

## Proposed Assessment and Development of a UNC Sustainability Policy

Sustainability as it relates to energy and water conservation and greenhouse gas emissions has catapulted to the forefront of emerging issues both locally and nationally. Locally, bills in both the House and Senate of the General Assembly propose actions ranging from constructing high-efficiency buildings, to retrofitting existing state agency buildings to renewable energy portfolios to an NC Green Business Fund to energy savings remaining at the institution for investment in additional efficiency measures. Nationally, the University Presidents' Climate Commitment is soliciting signatures to support the implementation of measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) has become an accepted benchmark for rating building sustainability and constructing high-efficiency buildings. The campuses are beginning to incorporate LEED criteria in their design guidelines as well as train and certify facilities planning staff.

Despite varying levels of sustainable measures being implemented on the campuses over the years, consideration is now being given to a stronger centralized policy and a plan of implementation. A task force has been put in place to develop recommendations and a strategy for the university. Sustainability is directly correlated to the university's long term PACE facilities efficiency measures as well as the UNC Tomorrow initiative.

The task force consists of five campus representatives and two members from General Administration. A proposed schedule of the assessment process through recommendation and rollout is depicted below.



