

APPENDIX C: INPUT FROM FACULTY AND STAFF

The Task Force gathered information from campus faculty and staff through a broadcast email sent on January 31, 2005. This email elicited 55 responses, of which 32 included examples of activities that use our campus as a resource or deal with environmental issues. Most responses fell under 5 major categories - academics, recycling/waste reduction, energy conservation, the physical environment, and design/construction - many of which are covered in the Environmental Policy. From unique classes to major energy conservation systems, there are many positive things happening on our campus related to environmental issues. It is evident that these efforts need to be brought to the forefront and shared with the greater community so other departments can learn from these examples and institute similar projects in their own offices. This is one basic need for a central hub or communication system relating to sustainability. Additionally, a majority of these comments are related to recycling and waste reduction, reflecting the success of efforts over the past several years to promote recycling on campus but also the lack of attention given to other environmental concerns.

Along with these highlights, however, were 26 responses with suggestions for improvement. These included issues within some of the same categories as existing campus activities (recycling/waste reduction, energy conservation, design/construction) along with concerns about transportation. The fact that there are both current activities and concerns within the same categories further reflects the need for a central hub to gather information and assist departments campus-wide with making environmentally responsible decisions.

Broadcast Email – January 31, 2005

From: Jeff Severin
To: Lawrence Staff, Faculty and Affiliates
Subject: Sustainability and the KU Campus: Your Input Requested

Dear Faculty and Staff,

I am writing to ask for your help in gathering information that will make the University of Kansas more environmentally friendly while creating new opportunities for environmental research and collaboration. As part of an effort to document projects relating directly to our campus resources, the KU Sustainability Task Force is looking for examples of research, classroom study, and other activities centered on our campus environment.

Last fall, Provost Shulenburg appointed the task force to examine the feasibility of organizing an expanded hub for environmental research, data collection, and project implementation at the University of Kansas. Efforts of this "hub" would focus on making existing campus operations more environmentally friendly and guiding future campus growth in an environmentally responsible direction. We are in the process of gathering information about existing groups and individuals who are active in this regard and are asking for your feedback.

Do you, in your classes, research, or other work-related activities, draw on the KU campus as a resource or example? Do you play an active role in improving the campus environment? If so, we would like to hear about it. We are interested in the broadest range of activities, from classes that examine campus architecture, to research on campus energy usage, to departmental efforts to increase office paper recycling.

We will use this information to form the fullest possible picture of the current state of environmental activity on the campus and to guide our eventual recommendations to the Provost. We will not, however, share any information about you that you wish to keep confidential.

Please direct all responses to Jeff Severin, Environmental Services Manager, at 864-4703 or jseverin@ku.edu. However, if you have questions about this process or how your activities might pertain to the project, feel free to contact any of the task force members listed below. Thank you in advance for your assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sustainability Task Force:
Laura Adams - Student
Anton Bengtson - Student
Jason Boots - Student

Karl Brooks - Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies and History
Rebecca Bruce - Student
Dennis Lane - Professor, Environmental Engineering
Mike Russell - Director, Department of Environment, Health, and Safety
Jeff Severin - Manager, Environmental Stewardship Program
Stacey S. White - Assistant Professor, Urban Planning

Responses to Broadcast Email

Responses to the broadcast email are included here, and are organized under the categories mentioned above. Names have been removed for anonymity, but individuals are identified as faculty or staff and departments are provided to demonstrate the wide range of individuals who are involved with or interested in environmental issues on campus. Some responses have been edited for length or to help maintain anonymity. Not all responses are included.

Current Activities and Resources

Academics

Faculty, Center for East Asian Studies: I plan and lead a 3 week grant-funded trip to Japan each May-June for 9 undergraduates. Last year, for the first time, we met with Japanese college students and staff members associated with a Japanese non-profit group, Japan for Sustainability (JFS). Our meeting was funded by a Japanese corporate sponsor, Sendenkaigi, a big publisher, which ultimately published an article about our meeting in one of their magazines, Environmental Forum. My students had to do a presentation to the Japanese group and the summary for that was included in the article. The students' presentation, as well as an English language translation of this article is posted on my Blackboard course web site for the program.

My students' presentation was divided into three sections: sustainability efforts at KU, in Lawrence and other of their hometowns, and in the US generally. It also included a survey they created on sustainability awareness on the part of KU students that they distributed to about 200 students from various classes and living groups. Interestingly, when I began the project about 1/2 of my students didn't even know what the word "sustainability" meant. I think they were surprised at the results of the survey, particularly how few students knew what it was and considered it important.

I am having my new group meet with the JFS group in Japan also, and we hope to build on last year's event, not start from scratch. This year I think the presentations will focus on eco-friendly products. Last weekend we met and heard several specialists from the community discuss this issue: David Dunfield (city commissioner and architect) discussed eco-friendly building materials; Carey Maynard-Moody (Sierra Club rep) discussed eco-friendly local foods and agriculture); and Mollie Mangerich (City of Lawrence Solid Waste Division manager) discussed the city's official policy on procurement of goods and services that are eco-friendly as well as education events for the community on sustainability.

My students are not majoring in environmental studies programs, in fact their majors are quite diverse. I think they represent a good cross section of the KU student community. I think this program is a good way to enhance understanding of this important issue among the average KU student body.

Faculty, Architectural Engineering: I teach and do research in the following areas: heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC), indoor air quality (IAQ), including environmental tobacco smoke, etc., energy management, solar energy (we have a system running on Marvin Annex), plumbing, fire protection, automatic controls, and all contribute to buildings' potential LEED ratings.

Faculty, Urban Planning: One of my classes spends approximately half of the semester studying campus sustainability. Drawing from knowledge of sustainability and values developed during the first half of the semester, students work on final projects related to some area of campus operations. Last fall's topics included: transportation, recycling, sustainable building, and impervious surface and land development. In fact, a couple groups did surveys on campus...in [another] course, I use Potter Lake as an opportunity to consider water quality. We go on a short "field trip" to look at the lake, the paths runoff takes to get to the lake, and the likely sources of contamination.

Faculty, School of Social Welfare: The doctoral Advanced Proseminar course in social work includes a section on ecophilosophy and deep ecology for social work.

Faculty, English: I do nature writing classes, and [West Campus] would be a good place to go, if there's part of it that is not a construction zone.

Faculty, English: We use Potter Lake, walk around the campus (I nickname the course Aerobic English 101), observe campus architecture, use the KU archives at Spencer Research Library, and have tours given by Dr. Ted Johnson. The campus is the handy laboratory to teach the necessity of careful observation of specific evidence in order to support assertions. Proposals to destroy the green space between the Campanile and the Stadium are remarkably shortsighted.

Faculty, Physics and Astronomy: Teaching Physics 111 includes learning about energy issues, personal, societal, global.

Recycling/Waste Reduction

Faculty, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology: What I do in my research lab is to recycle the outdated catalogs. We do collect them as new catalogs arrive and bring them in recycling bins

Faculty, Art History: The art history department office has boxes for paper recycling (newspaper, mixed paper, white paper).

Staff, Ermal Garinger Academic Resource Center: Our office has little to do with overall campus environment, but we do use internal recycling bins, and regularly empty them into the larger ones in the hall on 4th floor Wescoe.

Staff, Visitors Center: Working at the Visitor Center at the University of Kansas, I take advantage of the recycling bins we have located in the front area.

Staff, School of Business: I recycle all paper, newspaper and cardboard in my office, separating out white office paper from general mixed papers. We have recycling stations in Summerfield for the mixed paper, newspapers and cardboard. I take the white office paper to the recycling station at Wal-Mart, but would love it if we had a recycling location for that paper in Summerfield or some place close. Other faculty members have set up recycling stations for cans and plastic bottles in our kitchen area, so I use that. Whenever I am ordering printed materials, I prefer paper stock with some recycled content, and I always recycle whatever overruns we have that are not used.

Staff, KU Athletics Corporation: My department tries to stay up on recycling. It's a small thing but we try to recycle whenever we can. We have the three bins for plastics, news and office paper right by the main door so they get utilized. The plastic bin has been important to us due to the 20oz bottles of gatorade that we supply to our athletes and the athletes usually fill up the news paper bin with the Kansan.

Staff, Spanish and Portuguese: I would like to just put in a word of support for the recycling bins on 3rd floor Wescoe. I use them for materials from my office, and I think that their presence on each floor of Wescoe is very important.

Staff, Bureau of Child Research: In our office, we recycle paper that we can and print on the back of it for first drafts and the like.

Staff, Watkins Memorial Health Center: We recycle no 1 and no 2 plastic, glass, aluminum, chipboard, cardboard, magazines. The Student group on campus comes by most Wednesdays to pick up this recycling.

Staff, Music and Dance: When I'm asked to advise about purchasing items, I do my best to purchase items that will last and not ones that are cheaply manufactured and prone to break...Finally, I often collect recyclable materials into my office and then call the Recycling folks to come and pick them up rather than leaving them out for house-keeping and the dumpster.

Staff, KU Edwards Campus: I have taken it upon myself to take as much recycled paper, phone books, yellow pages to either my church or my children's school. They earn money from how much they fill up their paper "dumpster". It is very hard for me to see the amount of paper that we waste, be it copy paper, newspapers, telephone books, etc. and not do something to contribute to the "betterment" of the world we live in. It is so very little that I do, but I want to try to make a difference.

Faculty, Theater and Film: I don't have too much to contribute except that we've recently made a change in our office by purchasing recycled paper for our copy machine rather than regular...We have also participated in the campus wide recycling program in our office and it seems to be working well.

Staff, Comptroller's Office: Beginning in October 2004, the Bursar's Office began e-mailing bill notifications to those students with e-mail addresses rather than sending paper notifications. Both students and guardians can view the bill online and only need to print the bill if they are paying by mail or want a copy of this for their records. We can store the bill indefinitely. We bill more than just students so we have not been able to completely go paperless but we have cut down significantly on the amount of paper bills generated. In addition, not all students have activated their e-mail accounts. Students and guardians may also pay their bills online. By doing so, they eliminate the written check, the envelope and the stamp. It is also less paper for KU to store as we keep this information for backup of payments. For payment of tuition and fees and other charges on the student account, we only accept credit card payments online. Again this eliminates the bill, the envelope, the stamp and the handwork needed by staff to process these payments. This also eliminates our storage of this sensitive information.

Staff, Human Resources and Equal Opportunity: I think that the self service view paycheck and view leave balances view instead of printing all advices might fall in your category of saving resources - they may be the state's resources vs. KU's technically but it's still less paper. We still have folks who want to print but the intention is that you can view it so we did add a friendlier print option. We are hoping that as more folks become comfortable with using the view, they will discontinue printing. (We did build a print function in our actual database for those depts. whose employees do not have access to the web so we can't claim 100% of no more printing of advices.) In addition, the Payroll Office has been very active in the past couple of years to increase electronic funds transfers vs. paper paychecks that are in mailers. We do hope to move more employee information to the KYou Portal as we upgrade our software instead of sending paper.

Staff, Vice Provost Research: I receive about 600-700 applications a year, many of which use measurements or instruments that require multiple copies being made to send to committee reviewers. I am in the process of developing a digital Instrument Library that will allow reviewers to view research instruments without this office making hard copies. If I use the low figure of 600 applications and a low estimate of instruments used on just one per application that is 600 fewer copies, some of which are multipage. Not a great savings but I believe every little bit helps, and it does allow faster access to materials than getting application materials to reviewers via surface mail. The research community knows that they may submit their applications via email, rather than hard copy, so it saves paper there, plus the email applications that require board review may be forwarded electronically. When I first began, researchers were required to send 15 copies of their application. I quickly learned that about 75% of the applications did not require review by board members, indicating a great waste of paper and effort on the part of researchers. I ended that requirement and informed researchers that one copy is all I needed. Then, with email attachments being accepted as applications, reduced the paper load still further.

Staff, Dining Services: We have an active campaign to recycle all cardboard, office papers, cans, and bottles in all our residential and Union Dining operations. We recycle grease from our fryers and food preparation, and use enzymes in all plumbing to eliminate contamination from food acids and wastes from garbage disposers. We have a program in place to keep the outsides of our buildings look better by picking up cigarette butts in flower beds etc and pulling weeds. As we move forward we are looking at recycle of metal cans and reducing the amounts of paper we use. For instance we use some china in our Union operations, which keeps paper out of the system and use as little packaging as possible to reduce trash.

Energy Conservation

Staff, Memorial Unions: I oversee the energy management system called Metasys by Johnson Controls. We are about to be written up in a national publication because we were the first building in the world to inter-connect our Metasys system to our reservation system. That connection allowed us to save \$13,000 in energy

consumption in the first 6 month of it's existence. Now, the Hawaii national airport is doing the same thing with its terminals. What it does for us: Building air handlers that are controled by Metasys receive a schedule at 1:00 AM every morning for the next days events from the Dean Evans Reservation system located and operated by our reservations staff. AHU's come on automaticly 30 minutes before the event start to make the space comfortable and shut down the AHU at the scheduled end of the reservation time. Example: Instead of the pine room AHU running from 8AM to closing because there are three meetings at various times throughout the day, it will only run when the room is reserved. 18 run hours reduced to 4.5 with this example.

Staff, Department of Student Housing: [We] try to practice environmental friendly installations. We have replaced hundreds of F40T-12 light fixtures with F32T-8 fixtures that are more energy efficient. We also try to install more energy efficient motors and A/C units.

Staff, Vice Provost Research: I would like to congratulate the person(s) responsible for the new campus street lamps. They are very well designed for limiting light pollution and getting our energy dollar where it belongs, directed downward.

Staff, Music and Dance: I manage all the computers in the building, so I set them to operate at low power mode or shut off to avoid all-night power consumption. I have programmed the lights in our recital hall to shut off to avoid the casual use of the powerful spotlights when the regular house lights would suffice.

Physical Environment

Staff, University Relations: As a photographer for the University, I utilize the campus environment as a background or canvas, to paint (photograph) representations of KU as a recruitment tool. My goal is to present our university to prospective students, parents, others of influence in a positive, attractive manner. Obviously the general "look" of the University is important in that effort. The architecture, the landscaping, etc. should be pleasing. (There is of course the opportunity to "paint" a positive picture by deliberately avoiding any "ugliness" that might be present). I can choose to enhance the general perception of our environment by photographing only the positive. Naturally I would prefer a more perfect background environment for a realistic representation. You get the picture.

Staff, Audio-Reader: I am very pleased to report that the Audio-Reader Sensory Garden is a project that improves the campus environment. The garden also provides an educational aspect since the plantings are labeled in Braille and print. The fact that the garden is accessible to individuals with sight impairments (and those in wheelchairs) has made it a popular tour destination for groups with various handicaps, for children, and for the elderly. In addition, it serves as a sanctuary for area wildlife (we stock our birdfeeders regularly!). The goal of the Audio-Reader Sensory Garden is to provide an outdoor garden environment that stimulates a variety of senses, making the garden particularly accessible to individuals with visual impairments. Plantings include those that are very fragrant or have interesting textures; most plants are labeled with special markers that identify the plants in Braille and in print.

A veritable landscape quilt of texture and fragrance, the Sensory Garden weaves many lives together on the KU campus. Comprised of donated plants and volunteer labor, the Audio-Reader garden has involved KU staff, students, and community volunteers. Our most active garden volunteers include retirees, master gardeners, a KU law student, Delta Gamma sororoity members, and a professor of Environmental Science at JCCC. During the past year, two local garden clubs secured a grant which enabled us to add another wheelchair-accessible raised bed and additional plantings. A local boy scout (the son of a KU physics professor) is currently designing new Braille and print plant markers (with help from Jayhawk Trophy and a local iron craftsman) as his Eagle Scout project. The new markers should be in place this spring.

Design and Construction

Staff, Hall Center for the Humanities: There is a great example on campus -- the little garden at the top of the stairs in front of the [Haworth Hall] on Sunnyside Avenue. Since they were planted, these xeric native and near-native plants have not had to be replaced and they provide lovely color and texture throughout the growing season.

Staff, Continuing Education: I have co-authored several books on the KU campus and its architecture (for the Univ. Press of Kansas and Historic Mount Oread Fund). I am currently helping on another 2-volume project on

student housing's history). There is a lot of material in these volumes and projects that should be factored into your report--also the fine work of Henry Fortunato and his great team of graduate students working on the KU History website should be included.

Staff, Design and Construction Management: This office has an obvious connection with our work in campus planning and development.

Suggestions for Improvement

Recycling/Waste Reduction

Staff, Office of the Provost: I feel that recycling would be more efficient if there were a 'monitor' on each floor that would be a go to person with questions about what can be recycled and where to take it. I think that there is a big lack of recycling because people are in a hurry and don't take the time to do it. If the custodians took a more active part in leaving behind those items that can be recycled instead of throwing those items in the trash dumpsters, then it would be left to the department to see that the recycling was done. Recycling should be mandatory by each and every department on the University campus.

Staff, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science: I really wish we had an official recycling container of some sort, say a small plastic box the size of a case of printing paper, to place under the table of each of our printers. We have upwards of 20 of these and though I regularly put boxes underneath with a lovely sign requesting that folks recycle, stacks of waste collect nearby, the boxes disappear, and I can't seem to make it stick!! It's really something I think could make a difference, since we have such high paper consumption. We recycle the toner cartridges, we save and recycle paper book waste, boxes, and all the various things that I can influence disposal of, but I'd like to see that in each of these stations that produce paper waste really avoid the landfill.

Staff, Music and Dance: I would love to see more recycling bins in the place of trash cans, and I'd love to have the people be more aware of them. I'd love to have citizens be less focused on the mindless consumption which is thrown at us in countless advertisements -- all that stuff we buy can end up in a landfill, so it's be great to see fewer gizmos, tchotchkies, and trinkets bought all the time.

Faculty, Pharmaceutical Chemistry: I know that we do not recycle our glass solvent bottles, which seems silly b/c the solvent can be completely evaporated and washed. In my lab alone I probably go through 5-10 4Liter bottles a week. I am not sure what safety issues would have to be addressed to get these to be recyclable, but it might be worth looking into. I am sure Malott's labs go through 100's of bottles a month. Its a lot of glass to just throw away. Also, this might be something to address with environmental health and safety. At the campus I was at prior to being at KU, EH&S stored unused good chemicals, listed them on their website and other people on campus could "go shopping" there for chemicals instead of just ordering more from the chemical company.

Staff (department name withheld): My main frustration is with certain administrators who believe that the recycling bins don't look good and that they get to decide for everyone.

Staff, Anthropology: Every (or nearly every) trash can should have separate compartments for recyclables and non-recyclables. This is now standard in Western Europe. People here might gripe at first, but they'd get used to it. Right now, in Fraser Hall we have very limited recycling on alternate floors. On those floors that don't have recycling, 99% of recyclables get simply thrown away. Suggestions: have recycling containers on every floor, allow paperboard and cardboard to be recycled from offices, supply offices with unbleached, recycled paper for photocopying and laser printing. Develop new policy to encourage faculty to use this for drafts, memos, and all documents except where lily-white paper is absolutely required (e.g. page proofs for a book), Have the university sign contracts only with manufacturers (Dell, HP, etc.) that guarantee disposing of the device (including recycling recyclable components) once the machine is obsolete.

KU has made contracts with some of the most environmentally unfriendly food vendor companies: Coke, Burger King, etc. If KU is actually serious about improving its environmental record, it should re-examine its corporate vending contracts and require these companies to (1) deliver food in recycled packaging (merely recyclable is not sufficient), and (2) recycle their own recyclable waste. KU should also offer contracts to food vendor companies with better environmental records and practices.

Faculty, Political Science: My suggestions is to especially concentrate on faculty as they generate the most paper. Our dept. has a box in the copy room but I don't think many use it. I see lots and lots of boxes in the big trash dumpster. As to students - putting up signs in every classroom as to where the recycling bins are located for their drinks and making the bins more available would help. I think there needs to be a well thought out and attractive (so as not to ad to the junkiness) ad campaign in every office and class room.

Staff, Information Services/Information Technology: KU as an institution needs to realize that much work related to computer access for e-mail, databases, and other tasks can be done remotely. Combined with employees' potential ability to forward their desk phones to home or cell phones, or, with an initiative to make appropriate employees' desk phone numbers belong to cell phones in the first place, many workers, a majority of the time, do not need to be on-campus. This would not only reduce the need for office space, but also parking space. This would also reduce the amount of daily travel to and from work. Various free Internet technologies exist for group audio conferencing (up to 5 people at once) and other technologies exist to make remote workers part of "office water cooler" types of conversations. I'd like to see the University develop formal policies supporting this type of "telework" and work with managers to promote this work style, where it could be appropriate.

Staff, Aerospace Engineering: I see the Engineering computing staffers have no other way to dispose of their hundreds of new-computer packing materials; they tried to honor my request to recycle and were told to put all in trash. Most building custodial forces have no knowledge of recycling. Office personnel need close access to the depositories or it won't happen.

Staff, KU Libraries – Edwards Campus: I've been wanting to ask for a long time if there is any possibility of extending KU's recycling efforts to the Edwards campus. I think one of our facilities people recycles aluminum cans but office paper, newspapers from the library, and phone books are usually thrown away. We recycle our printer ink cartridges through a company in Kansas but we haven't found a place that will take used batteries. Often, if there is any recycling done, it is done as a service by one of our employees doing it on their own time. For example, one of our new employees now takes newspaper, office paper, and phone books to recycle, but this has happened before and usually after a few months the person gets tired of doing it and we start throwing it all away again.

Energy Conservation

Staff, Information and Telecommunications Technology Center: I noticed the urinals here in Nichols Hall are an old style that uses 6 gallons of water per flush. In my Internet wanderings I came across urinals that use no water. They don't flush.

Faculty, Sociology: One thing I would like to see become much more of a common practice is for the people (instructors, staff, etc.) who are likely the last people out at the end of the day to close the blinds and doors of their classrooms as well as their offices and turn off the lights. While custodial staff may do this later in the evening, there are many times when I pass classrooms in the evening with their doors open, all the lights on, and the blinds up or open. This really does seem like a waste of resources. There are even windows left open, not only in offices, but also in classrooms - including ones on the first floors of buildings. Very problematic - in terms of theft as well as energy use, at least in my view

Staff, Anthropology: Central h/c units should be programmed at a higher temperature in the summer (NO one needs it to be 40 or 50 degrees F in the buildings in the summer -- 75 is just fine). The buildings are far too cold in the summer.

Staff, Facilities Operations: I strongly believe that the custodial department by itself can reduce the electricity consumption by a minimum of 15% just by turning off the lights. I have a detailed generic energy conservation program that is completed. I also have a training seminar and workshop to train custodians in energy conservation. The goal of utilizing this program is to reduce energy usage while at the same time, re-allocate a portion of these savings for the betterment of the housekeeping department. Also included in this program are many of the little things that individuals can do to save thousands of dollars in energy conservation.

Staff, Vice Provost Research: (Following a positive example of lighting use on campus.) I would ask the same wise people to address the light pollution (meaning wasted energy dollars as well as light that strays into the sky or on things not intended to be lighted) from the lighting of campus building facades. I realize this is counter to

the desire to illuminate the architecture at KU. However, I would submit that poorly designed and maintained night time illumination is unsightly and in bad taste as well as a waste of our energy dollar. I refer especially to the unnecessarily overpowering facade lighting of the rebuilt Hoch Auditoria/Budig Hall. I am sure there are other examples, but I picked one.

Staff, Aerospace Engineering: The winter forced air unit fans blow air that is colder than the what comes through the leaking windows, and a heater is illegal but necessary. I use an incandescent lamp to warm my hands to use the computer. In summer, it is so cold, I use the heater also. The thermostat is in another person's locked office. I dress warmly, leaving my coat and gloves on to conserve heat; I dress warmly at home. However, at work, the temps are usually out of synch with reality.

Physical Environment

Design and Construction

Staff, Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center: It is very clear from the work done so far by a lot of people that the benefits of correct building design are numerous, and go beyond energy savings. If KU wants to get out in front, the first thing should be to create a design standards policy for new construction: use of daylighting (increases productivity, reduces absenteeism, learning is better), passive solar heating, ground-source cooling, heat-recovery ventilation, local materials as much as possible, gray water /rainwater collection for site irrigation...this is the stuff that comes to mind quickly. Next I would try to involve students and faculty from the appropriate departments in working with local developers to design, permit, and build self-powered subdivisions which are also walkable, parklike communities. Changing the direction of development in the area would be a very powerful statement and will have a positive esthetic and economic impact on the community. It is also suitable to apply these principles to re-development of core urban areas. Recycling and the usual efforts to save are great, but the real walk-the-talk impact will come from stuff visitors and users can see, like a building that powers its own HVAC and also makes the occupants feel better.

Staff, Spencer Art Museum: One option your group may want to look into is soy bean-based roofing material. The Shedd Aquarium in Chicago has gone to this material, and has an entire education display in the aquarium regarding the environmental and energy-saving benefits it provides. I would imagine that using progressive building materials like that as we face repairs and upkeep would provide great fodder for our teaching and resource mission.

Faculty, Art: Our campus is beautiful yet I have several areas I would like to mention where we might improve. These suggestions relate to the research interests of art, design, art history, and architecture faculty in terms of the visual appearance of our campus, the quality of life we offer, and the intellectual and cultural tenor inferred and embodied by our environment. The issues are 1) We are lacking even one visionary example of architecture by a prominent, internationally known architect, 2) I believe we lag behind other major universities in providing a major collection of public art, including outdoor contemporary sculpture, mosaics, frescoes, etc. that could be available on-line, in a catalogue, and could provide a draw to the Lawrence community and campus. Our environment should be a place where we live and work surrounded by art...art that is at various examples and times beautiful, invigorating, challenging, nostalgic, or progressive, 3) I believe the signage on our campus cheapens the appearance of the campus (must everything be blue) and closely resembles the signage at VA Hospitals. The signage lacks taste and distinction. I would suggest that we might reactivate and firmly invigorate the Public Art Committee at the University and actively work to provide funding support for initiatives that will achieve a more enlightened, informed, daring, interesting, and contemporary approach to our visual environment.

Faculty, English: What about preserving a part of West Campus as open space? It's not too far from the hill to take a class over there, and (at least until the recent spate of bulldozers) it's a good place to find wildlife.

Staff, Vice Provost Research: I'd like to see KU take some steps towards maintaining campus green space without the use of pesticides. As I understand it, Haskell has been doing so for almost a decade! So, KU would have a good local model from which to plan.

Staff, Hall Center for the Humanities: My suggestion, and one I've given a lot of thought to over my years of walking across campus to work every morning (since 1987), is that the grounds should be landscaped using a lot more native plants, which are more hardy and trouble free and require less water, fertilizer, and overall care.

These can be successfully combined with cultivars that are also hardy, self sustaining, and drought tolerant. If care is given to location (i.e., put sun loving plants in the sun, shade loving and under story plants and shrubs in the less sunny spots and shady areas) this could be extremely successful; save a money on water and chemicals, and save a lot of money and labor by not replacing the plants every season. I have watched the Chi Omega fountain be completely re-landscaped three times in the past seven years. Last year they tore out perfectly good hardy shrubs to create a labor and water-intensive lawn and annuals garden this past spring. I fail to understand the logic behind this and I resent use of the University's scanty resources in this wasteful way. Beyond that, there are grasses that require less mowing and fertilizer and virtually no water.

Transportation

Staff, KU Libraries: What is the impact of the buses running up and down Jayhawk Blvd. on the environment? This question occurred to me when having to smell the exhaust. Then over the summer I noticed the leaves on some of the trees along Jayhawk were brown and shriveled and wondered if there was a correlation.

Staff, KU Anthropology: Get tough with Lawrence Transportation (or whatever company it is that supplies KU with its busses) - though some are new, they are right up there as the most polluting, smoke-belching busses on the planet. How incredibly third world! Require them to conform to reasonable (e.g. California) air quality standards, which may mean retrofitting smog filters. No agreement, no contract. In the non-inclement months, KU could in the future have a fleet of cheap, brightly (and uniformly) painted one-speed rental bikes like they have in the Netherlands, many west German train stations, and all over Berlin -- swipe your KU card in the electronically controlled lock, it deducts \$0.40/hr from your account, and you can ride it around campus/town and leave it at your next destination. Encourage bicycle commuting by providing covered bike parking. Encourage carpooling by e.g. providing parking discounts or other incentives.

Staff, University Relations: In the strongest terms possible, get rid of the diesel Buses! Diesel is the most prevalent particulate pollutant in the world. Surely, KU is smart enough to find another (more environmentally friendly) way to move students from place to place. Electric Buses!

Staff, KU Libraries: My biggest concern about the environment at KU is the dirty buses used by the students and administration. Every day we are all subjected to the pollution they produce. We have much more environmentally friendly city buses which could be used instead if the various parties involved would work at compromise.

Staff, Vice Provost Research: I had an idea that might help with the parking situation on campus; offer students who live four blocks (or some other set distance) from campus a \$50 break on their tuition or fees if they don't park on campus. Kind of a freebate sort of thing. Eligibility would be fairly easy to verify (an official rental agreement or other proof of residence would work), and the program would encourage bus transit, carpooling and other "alternative" transportation options, and perhaps slightly relieve the parking crunch on and near campus.

Staff, Music and Dance: I'd love to see the people here drive less. I usually bike to school, and I must say that Lawrence is a fairly easy town to get around in with a bicycle. The car addiction is very obvious here when people pay such high prices in gas, insurance, and parking so they can drive a mile or two to campus.