

## **People Pod**

Many people and groups on campus are involved in the area of sustainability, in teaching and research, operations, and campus life.

In this context, to what extent is it best to "let a thousand flowers bloom" by encouraging individual groups to forge ahead with their own initiatives? To what extent should the University harness these initiatives in a more organized and collaborative way? Are there examples in other organizations which might provide guidance in this area?

While there is much enthusiasm, not all groups are aware of what others are doing and there is little coordination among different populations on campus, particularly those with less expertise in the area. Searching for information on sustainability on or off campus gives rise to a welter of unorganized results, and one-stop shopping is hard to do. Given this, what can we do to educate new and existing members of the community initiatives are taking place on campus and help them buy into the sustainability model?

Who needs to be talking to whom? How can we build bridges among operations experts, academics, and students?

How can we best communicate our success stories and the areas needing attention?

What is our goal with respect to the level of sustainability knowledge and values that we should seek to instill in our students, particularly those not specializing in the area, and in our faculty and staff? How can we encourage them to turn values into action?

## **Process Pod**

There exist a large number of policies and principles associated with the notion of sustainability, including the proposed Sustainability Principles within Queen's and documents like the Talloires Declaration externally. These typically exist at a high level of abstraction.

We now have within the university a number of Operations staff, including an Energy Engineer and the newly appointed Sustainability Coordinator. What should be done to help them to embed sustainability into our daily practices and processes?

How do we create accountability? What kind of indicators from our peer institutions or from other institutions should we use to benchmark our progress? How should we report it on our progress? Should it form part of our Annual Report?

Should we consider sustainability goals within our everyday activities, in areas like food services, types and quantities of paper use, and purchasing policies?

Are there incentives which have shown their worth here or elsewhere which might help

us to embed sustainable values within individuals and encourage faculty, staff and students to take initiatives in this area? For example, should we emulate the Residence Energy Challenge elsewhere?

What are the biggest obstacles to implementing sustainability processes: economic, behavioural, organizational?

## **Place Pod**

What kind of role do we envision for Queen's as an institution in the area of sustainability? Briefly, what do we want to be known for? How far are we from this goal?

From an engineering perspective, are there technologies and approaches which can assist us in reaching our sustainability goals in areas such as electrical conservation, cogeneration, or sustainable design?

Queen's is in an enviable position in some respects with respect to transportation issues: many of our students live on campus or in close proximity, as do some of our staff. And yet, parking is still an issue, and public transit and cycling facilities are still limited on campus and in Kingston. Are there areas where we could improve in this respect?

We are also in the process of acquiring new lands around campus, and renovating other facilities around campus. What should we be considering with respect to green spaces?

In our new construction, we seek to meet some level of sustainability standards. Should we be shooting higher? What about renovations?

The Residence Energy Challenge showed that members of a residence can band together toward a goal. Could this model be extended to other areas on campus such as academic departments, administrative units, etc.? Could there be a campus energy challenge?

Are there areas of wastage that we should be paying attention to with respect to electricity, heat or water?