

Sustainability calls for policies and strategies that meet society's present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- *US Environmental Protection Agency*

Our Goal is to serve as a sustainability leader among institutions of higher education and as a national model for urban sustainability in both campus operations and educational offerings.
- *Dr. Allen L. Sessoms, President*

SUSTAINABLE DC

DC Mayor's College and University Sustainability Pledge UDC recently led a group of nine District-based universities and colleges in a collective effort to support the Sustainable DC plan. The District of Columbia Mayor's College and University Sustainability Pledge (CUSP) was designed to be meaningful yet flexible commitment intended to produce tangible benefits for DC's local environment and community. Signatory institutions choose from a menu of performance areas in which to take action, such as energy, water, waste, green education and training, and jobs and community development. Using the DC CUSP as a standard, the colleges and universities in the District of Columbia are collectively committed to making Washington, DC the Greenest College Town in America. To view a full version of the signed CUSP and a list of UDC's initial commitments, visit udc.edu/sustainability.



Above left: Mayor Vincent Gray, President Allen Sessoms, and six other presidents at DC-based institutions stand for a photo at the signing event. Above right: Mayor Gray and signatory institutions' sustainability officers, including UDC's Howard Ways and Josh Lasky, gather for a photo. (Credit: American University)

PARTNERSHIPS

Recycling in DC Public Housing The UDC Sustainability Initiative has partnered with the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) to assist in the rollout of recycling programs to District public housing. For the first time ever, residents of 47 properties managed by DCHA will have the opportunity to participate in residential recycling programs in their homes, apartments, and condominiums. UDC staff are participating in introductory meetings, educating audiences about the benefits of recycling and encouraging residents to get involved. The presentations highlight waste management efforts on UDC's Van Ness Campus as a case study. At right, UDC Sustainability Manager Josh Lasky is pictured with residents of Garfield Terrace in northwest DC.



UDC Honored for Energy Efficiency Efforts UDC was recently named one of the 2012 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency by the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP). NEEP recognized UDC's commitment to sustainable innovation and for its contribution in keeping the Northeast region a national leader in accelerating energy efficiency. "Through our partnership with the DC Sustainable Energy Utility, we were able to accelerate the completion of some lighting efficiency projects this year," says Barbara Jumper, Vice President for Facilities, Real Estate and Safety. "We are proud to accept this award and will use it as a springboard to even greater achievements in the future." This award puts UDC in distinguished company. Previous winners include Princeton University, Syracuse University, BAE Systems, and Bigelow Teas. UDC will be recognized at the Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit June 14 in Stamford, CT.

Did you
know?

In April, UDC launched the Sustainable City Faculty Fellowship (SCFF), a collaborative, interdisciplinary professional development series designed to integrate sustainability into curriculum throughout UDC's schools and colleges and provide students with meaningful co-curricular sustainability experiences.

CAMPUS TRANSFORMATIONS



UDC Installs Green Roof as Part of Dennard Plaza Renovation

In a project coordinated by local nonprofit DC Greenworks, UDC staff and students recently helped to install a 1400-square foot green roof on the Van Ness Campus. Part of the Dennard Plaza renovation, the green roof project utilizes an Aqualok tray-based system in which an absorbent foam-like material is substituted for soil to reduce the overall weight of the green roof. Students and staff volunteered over the course of two days, planting hundreds of liriopse and Pennsylvania sedge, laying down drainage material, and mulching. The green roof area rests below a metal grate, a unique design feature that allows the area to retain use for a wide array of functions while providing a host of environmental benefits. The new green roof will be incorporated as a stop on the UDC Van Ness Campus Sustainability Tour, offered every second Thursday of the month, departing from the



west entrance of the Van Ness-UDC Metro Station at noon. Contact hways@udc.edu for more information.

(Photography credit: Daniel Paschall)

MANAGEMENT & REPORTING



UDC Earns STARS Bronze In an effort to promote more sustainable practices and track our progress, the University of the District of Columbia registered as a Charter Participant of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). STARS is a transparent, comprehensive self-reporting framework developed for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance and make key indicators publicly visible. Earning a rating of Bronze in its first-ever submission, UDC has established a solid foundation of performance but has much work to do. “STARS has provided a comprehensive framework for evaluation, reporting, and planning,” said UDC President Allen Sessoms in a letter to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, the group that oversees STARS. “It will help guide future decision making to enable UDC to be a more effective and relevant university in an environment when higher education institutions must justify their

existence and adapt quickly in order to meet student demand, and ultimately, the needs of society.” A summary of UDC’s performance by category is included in the table below. For more information on STARS, and to review UDC’s submission, visit udc.edu/sustainability.

Category	STARS Average (%)	UDC’s Score (%)
Education & Research (ER)	50.86	55.64
Operations (OP)	37.05	9.80
Planning, Administration, & Engagement (PAE)	57.92	41.53
Overall Score	48.61	36.66



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