGB funds allow.
- VIII. If a project does not meet required milestones set by the UGB, funding may be revoked.

#### Section 1.2: Project Criteria:

- I. The projects will be environmentally, economically, and/or socially sustainable based on the following guidelines:
  - A. Projects shall work to increase Campus sustainability, in all senses of the word.

- B. Projects shall enhance and encourage a positive culture of sustainability on Campus.
- C. Projects shall work to reduce Salisbury University's total impact on the environment, and help the university meet its Climate Action Plan commitments.
- D. Students, faculty and staff may apply for funding from the UGB. Students may apply for funds on behalf of an organization or to fund their own projects. However, a student applicant must have a faculty or staff advisor for his/her project. Also, all faculty and staff must have students on their project.
- E. Projects shall receive all necessary written approval by appropriate Campus faculty or staff prior to any consideration.
- F. Projects shall go above and beyond current policies and sustainable practices at Salisbury University.
- G. Projects shall be completed within a timely fashion as determined by the UGB.
- H. Multiple-year projects will be considered; the UGB may set a Multiple-year budget for long-term projects.
- I. Recipients must submit a mid-term progress report, a final report that will be posted on the sustainability website, and must participate in the Earth Week poster session.
- J. In order to facilitate communication between the UGB and the project leaders, funded projects will be assigned a liaison from the UGB.
- K. Projects shall meet any other requirements set by the UGB.

## **Article 2: University Green Board Structure and Responsibilities**

### **Section 2.1 Structure:**

- I. The UGS will be chaired by the Director of Sustainability (or designee), who is a non-voting member. There will be nine (9) voting members of the UGB.
- II. All members are to serve a one-year-term.
- III. All members are to be appointed by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous semester, and will serve until the following April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- IV. Student members may serve consecutive terms, but cannot hold their position for more than two years.
- V. Staff and Faculty members may serve successive terms.
- VI. All student members must be full or part time students of SU during their term of office.
- VII. Staff and Faculty members must be currently employed by SU.

VIII. In the event of removal or resignation by a member, the UGB will seek and vote on a new member, with the advice of the original appointing body. The new member will finish out the original member's term.

IX. Membership:

- A. One (1) undergraduate student appointed by the Student Government Association,
- B. One (1) graduate student appointed by the Graduate Student Council,
- C. One (1) student appointed by the Office of Sustainability,
- D. Two (2) students appointed by the Environmental Studies Department (the students do not have to be in the Environmental Studies Program),
- E. One (1) staff member of the Architectural & Engineering Services/Capital Projects office.
- F. One (1) faculty member appointed by the Faculty Senate,
- G. One (1) staff member appointed by the Staff Senate,
- H. One (1) staff member appointed by The University President or their designee.

X. The offices involved in appointing members should do so in an application process.

XI. Non-voting members may be added as subject matter expertise is needed.

XII. Additional members or changes in the membership must be voted and approved by the UGB.

XIII. Grounds for removal:

- a. Missing 1 (one) meeting requires written notice to the Chair within 2 weeks of the scheduled meeting.
- b. Missing 2 (two) meetings requires the review by the Chair, and is grounds for removal.

Section 2.2: Responsibilities:

- I. The Chair will ensure all committee roles are filled and the fee distribution furthers the President's Climate Action Plan.
- II. The Treasurer will monitor the funds with the support of the UGB, and prepare an annual internal report of the budget for the UGB.
- III. The Secretary will maintain minutes and post them on the University's Sustainability Webpage.
- IV. The Publicist will ensure there are ample projects submitted by the student body for consideration, by advertising all relevant information, and assign a location, or email address for students and faculty and staff to submit project proposals.

- V. The UGB will prepare and distribute an annual report of its activities to all relevant bodies: The Office of the President, The Office of Student Affairs, Student Government Association, Graduate Student Council, Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, and the general public. The report must include a detailed account of where and when the money was dealt, and how the goals for each project were achieved. The report is to be made available in the Office of Sustainability, and the University Sustainability Webpage.
- VI. The UGB must meet a minimum of once per month; nine (9) times per school year.
- VII. The UGB will develop a sustainable culture at Salisbury University.
- VIII. The UGB will inform students how the projects affect their life.

### Article 3: Amendments

- I. Amendments must be voted on, and proposed in a monthly meeting of the UGB. They must pass by a two-thirds (2/3) majority.

**Salisbury University**  
**Sustainability Fee Proposal**

Proposed by: Michael Bengtson

**Mission Statement:** The Sustainability Fee and Board, is a resource for students, faculty and staff to advance sustainable practice, culture, infrastructure and education on Salisbury University's campus.

WHEREAS; Salisbury University is a *University of National Distinction* and one with great regional influence, we have set a positive example as an environmentally conscious campus which is apparent through our implementation and strong adherence to the President's Climate Action Plan, but there is still more to be done in order to fulfill the goals of this plan; and,

WHEREAS; It is very important that the Salisbury University community adheres to the Climate Action Plan now so that future negative environmental and health effects can be minimized; and,

WHEREAS; Salisbury University has been shown to be a proponent of "going green" as made obvious by national recognition in the *Princeton Review* and other publications, there are many other ways to continue to develop and maintain this great image; and,

WHEREAS; Climate change has been a major issue for years; in more recent years the level of awareness of the severity of climate change has increased to a worldwide level. The science behind climate change is definitive and the dangers are real. The clearest reaction to this problem is to take action; and,

WHEREAS; Facing the current generation of college students is the task of not only advocating the importance of decreasing our collective carbon footprint, but to set an example for the University System of Maryland as well as improve the environment today and for future generations; and,

WHEREAS; The University needs to utilize its influence as a *University of National Distinction* and set an example for the University System of Maryland by furthering its reputation as a green campus; and,

WHEREAS; The implementation of a Sustainability Fee is not one that is unique to Universities. Other schools such as University of Maryland, College Park, University of Delaware, Clark University, New York University, and University of Washington have all successfully implemented a sustainability fee; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; this resolution works to establish a Sustainability Fee at Salisbury University Fall 2014; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; this resolution works to implement the University Green Board to oversee the established fund; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; the SGA proposes a Sustainability Fee of four (4) dollars per semester, with an increase of two (2) dollars each semester until it reaches twelve (12) dollars per semester. (This number was determined after researching Salisbury University's Fee schedule, and ensured the Sustainability Fee is the lowest university fee.)