

Below are brief summaries of what EOU may offer to the Sustainability Summit April 3. The summaries are categorized using the Oregon Academic Institution Asset Map Narrative provided by George.

1. Sustainable Business

- EOU encourages electronic, rather than paper, sharing of documents to minimize printing and copying.
- EOU's custodial services provides convenient locations and containers for recyclable items and collects the items as well.

2. Green Building

EOU makes use of cost-effective energy saving designs in maintenance and Capital building projects. Examples include automated lighting controls (Science Center, North-South Halls), automated HVAC controls (Science Center, Inlow theater remodel), heat recovery shower drains and high efficiency water heaters (North-South Halls).

4. Clean Energy

Due to budget and staffing constraints, EOU has concentrated efforts on the 'energy efficiency measures' approach to clean energy as identified in Chancellors Pernsteiner's email. Examples of completed projects include converting 99% of Campus lighting to high efficiency fluorescents, tightening and maintaining our steam system for maximum efficiency, and running vending machines on motion sensors. We have funding in place to refurbish the Zabel Hall HVAC system, replace/refurbish low efficiency Central Plant equipment (cooling/heating systems), and install automated HVAC and lighting controls through-out Campus. We are also studying the use of solar power in our Inlow remodel project.

EOU recently studied the construction of an alternate energy (biomass) system. Specifically, we participated (in partnership with Harney County) in a grant funded study into the feasibility of using locally available biomass to power our steam and electrical needs. This would be a good fit for EOU. The use of forest and agricultural waste as the source of our biomass means we'd be using a local, carbon neutral fuel source. Our move into this fuel source could spark a new industry in Northeast Oregon, providing private sector jobs and reducing our exposure to the volatile international fuel supply markets.

We were forced to put this project on the back burner because monies saved from reduced energy costs could not cover the payroll for the required additional staffing and also cover the debt service on the Capital costs.

This is, however, a 'big idea' that only needs an 'investment' to cover the Capital costs (\$10-\$12 million) to be a high profile, high impact alternate energy project.

EOU Sustainability regarding instructional efforts and research initiatives:

- 1) We are pursuing a program that adds-on to our Rural Business and Environmental Planning liberal studies degree in Sustainable Energy and Rural Economy. The proposed Policy Option Package explains the range of those activities.
- 2) As an outgrowth of this area, it is very feasible to do a DOE study on geothermal sources in Union County. Oregon Representative, Greg Smith, and EOU Provost Jaeger are meeting March 31 and will have further meetings with folks in the region about how these finance chains work with establishing energy-generating opportunities. It gives students a laboratory, the University an inexpensive energy supply, and it allows us to actually generate revenue--something worth pursuing. This is an area that is in Finance and Administration with implications for Academic Affairs.
- 3) We have a grade 6-12 curriculum EOU is working on in sustainability. This is on the shoulders of Great Inventors© and Great Discoveries©, two curricula works that focus on science inquiry. We believe that the new standards in science and math will require integrative methods to offer many students interesting, timely, and applied curriculum beyond biology and algebra. Sustainable themes are key in this new curriculum. We intend to look for funding to develop these new models so that teachers will have courses they can apply for the new standards.