



University of Toronto

Office of the Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning

FOR INFORMATION

TO: Business Board

SPONSOR: Elizabeth Sisam, Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning

CONTACT INFO: avp.space@utoronto.ca

DATE: March 28 for April 11, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: 8(d)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

University of Toronto Environmental Protection Advisory Committee and the Sustainability Office Annual Reports, 2007

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Business Board is responsible for oversight of the execution of capital projects. The Environmental Protection Policy requires an annual report on the University's impact on the environment which has traditionally been made to the Business Board.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Sustainability Office (SO) continues to meet the objectives identified in "Stepping-Up" including enhancing the student experience through very successful student engagement, interdisciplinary collaboration between students and faculty throughout many divisions of the University that link teaching and research and by promoting scholarship and education in a highly relevant and timely subject.

Initially funded through a grant from the Toronto Atmosphere Fund the SO has secured funding from the Student Experience Fund. Together with contributions from Campus and Facilities Planning, Facilities and Services, UTM and UTSC, sufficient funds are in place to maintain core operations of the SO for three years.

The SO also continues to enjoy a large amount of media attention through press articles and publications in addition to attracting ever increasing numbers of participants to widely publicized events.

This year grant applications totaling greater than \$1.2 million were submitted to many agencies, indicating the level of commitment to student driven initiatives.

Each campus has enjoyed significant success in outreach to the University of Toronto, municipal, national and international communities. Numerous projects and initiatives that address sustainability are underway at all three campuses, enhanced by the integration

of research, learning and implementation. These initiatives use the University as a living laboratory to test a myriad of sustainability strategies, an approach that has proven to be successful in engaging students, faculty and staff while at the same time improving campus sustainability. The SO collaborated in the lighting and chiller retrofit project approved last year, and now being implemented, just to illustrate one of the many significant contributions.

This year, a Sustainability Board was established, bringing together representatives from each campus to better co-ordinate tri-campus planning and implementation of energy and resource conservation efforts. The development of a tri-campus Sustainability Plan will set ambitious targets for the next three years.

The main reason for the success of the Sustainability Office continues to be the dedication, knowledge, and resourcefulness of students, staff and faculty at each campus.