Baylor University Sustainability
2010 Annual Report
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In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...
God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

*Genesis 1:1, 31*  
New International Version

Special thanks to the Dr. Carol Perry’s Spring 2010 Advanced Editing class for their design support on this project. In particular, we would like to thank Becky Petter who continued to work on this project beyond the spring term and into the summer months.

Photo Credits: Andrea Duarte, Carl F. Flynn, Smith Getterman, Kirby Killough, Matthew Minard and Robbie Rogers
Dear Friend,

I proudly welcome you to the first annual report of the Baylor University Sustainability Committee. We love to tell the story of Baylor’s sustainability efforts and hope you are inspired by the things you will see in the following pages. The information in this report reflects the status of our program as of the end of 2010; however, since this is also our first annual report, it also gives a cumulative view of our work since the University Sustainability Committee was launched in 2007.

Because Baylor University is a Christian institution of higher learning, care for God’s creation lies at the heart of our calling. Those famous words from Genesis - “let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth” - resound through all of our campus activities and call us to a high level of responsibility to be stewards of everything that God has made. For this reason, I am excited to work with the University Sustainability Committee and our Sustainability Coordinator, Smith Getterman.

The sustainability committee is comprised of partners from vital areas across the spectrum of the university. We gather regularly to ask the difficult questions about how we can reduce our impact upon our surrounding environment, and, in the process, make the Baylor community more sustainable. Through our partnership that began just over three years ago, we have revitalized our campus recycling program, increased our diversion rate, started good conversations on energy conservation and put through a sustainability policy that will support our efforts moving forward.

I am excited for you to read about these accomplishments and many more from the past year, and we look forward to the continued growth and expansion of our efforts as we move forward. With a high calling before us, we are motivated to call one another to be faithful stewards of God’s natural resources as we seek to educate the next generation of servant leaders. Our hope is that you will celebrate with us the accomplishments included herein and join us as we seek to fulfill this mission.

Looking forward to a sustainable 2011,

Pattie Orr
Chair, University Sustainability Committee
Vice President for Information Technology & Dean of University Libraries
Throughout Baylor’s history, individuals in various departments have been concerned with the intersection of our Christian mission and care for creation. For many years, the Environmental Studies Department, in addition to its own research and teaching, has sponsored the Environmental Concern Organization (ECO), a student group that participated in sustainable initiatives across campus and maintained a cardboard, paper, plastic, and glass recycling center. ECO worked with the Department of Risk Management to establish a campus-wide recycling initiative and to encourage the university to adopt other forms of sustainability. In addition to these efforts, many individuals took it upon themselves to become recycling “champions” in their offices and residential halls.

In October 2007, Pattie Orr, Vice President for Information Technology and Dean of University Libraries, was commissioned by the President of Baylor to convene a University Sustainability Committee (USC) comprised of representatives from academic and administrative departments of Baylor University to initiate a coordinated campus-wide sustainability effort. The USC was charged to assess sustainable practices across campus, create collaboration between campus departments and create future sustainability goals and objectives for the University.

The USC began its efforts by reducing paper consumption. Duplexing units were installed on printers in public areas, and campus departments were encouraged to either use the existing duplex capabilities on their office printers or add a duplexing unit to existing printers. The USC also worked with Procurement Services to make printers with duplex capability standard for all institutional purchases. In our public printing areas, duplex printing has grown from less than 5% of all print jobs before this initiative was launched to about 60% of all print jobs today. Alongside this effort to install duplexers, the USC worked with our office supply vendor to set a price point on 30% recycled bond paper that was competitive with new paper to encourage offices to stock and use recycled products.

With controls on paper use in place, the USC planned and executed a coordinated recycling program that involved the deployment of recycling containers and public education campaigns in residential facilities, campus buildings and offices. The final phase of this revitalized recycling effort extended recycling to all Baylor University athletic venues. Through a partnership with the City of Waco and Keep Waco Beautiful and a grant received through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, recycling containers were deployed in all athletic facilities and a public education campaign was instituted for all athletic events.

With a sustainable recycling program in place, the USC turned its attention to energy conservation in Spring 2009. As with recycling, the committee began with readily available conservation efforts. A “Last Out, Lights Out” campaign encouraged the Baylor community to turn off lights in vacant classrooms and offices. Over 4,000 switch plate stickers were posted in campus buildings in areas where anyone is permitted to turn off the lights. The USC then worked with Information Technology Services to encourage faculty and staff to power down computer monitors when not in use, and coordinated with the Electronic Library to power down campus computing facilities when vacated. A “Bears Take the Stairs” campaign is now underway to encourage the Baylor community to conserve energy by taking the stairs rather than the elevator.

Smith Getterman was hired in Summer 2009 as the full-time Sustainability Coordinator to support and extend the work of the University Sustainability Committee. The sustainability coordinator has been instrumental in expanding our education efforts throughout the Baylor community. In 2009-2010 several iconic Baylor functions went “green” including Commencement, Sing!, Bearathon and Diadeloso. The sustainability office also worked with several Greek organizations to help them host green social events and to volunteer with our athletics recycling and energy conservation campaigns. Our efforts have also been effective in supporting our recycling efforts, expanding our community conversation about energy conservation and moving our sustainability efforts forward across the university.

The University Sustainability Committee proposed a draft sustainability policy in Summer 2009 that underwent a thorough review by General Counsel, Student Government, Staff Council, Faculty Senate and the University Executive Council. The resulting policy was approved by Interim President David Garland in Spring 2010. The policy is general in scope and is guided by annually-renewable goals set by each of the partnering divisions that comprise the University Sustainability Committee.

With a policy in place, established practices in the areas of paper conservation and recycling, developing energy conservation programs and new initiatives with campus gardening and water conservation on the horizon, sustainability efforts for Baylor University are poised for growth in the coming years.
Meet Smith Getterman

On June 1, 2009, Smith Getterman became Baylor University’s first sustainability coordinator. Smith brings enthusiasm and energy to the task of sustainability at Baylor University. As a Baylor graduate (BA, History [2004]; MA, Communication Studies [2007]), he has a passion for the university; and as a Christian, is compelled to care for creation and call others to be faithful stewards. Getterman brings not only a solid academic foundation to the role of sustainability coordinator, but also professional experience in marketing and social media.

The USC worked diligently during its first year and a half, marshalling all of its resources to quickly address the low-hanging fruit that could turn around Baylor’s sustainability profile. However, with a comprehensive university-wide recycling effort in place and energy conservation efforts on the horizon, it became evident that having a full-time coordinator as other universities with concerted, comprehensive sustainability efforts would be essential.

Smith hit the ground running and, in his first year, brought substantial developments to Baylor’s sustainability efforts. He effectively coordinated among campus departments to make our recycling processes more efficient and effective. He engaged student government, greek organizations, residence halls and collaborated with key faculty to extend our involvement in the campus community and increase our campus education efforts. Smith was crucial in “greening” several Baylor traditions, working creatively with campus departments to get them thinking sustainably.

Having a full time sustainability coordinator at Baylor accelerated our steps toward becoming a more sustainable community in 2010 and will continue to be a benefit in years to come as we venture into the more complex enterprises of energy policy, water usage, transportation and green buildings.

University Sustainability Policy

2010 marked the approval of a sustainability policy for Baylor University. When the University Sustainability Committee was formed, one of the initial working groups was dedicated to policy. The goal of the working group was to research the sustainability policies of other, comparable institutions of higher learning and draft a policy suitable for Baylor. The USC never imagined initiating a sustainability effort from a policy. Rather, the idea was to deliberately and carefully develop a policy that fit Baylor based on our experience of establishing a comprehensive recycling effort and functional energy conservation practices.

The resulting policy moved through a lengthy but necessary process of approval. An early version of the policy, which was proposed by the policy working group, was revised through conversations among the University Sustainability Committee. The finalized policy was presented to VP/Dean Orr for authorization by key constituencies within the university. The Executive Council offered initial feedback and then the policy was reviewed and approved by Faculty Senate, the Graduate Student Association, the Student Government Association and Staff Council. With the approval of these formal bodies within the university community, the final text of the policy was submitted to Interim President David Garland who signed the policy on April 26, 2010.

The Baylor University Sustainability Policy establishes a vision rooted in the university’s mission for creating a more sustainable environment, provides guiding principles for our sustainability efforts and then outlines a flexible, yet goal-oriented approach to implementation. One of the strengths of this policy is the provision for key departments to develop and annually revise specific goals for sustainability in each of their respective areas. Rather than state potentially unachievable goals in our sustainability policy, the USC decided to apply the vision and central principles to an ever-developing set of specific goals. We believe that this will continually propel the university community toward greater sustainability across the university.

Having this policy in place establishes sustainability as a vital task within the Baylor University community, and gives the USC institutional leverage when needed to support and extend its initiatives. In addition to furthering our sustainability efforts, this policy strongly positions Baylor’s efforts alongside other higher education institutions. In fact, one of the fruits of this effort has seen substantially improved results in the many sustainability assessments completed throughout the year. And, with the help of the vision and goals reinforced by the policy, our efforts will only continue to improve going forward.
Recycling was the first campus initiative of the University Sustainability Committee and remains one of the strongest efforts. In 2010, Baylor recycled a total of 444.43 tons, which means that 18% of the university's total waste was diverted from the landfill and is being reused.

Campus recycling education efforts continued to be strong this year. There are currently over 900 bins deployed across campus, which not only capture recycling but serve as visual reminders for our community to encourage recycling. 4,500 individual recycling containers were distributed in the campus residential facilities as students arrived on campus in the fall. This effort, in its second year, has contributed to a substantially cleaner stream of mixed recycling coming from the residence halls. These smaller, cardboard recycling containers are also distributed in campus offices, making recycling convenient for faculty and staff.

Throughout the year, Baylor students were educated about the value of recycling in the campus community and how it ties into the mission. Fraternities, sororities and other student groups were encouraged to recycle at their meetings and events. These educational opportunities also served as great opportunities to attract students interested in sustainability to support public events with volunteer hours. In fact, students from Tri-Delta, Zeta Tau Alpha, Chi Omega, and Alpha Tau Omega volunteered at football games, and class members from Environmental Science courses also made an impact by volunteering for over 200 hours. Even The Lariat, Baylor's campus newspaper, assisted with education efforts this year by including the Baylor Renew logo on the opinion page of each issue.

Baylor Dining Services continued its “Eco to Go” reusable container program and expanded its efforts at using more recyclable and sustainable products in its operations. Recycling containers were provided at each catered event, and a green catering option was added to their catering program. This green catering option provides recycled paper products, corn-based biodegradable cups, and the menu provides for items produced using locally-produced food.

Athletic recycling also continues to be a strength of Baylor’s recycling program. The 2010 football season showed a marked increase in recycled materials. We collected 6.2 tons of recycling in six home contests this season as opposed to only 2 tons last year. Continued cooperation between Aramark, TUE, Sunbright Recycling and the stadium facilities staff made for a much better recycling system this year, which contributed to the year’s success. With help from Dr Pepper, the lead sponsor of Baylor Football, the City of Waco and Keep Waco Beautiful, the number of recycling locations at all of our athletic venues were increased. There are now more than 80 recycling locations at Floyd Casey Stadium, over twenty locations at the Ferrell Center, and more at each of the other athletic venues, including the Higgin’s Simpson Athletic Complex. Several vendors who provide concessions at Baylor athletic events also contributed to Baylor’s sustainability initiative by providing recyclable containers. The strides made this year in athletic recycling were amazing, and the program plays a crucial role of getting the word out about sustainable practices to the Waco and other surrounding communities.

The Baylor Grounds department contributed to campus recycling efforts not only by doing the heavy lifting of collecting recycling and hauling it to Sunbright Recycling using the new recycling truck purchased last year, but they also changed the landscaping on the Baylor campus to create a more sustainable environment. Plants such as Lantana, Knock Out Roses and Esperanza “Yellow Bells” are among the most tolerable plants available for the Waco area. These tolerable plants thrive in our environment without having to be uprooted and replaced with new plants. By using sustainable plants, Baylor is able to throw away less vegetation and provide plenty of variety and beauty to Baylor’s campus.

Across Baylor’s entire enterprise recycling efforts continue to move forward. In 2010, we can say with some confidence that a culture of recycling is emerging in the Baylor community.
In 2010, the University Sustainability Committee began to turn its attention from planning and deploying a comprehensive recycling initiative to energy conservation. As with recycling, the USC determined some “low-hanging fruit” that could be “harvested” to reduce campus energy consumption. In April 2010, the USC launched a “Last Out, Lights Out” campaign that was designed to empower members of the Baylor community to extinguish lights in unused campus facilities. To support this campaign, the Sustainability Coordinator worked with the Student Government’s Campus Improvement Committee and many students from the department of Environmental Science classes to tour campus buildings at night and turn off lights in unused rooms. The first year of these efforts has been very effective.

The successful “Last Out, Lights Out” campaign was followed by an initiative designed to encourage faculty, staff and students to utilize the stairs when possible rather than simply boarding the elevator. To support the “Bears Take the Stairs” community initiative, stickers were produced for the more than 100 elevators on the Baylor University campus. Campus facilities personnel placed these stickers either on the button plate of each elevator or next to the doors to encourage people to conserve energy by taking the stairs.

A new purchasing policy was also put into effect this year. This policy mandates that all equipment purchased by the university must be Energy Star certified. Only in rare cases - for instance, particular equipment essential to faculty research - can non-Energy Star rated equipment be purchased by a university department. This purchasing policy ensures that our campus community utilizes electricity responsibly throughout our organization.

As part of ongoing campus education initiatives with students, faculty, staff and the broader community, our sustainability office provides statistics about campus energy use that encourage people to reduce their energy footprint both on campus and at home. Members of the USC work closely with energy management representatives from campus facilities and Aramark to consider infrastructure changes that can conserve energy. In addition, a campus-wide educational initiative is being planned for 2011 that will curtail energy use in offices, classroom buildings and residential facilities by more than 5%.

Baylor’s energy conservation efforts are off to a strong start, and next year promises to yield measurable reductions in use.

On March 27, 2010, at 8:30 p.m., Baylor University joined people in over 3,100 cities around the globe to celebrate Earth Hour by turning off the lights in Pat Neff Hall. Earth Hour is a program started in 2007 by Australia’s World Wildlife Fund designed to encourage energy conservation and raise awareness about climate change worldwide.

During Earth Hour cities are urged to turn off lights in, on and around landmark sites, and people are encouraged to extinguish lights in their homes, offices and other facilities.

In Baylor’s first year to participate, it was decided that the lights in Pat Neff Hall would be extinguished because it is our most iconic building. Representatives from the various offices in Pat Neff Hall and campus facilities were consulted to arrange for turning the lights off in the building. Everyone who worked to prepare for Earth Hour was cooperative and excited about our participation.

Baylor University participated in Earth Hour 2010 with 53 other Texas schools and sites in Houston, Dallas and Austin. International sites such as the Acropolis in Greece, downtown Toronto and downtown Mexico City, also participated in this year’s event. Plans are already underway to participate in 2011 with hopes to turn off the lights in Pat Neff Hall and the entire quadrangle area of campus.

Baylor’s participation in this worldwide event contributes to growing awareness throughout the campus community of the global impact of our energy use and the need to conserve.

The “Last Out, Lights Out” switch plate sticker indicates areas where lights can be safely turned off if unoccupied.
Baylor University has earned several, coveted Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certifications. These certifications mark our commitment to designing and implementing sustainable facilities that will shape a sustainability-minded community going forward.

The George W. Truett Theological Seminary received LEED certification for existing buildings (EB) by the U.S. Green Building Council in August 2009. The University Sustainability Committee supported the construction and design teams in this process, providing key resources to gain points toward this certification. The standards to attain the LEED-EB rating are very stringent, and Truett Seminary was only the sixth Texas building to be certified LEED-EB. In addition, the 66,000 square-foot structure is only the eighth higher education project internationally to earn certification and was the first in Texas. Internationally, only 235 buildings have earned a LEED-EB rating.

In addition to Truett Seminary, two new facilities also received LEED certification this year. The Simpson Athletics Complex and Allison Practice Facility were the first buildings on the campus designed with LEED certification in mind. Using green construction practices, building energy efficiencies into the structure and engineering the building with recycling, water conservation and other sustainable practices, these buildings were soon granted LEED silver certification following their completion in March 2010. The Allison Practice Facility is the first football field house to be awarded LEED certification.

As Baylor continues to renovate facilities and expand in the coming years, our construction and design team is committed to following green building protocols and engineering sustainability-minded facilities.

“...the great thing about this was validating that good practices are already at Baylor.”
Steve Guenther
Associate Vice President for Operational Excellence
ARAMARK Higher Education
on the awarding of LEED-EB status to Truett Seminary

Information Technology Services is an important partner in Baylor’s sustainability efforts. Since the inception of the University Sustainability Committee, representatives from information technology have been at the table, contributing to the implementation of sustainable practices internally and providing solutions to help further these efforts.

In an effort to promote energy efficiency, the server group radically reduced the number of servers running on independent devices by virtualizing existing servers and running them on fewer individual server systems. The Client Services group cut energy use in their training facilities by installing energy-efficient Mac Mini computers built to utilize both Apple and Microsoft operating systems and software. These training facilities experienced a 61% reduction in energy consumption as a result of this transition. The Installations group standardized the energy settings deployed on new systems, causing the monitor and hard drive to sleep after 10 minutes of inactivity in an effort to reduce the power used by the over 1,000 faculty/staff workstations across campus. The Electronic Library’s Student Technology Services group also reduced power consumption by forcing public access computer systems to power down during hours when facilities are closed, and reducing the amount of time the monitors and hard drives are “awake” when the systems are not in use when their facilities are open. The cumulative efforts helped to reduce power consumption in the area of information technology.

Information Technology also enhanced its environmental responsibility in regard to the life cycle of computing equipment during the past year, ensuring that from purchasing through the end of life of computing equipment, the most sustainable practices are followed. Baylor only purchases Energy Star compliant workstations and server equipment, and every newly-purchased campus workstation meets Electronic Product Environment Assessment Tool (EPEAT) standards. The Installations group ensures that all recyclables are properly handled as new equipment is received by the university. All equipment returned to the installations group due to defect or replacement is also properly handled so that the equipment is either reused or broken down and properly recycled through Goodwill Computer Works or M. Lipsitz & Co., Ltd. - two reputable local technology recycling vendors.

Information technology resources were also integral to conserving paper in our campus printing facilities. By deploying duplexing capabilities as a standard function of campus printers and encouraging its use on both public computers and in offices, the number of physical pages printed has been radically reduced on our campus. Digitization efforts and ongoing commitment to provide more digital research resources in the Baylor University Libraries, along with the ongoing encouragement to faculty and staff to leverage digital processes in their office procedures, encourages a reduction in paper consumption across the entire university.
Engaging the Community

Greening the Baylor Traditions

One of the signal achievements of the past year has been the impression Baylor’s sustainability efforts made on the student community. A key reason for this impact came from working with coordinators of several annual Baylor traditions to encourage them to make their events more environmentally friendly. Extending the message of “Baylor Renew” through these events was crucial to the growth in campus consciousness of sustainable practices.

Bearathon

The Baylor Student Foundation transformed the annual Bearathon, which is known as the toughest half-marathon in Texas, into the first cup-free half-marathon in the nation. In order to create a truly cup-free race, the organizers purchased HydraPouches — a portable, lightweight, flexible plastic container — for each runner and Student Foundation distributed them prior to the race. These pouches were designed to enable runners to hydrate during the race without using paper cups. HydraPouch filling stations were set up at the start of the race and at points along the course. Event organizers estimated that using these filling stations would prevent the use of over 28,000 cups.

Although the race was reluctantly cancelled at the last minute due to inclement weather, every runner went home with a HydraPouch to use in future races and had the opportunity to participate in a more racer-friendly and eco-friendly race.

Diadeloso

Baylor’s annual “Day of the Bear” celebration, Diadeloso, changed the way it was organized to become more faithful stewards of God’s creation. All of the paper registration forms usually required for tournaments, organization booths, Di Queen, dog show and apparel were eliminated in lieu of an online registration process. In total, the online registration process conserved over 2,000 pieces of paper. Event organizers also eliminated using plastic cups, and all drinks were served in recyclable aluminum cans or plastic bottles.

Although the race was reluctantly cancelled at the last minute due to inclement weather, every runner went home with a HydraPouch to use in future races and had the opportunity to participate in a more racer-friendly and eco-friendly race.

Chi Omega

Chi Omega implemented a variety of reuse and recycling strategies for their annual chili cook-off. During the event, chili was only served from one container at a time and all packaged food was only opened one container at a time so that the remaining food could be reused by Baylor University’s Campus Kitchen initiative. At the end of the event, two large pans of chili and a large bag of dried beans were reclaimed to feed those in the local community. The cook-off also provided recycling containers to encourage people to sort their trash and recycle what could be reused.

SING!

Student Productions conserved energy, recycled and educated their audiences about sustainability during Baylor’s annual All-University SING. During the shows, the house lights were lowered 50% when students were not performing to conserve energy. The program planners reduced paper consumption by making forms and other information available in an electronic format to SING participants. Following the shows, the stage crew requested student groups to remove all of their props, which provided them to immediately reuse and saved them from simply being placed in the trash. In addition, the production staff included the Baylor Renew logo on the program and in the set decorations, along with the link to our Baylor Sustainability web site. The program and slides encouraged audiences to recycle their programs. To this end, the facilities team increased the number of recycling containers available in Waco Hall during SING’s run. In addition to these efforts during SING, Student Productions recycled the set from “After Dark” by offering the lumber to student groups to use on their homecoming parade floats.

Green Greeks

Chi Omega made their 2009 “Chi Omega Crush” the first ever green Greek event held by a Baylor organization. Chi Omega provided recycling containers for participants and encouraged their use. They collected 25 pounds of plastic bottles and over 100 empty pizza boxes during the event. The event organizers agreed that greening their event was a positive experience and plan to continue to implement sustainable practices into their future events. Our Sustainability Coordinator continually reaches out to other greek groups on campus, encouraging them to green their events and volunteer in sustainability efforts.

Move-in & Move-out

Each fall and spring when students arrive and depart the Baylor campus en masse, there are myriad opportunities to encourage people to reuse and recycle. As lead sponsors of the Fall 2010 move-in, the USC included messages in emails sent to incoming students encouraging them to ramp up their recycling and reuse in mind. The Baylor Renew logo was also featured on the move-in t-shirts worn by volunteers across campus, extending campus visibility and raising awareness about sustainability. Recycling efforts during Fall 2010 move-in were expertly coordinated, and a large percentage
Engaging the Community

of the cardboard and other recyclable materials (including water bottles) that came out of our residential facilities were collected. However, heavy rains that came and went during move-in contaminated a majority of the recycling that was collected, leaving a total of only 6 tons collected for the two-day event. A wonderful crew of student volunteers from the Entrepreneurship ELG program and partners from departments all across Baylor’s campus assisted in coordinating move-in recycling efforts. The weather will hopefully improve for Fall 2011 and more than 10 tons of recycling will be collected.

During spring move-out earlier in the year, USC representatives from Campus Living and Learning and Baylor Housekeeping coordinated a “Take it or Leave It” initiative. Collection bins were placed in each campus residential facility with signage asking students to place all unwanted, reusable items in the bins. Curitas, a local charity, emptied the bins daily and collected clothes, shoes and other items in good condition that they provide to those in need in our community. Off-campus residents were notified about several Goodwill drop-off locations near the apartment complexes that surround the Baylor campus. These staffed drop-off locations collected many reusable items that will benefit people who can use them. In addition, we encouraged students to utilize on-campus recycling containers and dumpsters to recycle during move-out. Working with Curitas and Goodwill to collect reusable items was successful, and Baylor looks forward to partnering with these agencies again in future years.

Outreach & Education

Along with these other efforts, the USC met with a variety of student groups, including MBA candidates, the Graduate Student Government Association, members of student clubs and several Greek organizations. Sustainability was featured in Chapel. Presentations were made to Staff Council, Student Senate, Faculty Senate, as well as to a number of other Baylor faculty. Several classes heard presentations on Baylor’s sustainability initiative, including courses in the departments of Environmental Sciences and Classics. Leveraging these opportunities to engage the Baylor community in conversation about its role in caring for creation was central in extending awareness about sustainability on campus during this past year.

Dining Services

Baylor Dining Services continued their sustainable initiatives this year by increasing the number of organic and locally-grown foods offered, as well as reducing the use of styrofoam by reinventing their “Eco-to-Go” program that offers students, faculty and staff the opportunity to take their meals on the road in a reusable container that bears the Baylor Renew logo. Baylor Dining observed Earth Day by hosting a sustainability fair in Memorial Dining Hall that featured a menu containing locally-produced organs served on compostable paper plates and napkins. Baylor Dining also catered a recoil waste event for the Hunger Summit, hosted by the School of Social Work. Local food products and recyclable and compostable materials were used in the operation. Unused food was donated to the Baylor Campus Kitchen, and any food left over was sent to a local compostor. Baylor Dining Services continues to be a strong proponent for sustainability in the campus community.

Community Involvement

Representatives from the USC participated in a number of local, state, and national civic and private organizations. Sustainability Coordinator, Smith Getterman, is an active board member of Keep Waco Beautiful and the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce’s Green Board. He also holds a seat on the City of Waco Recycling Advisory Committee and the Baylor University and City of Waco Public Improvements District (TID) Committee. Baylor continues its involvement with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR), and the Texas Regional Alliance for Campus Sustainability (TRACS), which is supported by the largest National Wildlife Federation (NWF), of which Baylor is also a member.

Baylor University proudly sponsored the Keep Waco Beautiful Partners in Pride award ceremonies this year, and also hosted the annual Keep Waco Beautiful member luncheon. Smith Getterman attended the national AASHE meeting, gleaning helpful practices and connections from that meeting. For the first time, Baylor participated in a regional meeting of STAR in San Antonio.

These community involvements keep Baylor engaged in the broader civic conversation about community sustainability and teach us valuable lessons that we apply in our campus setting.

Campus Kitchen

Baylor University Campus Kitchen (BUCK) is a student-driven community-service organization that collects food each day that goes unused by our campus dining facilities and distributes it to different agencies around the city of Waco.

Along with providing student-empowered hunger relief, BUCK also offers nutrition education to the community by connecting nutrition majors with impoverished families.

One of the most exciting developments from this past year is the movement toward establishing a university community garden. The USC worked with BUCK in the planning process and is pleased to report that all of the plans for the garden have been approved. When the garden is in place, the space will be parcelled and worked by students, faculty and staff. This garden is an exciting new dimension to campus living and student learning.
While Baylor celebrates our accomplishments in sustainability over the past few years, we also look toward a bright future as we implement programs that will have a lasting impact on our campus community and the world around us.

The Future

Each campus department represented on the University Sustainability Committee has committed to a set of internally established goals that, when achieved, will create a more sustainable community. These annually renewed goals are part of the campus sustainability policy and include the following:

- Reduce campus energy consumption by at least 5% through infrastructure changes and community education, which includes the ongoing Last Out, Lights Out and Bears Take the Stairs initiatives
- Remove styrofoam, where possible, from athletic venues
- Reduce styrofoam use in on-campus dining facilities
- Implement additional water conservation strategies in flower beds and other grounds areas on campus
- Annually increase our campus diversion rate through careful management and community education
- Expand our composting operations from the equestrian facilities to other campus facilities, leveraging the compost for use by the campus grounds crew

Baylor University’s sustainability efforts are off to an excellent start! With our unique vision for creation care and continued leadership by dedicated people across the campus, our efforts will continue to expand and mature in the coming year. The University Sustainability Committee will continue to grow in its understanding of what is essential to become a more sustainable community on a number of different fronts by learning from our association with other leading universities in the field and civic organizations. As a result, Baylor University will emerge as a leader in sustainability not only among institutions of higher learning, but also leading Christian organizations. This continued growth will benefit our immediate campus community and will also contribute substantially to the broader conversation about sustainability and bless the surrounding communities.

Awards and Recognition

Baylor’s sustainability efforts have garnered several awards from a variety of organizations. The National Wildlife Federation granted our programs an “exemplary” rating in 2009. Baylor University was also highlighted among 52 Christian colleges and universities in the Green Awakening Campus Report, released by Renewal: Students Caring for Creation, a student-led, Christian environmental group. Keep Waco Beautiful, a local civic organization, honored the university with two Partners in Pride Recycling Awards (2008, 2009), recognizing the community impact of our on-campus and athletic recycling efforts. Keep Texas Beautiful, the statewide organization of which Keep Waco Beautiful is a part, honored Baylor as the first place winner of the organization’s 2010 Civic Organization Award, which recognizes Baylor’s efforts to enhance its community and protect the Texas environment. Baylor was also awarded an ‘Outstanding Recycling Program’ award by the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR). Finally, the College and University Recycling Council (CURC) recognized Baylor after we finished third in the Big 12 and fourth in the state of Texas in the national Recyclemania competition.

Professional Involvement

In order to remain current with best practices among civic organizations and other universities, as well as to share our findings as our efforts emerge, Baylor has remained engaged with many professional organizations since the inception of the University Sustainability Committee. The premiere organization germane to our concerns is the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). Several USC members attend the annual meetings of this organization each year, and we leverage research and resources available to us through their organization. Smith Getterman attended a meeting of civic recycling organizations in San Antonio this year, gleaning helpful insights into questions of infrastructure and development for our campus recycling efforts. Chair and VP/Dean Pattie Orr presented on Green IT for EDUCAUSE, and Carl Flynn and Smith Getterman presented a similar session for IT representatives in higher education in the Central Texas region. Finally, Carl Flynn and Smith Getterman presented a webinar through the Baylor Libraries’ involvements with Amigos earlier this year.
University Sustainability Committee

2010 Members

Pattie Orr, Chair
Vice President for Information Technology & Dean of University Libraries

Don Bagby
Director of Facilities Management

Betty Bradford
Administrative Associate, School of Music (Staff Council Representative)

Lara Conrad
Assistant Director for Resident Learning, Living-Learning Programs

Carl Flynn
Director, Marketing & Communications for ITS and University Libraries

Smith Gettermann
Sustainability Coordinator

RJ Hickerson
Student Government Representative

Beld Johnson
Marketing Manager, Baylor Dining Services

Donna Kennedy
Senior Systems Analyst, Information Technology Services

Larry Lehr
Senior Lecturer, Environmental Science

Jessica L. Oen
Senior Lecturer, Journalism and Media Arts

Vicki Pierce
Director, Parking & Transportation Services

Rick Pokorny
Undergraduate Representative

Jack Reardon
Technical Director, Baylor Facility Services

Sherri Street
Executive Director, Keep Waco Beautiful

Dave Thiel
Aramark, Memorial Dining Director & SW Regional Sustainability Steward

Rosemary W. Townsend
Director of Business Affairs & Community Partnerships, Student Life

Andy Trimble
Grounds Supervisor

Sascha Usenko
Assistant Professor, Environmental Science

Sinai P. Wood
Associate Professor, Baylor University Libraries

Richard Wright
Assistant Director, Procurement Services

Paula K. Young
Event Management Coordinator, Baylor Athletics

Emeritus Members

Candace Bradley
Buyer, Procurement Services

Russel Brewer
Director of Sponsored Programs

Austin Cook-Lindsay
Student Representative

Brian Fournelle
Student Body President (2008-2009)

Christian Heger
Manager of Fiscal Planning, Budget & Fiscal Planning

Robert Kent
Student Representative

Emily Saultz
Internal Vice-President for Student Government (2009-2010)

Ralph Sherman
Director, ITS & Libraries Business Operations

Katie Tripp
Marketing Manager, Baylor Dining Services

Toby Tull
Community Living & Learning

“You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.”

Revelation 4:11
New International Version