Sustainability Signage

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Project Description

- Western Washington University Campus
- Not much signage regarding sustainability
- Many projects completed that aren’t known
Statement of Need

- Label sustainable features
- Unclear info on current signs
- To inform
  - community, students, staff, and faculty
- Case studies show positive results
University of Washington

- University of Washington
  - No consistent form of signage
  - Not currently tracking results
- Students are given a brochure of how UW is being sustainable
- Sustainable Action Fund
- Budget of $43,000
- No timeline, more of a case by case basis
University of Maine at Farmington

- $2500
- Permanent plastic signs
- 2 years of designing

“...received numerous positive comments about the signs on campus...” - Lucas C. Kellett, PhD,
University of Maine at Farmington
Chatham University in Pennsylvania

- Lots of sustainability tours
- Big reason why students choose this school
- Signs tell a story to get people more interested
- Had issues with signs falling apart
Current Campus Signage
Miller Hall Green Roof

A "green roof" was installed in 2012 over the newly completed Collaborative Space, where students can meet and study, built in the existing campus of Miller Hall. The green roof consists of a vast variety of lush plants, a flowering plan that requires little maintenance. The advantages of green roof include savings on heating and cooling costs, better sound insulation, reduction in storm water runoff, and a better protection against a longer roof lifespan.
Concert Hall Lighting Project

The Concert Hall Lighting Project, funded by the Sustainable Action Fund, replaced the incandescent lights in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall with cutting-edge high efficiency LED lighting. It is expected to produce an estimated 62% annual energy savings.

DID YOU KNOW?

- This project will have an estimated annual savings of approximately 136,767 kWh per year
- A light-emitting diode, or LED, is a type of solid-state lighting that uses a semiconductor to convert electricity into light.
- Unlike incandescent bulbs, which release 90 percent of their energy as heat, LEDs use energy far more efficiently with little wasted heat.
- LED lightbulbs contain no mercury.
Wade King Recreation Center
First envisioned by the Western Washington University Students for Renewable Energy Club in 2006, the Solar Demonstration Project you see on the roof of the Viking Union (to your right) is the result of a collaborative effort between WWU Students for Renewable Energy, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Alpha Energy, Puget Sound Energy and WWU Foundation. Support for the project was also provided by President Karen Morse, WWU College of Sciences and Technology and WWU Facilities Management.

This solar-electric system features a 2 kW array of twelve photovoltaic modules capable of producing 1,940 kWh over one year, or the equivalent of the average electricity required by two campus desktop computers in one year.

This project is one of many ways that the University incorporates sustainability into operations and academics.

For information on and real-time data on the solar project, visit the kiosk inside the Viking Union (across entry).
LED Lighting
in C West Parking Lots

The Sustainable Action Fund Grant Program awarded funding for the retrofit of the C West parking lots lighting fixtures with light emitting diodes (LED) lighting fixtures. Twenty 230 watt fixtures were installed in the north lot, and seven 86 watt fixtures were installed in the south lot. The goal is to pilot the effectiveness of these energy-efficient lights and see if they would be appropriate for other parking areas on Western’s campus.

HOW DO THESE LED LIGHTS BENEFIT WESTERN’S CAMPUS?
Compared to the lamp posts in other parking lots with high pressure sodium (HPS) lighting, on average each lamp post with LED lighting:

- Saves 400 kilowatt hours per year
- Uses 32% less energy
- Saves $30 per year

USE LED LIGHTING AT HOME! LED LIGHTS

- Provide similar light quality to traditional incandescent lights
- Last 25 times longer than traditional incandescent lights
- Use less energy than compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs)
- Contain no mercury
Sustainability Related Points-of-Interest Around Campus
Interactive Ideas

- Wyatt Catron
  - Western’s energy dashboard on an interactive screen showing the costs/usage of running each building
  - Incorporate our ideas of sustainable projects onto interactive screen
LEED Certification

- Miller Hall Gold Certification
- Academic Instructional Center Silver Certification
- Wade King LEED Certified
Interview with Gene Myers

Gene Myers: Ph.D. Professor at Western Washington University

- Only signage for projects of highest value
- Consistency
- LEED

![LEED Certifications](image)
Budget

- Roughly $5,000 for physical signage
  - This number includes some new signs and updating preexisting signs
- LEED Certification
- Sustainable Action Fund
Our Suggestions

- Update existing signs/electronic platforms
- Work with Energy Dept. at WWU
- Add more sustainability info to tours
- Interactive dashboard in high traffic areas
Challenges

- Lack of responses
- Budget/what should it be
- Where to put signage
- Keeping signage maintained and relevant
- Is signage a good idea?
Conclusion

- Inform public about sustainability
- Get people involved
- Show off WWU’s sustainable projects
  - Limit physical signage
  - Updated digital signage
Thank you!