

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Sense of the Senate Resolution Number
Date of Senate Approval

SSR0716S
04/14/2016

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

Proposed Institutional Development Committee (IDC) Resolution 6:

WHEREAS, the pursuit of environmental sustainability is valued by students as resolved by the University of North Carolina Asheville (“the University”) Student Government Association and the University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments;^{1,2}

WHEREAS, it is a Goal of the University to serve as a model of environmental awareness and responsibility, endorsed by the Faculty Senate;^{3,4}

WHEREAS, the Mission Statement of the University addresses “the conditions and concerns of the contemporary world both as individuals and as a university” and incorporates “economic, social and environmental sustainability into our institutional practices and curriculum;”⁵

WHEREAS, “it is the policy of the University’s Board of Governors that the University, including General Administration, the constituent institutions, and affiliated entities, shall establish sustainable development and resource management, or ‘sustainability’ as a core value of institutional operations, planning, capital construction, and purchasing practices;”⁶

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s governor, in 1998, ordered the state government to set an example of environmental stewardship in the way agencies, including state universities, operate and conduct business per executive order 156. Specifically, “state agencies shall seek opportunities to reduce environmental impacts associated with capital improvements throughout project planning, site and building design, and construction;”⁷

WHEREAS, the most respected scientific bodies, and many non-scientific leaders, in the United States and abroad agree that global climate change is real, presently occurring, and poses significant threats to the social, economic, and biological welfare of our generation, our children’s generation, and for others to come;⁸

WHEREAS, the U.S. Green Building Council has developed a voluntary, consensus-based, market-driven set of design principles, the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, which employ high energy and water efficiency, conserve natural resources, and create healthy indoor environments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of North Carolina Asheville formally adopt environmental sustainability as a core value within the University's strategic and master planning processes, and therefore enact a commitment that all new building projects and major renovations meet or exceed LEED Gold certified standards.

Endnotes

¹UNCA Student Government Association Resolution SSB-06-029. See [06_029 Sustainability Resolution](#)

²UNC Association of Student Governments Environmental Sustainability Resolution

³Guiding concept III, Faculty Senate Document # 3201S

⁴UNCA Institutional Goal # 6: Senate Document Number 0701F

⁵UNCA Mission Statement 2006. See <https://www.unca.edu/about/mission-unc-asheville>

⁶UNCA System Sustainability Policy 600.6.1

⁷Executive Order Number 136: State Government Environmental Sustainability, Reduction of Solid Waste, and Procurement of Environmentally Preferable Products. See <http://www.ncdot.gov/programs/environment/3r/download/environmentalstatutes.pdf>

⁸IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 151 pp. See <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>