

University Sustainability Policy		
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Confidentiality Level: Internal Use	Approval Date: October 29, 2025	
Review Cycle: Three Years	Effective Date: November 1, 2025	

I. Purpose

Committed to our vision of being a leading Catholic university that inspires excellence and drives innovation towards a just, peaceful, and sustainable society, and guided by Lasallian values of Faith, Service, and Communion, DLSU-D regards sustainability as a basic educational goal and management priority encompassing environmental stewardship, social responsibility, economic viability, and cultural preservation.

This policy establishes:

- Integration of sustainability principles across university operations
- Framework for environmental, social, economic, and cultural sustainability
- Leadership in sustainable higher education practices
- Culture of stewardship and social responsibility
- Contribution to UN Sustainable Development Goals and Laudato Si' Goals
- Commitment to integral human development and care for our common home

II. Governance Structure

Campus Sustainability Office:

- Coordinates sustainability initiatives and assessments
- Implements sustainability programs and projects
- Monitors and reports performance across all sustainability dimensions
- Manages partnerships and stakeholder engagement
- Facilitates integration of sustainability across university operations
- Ensures compliance with sustainability commitments and goals

III. Scope

This policy applies to all DLSU-D activities, operations, and stakeholders including academic units, administrative offices, faculty, staff, students, service providers, and community partners. The policy addresses environmental, social, economic, and cultural sustainability aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Laudato Si' Goals, reflecting DLSU-D's commitment as a signatory to the SDG Accord and as a member of the International Association of La Salle Universities (IALU) that has signed the commitment letter to the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

IV. Implementation Commitments

Environmental Performance

DLSU-D commits to improve environmental performance through Teaching by Example:

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- Promote best practices to improve and protect the environment, prevent pollution and conserve biodiversity
- Integrate environmental practices and values into curriculum and research
- Use energy, water and other resources efficiently in all activities
- Comply with environmental legislation and exceed regulatory requirements where possible
- Assess environmental impacts and pollution risks from operations, using fewer materials and producing less waste
- Eliminate environmentally unfriendly materials from purchase to disposal
- Conduct training for students, employees, alumni, parents and community partners on environmental responsibilities
- Encourage business and community partners to adopt responsible practices
- Measure environmental performance and implement corrective measures when necessary
- Implement policies ensuring a sustainable, eco-friendly and carbon-neutral university

2. Sustainability Framework

Laudato Si' Goals Integration:

- Response to the cry of the earth through ecological conversion
- Response to the cry of the poor through social justice
- Ecological economics promoting sustainable development
- Adoption of simple lifestyles and responsible consumption
- Ecological education and spirituality fostering environmental awareness
- Community involvement and participatory action for the common good
- Global sustainability initiatives and international cooperation

Environmental Sustainability:

- Resource conservation and efficiency
- Climate action and carbon neutrality
- Biodiversity protection and ecosystem preservation
- Waste reduction and circular economy practices
- Clean energy and sustainable transportation

Social Sustainability:

- Quality education and lifelong learning
- Health and well-being promotion
- Gender equality and social inclusion
- Decent work and fair labor practices
- Community engagement and partnerships

Economic Sustainability:

- Responsible consumption and production
- Innovation and sustainable infrastructure

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- Economic growth with environmental protection
- Sustainable procurement practices
- Financial stewardship and resource optimization

Cultural Sustainability:

- Preservation of heritage and traditions
- Cultural diversity and inclusion
- Values-based education and formation rooted in Lasallian tradition
- Indigenous knowledge integration
- Interfaith dialogue and understanding
- Ecological spirituality and environmental consciousness

Implementation Actions:

- Establish data collection systems for sustainability and Laudato Si' indicators
- Set measurable targets aligned with SDGs and Laudato Si' Goals
- Maintain documentation and evidence portfolios
- Benchmark performance against peer institutions and Catholic universities
- Support research addressing sustainability and integral human development
- Promote interdisciplinary initiatives connecting faith, science, and ecology
- Develop partnerships with communities, churches, and organizations
- Implement outreach programs addressing local and global challenges
- Foster ecological conversion and spiritual formation

V. Risk Management

1. Sustainability Risk Assessment

DLSU-D recognizes sustainability risks requiring proactive management:

Environmental Risks:

- Climate change impacts on campus operations
- Resource depletion (water, energy, materials)
- Waste generation and pollution
- Biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation

Social and Economic Risks:

- Inequality in access to quality education
- Health and safety concerns
- Economic instability affecting operations
- Inadequate community engagement

Cultural and Spiritual Risks:

- Loss of Lasallian values and traditions
- Disconnect between faith and sustainability practices
- Reduced commitment to integral human development

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2. Risk Mitigation

- Conduct annual sustainability risk assessments
- Implement early warning systems for environmental hazards
- Establish contingency plans for resource shortages
- Regular monitoring of key performance indicators
- Maintain stakeholder engagement and communication protocols
- Integrate risk considerations into planning and decision-making

VI. Performance Monitoring

- 1. Key Performance Indicators
 - Environmental metrics (energy, water, waste, carbon emissions)
 - Social impact measures (diversity, health, community engagement)
 - Economic indicators (resource efficiency, sustainable procurement)
 - Cultural preservation and diversity metrics
 - Laudato Si' Goals implementation progress
 - Research output addressing sustainability and integral human development
 - Student and staff sustainability engagement levels
 - Ecological conversion and formation activities
- 2. Reporting Requirements
 - Annual Sustainability Report
 - Regular progress reports to University leadership
 - Public communication of achievements and progress
 - Participation in sustainability assessments and rankings

VII. Resource Allocation

Financial:

- Annual budget allocation for sustainability initiatives
- Integration into capital planning processes
- Investment in sustainable infrastructure and technology

Human Resources:

- Staffing for Campus Sustainability Office operations
- Professional development for sustainability roles
- Faculty support for curriculum integration
- Student opportunities in sustainability programs

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VIII. Compliance and Accountability

- Full compliance with environmental laws and regulations
- Regular policy review and updates
- Transparent decision-making processes
- Public reporting of performance and commitments
- Stakeholder consultation and feedback

IX. Communication

Internal: Regular updates through university channels, recognition programs, and training initiatives External: Participation in sustainability networks, media engagement, conference presentations, and collaboration with external sustainability initiatives

X. Policy Review

This policy is reviewed every three years by the Campus Sustainability Office in consultation with University leadership. Amendments require approval by the University President and communication to all stakeholders within 30 days.

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