

UTSA®

SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL FY ANNUAL REPORT 21



<https://sustainability.utsa.edu>



“
**I want to thank each of our committee member for
their continued service to UTSA sustainability and
for their time and leadership as members of the
UTSA Sustainability Council.**
..... ”

Students began this journey to create a culture of sustainability at UTSA and it is the students that benefit most from a sustainability council.

FY 21 has been a drastically unusual year for UTSA and equally challenging for university sustainability.

Through 2020 and into 2021, our campus has had reduced operations, like so many other campuses, because of a world wide pandemic which severely limited student involvement with university operations. COVID-19 has impacted families, finances, academics, and every way our campus operates.

Although it tested our resiliency, we have learned new ways to communicate, to welcome challenges, and to understand how vitally important mental health and wellness is to sustaining our campus.



MEI LANI CABICO MAY

SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
CHAIR AND DIRECTOR OF
SUSTAINABILITY

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OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

COVID-19

2020-2021

We were sent home on March 20th, 2020, not expecting more than a year later to still be effected by a worldwide pandemic. UTSA students, along with staff and faculty, rose to the challenge Of COVID-19 and not only mastered online course work, but learned to study, visit, celebrate, support, check in, and live our lives online; 2020-2021 was a year to demonstrate resiliency.

UTSA
DO
YOUR
PART

WINTER 2021 STORM URI

The URI winter storm hit parts of Texas on February 13, 2021, and had devastating effects. Throughout the state, close to 4.5 million homes and businesses were left without power. In response to this unprecedented event, UTSA offered numerous resources to those heavily stricken by the storm. The Roadrunner Pantry was open to students in need of a meal and there were warming stations throughout campus for those left in the cold. In addition, UTSA offered a Student Emergency Fund grant as well as an Employee Emergency Fand grant to those in urgent need of food and supplies.

UT SYSTEM RULE 169

Sustainability Practices

In 2009 UT System developed UTS 169, Sustainability Practices Policy at the direction of the Board of Regents. This policy directs all UT institutions to develop and adopt sustainable operational and maintenance practices to meet sustainability goals.

UTSA's Sustainability Council will advise the President, Provost and other senior administrators regarding strategies for enhancing the university's sustainability performance as it relates to UTS 169.

PRIMARY FOCUS

- Energy and Water Efficiency
- Alternative Energy Practices
- Sustainable Transportation
- Waste and Recycling Management
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Practices
- High-Performance Buildings
- Sustainability Awareness and Training
- Curricula Integration
- Student Involvement
- Community Outreach

UTSA HOP 9.43 REVISION

In an effort to reflect the full value and impact of sustainability for the university, the Council acted to revise the university's policy statement on Sustainability.

AS APPROVED BY COUNCIL OCTOBER 20, 2020

The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), is committed to the development of programs, projects, and practices that incorporate the three pillars of sustainability: economic, environmental, and social. These efforts are consistent with the University of Texas System Policy, UTS169 and further incorporate the President's Strategic Initiatives, and University Academic, Research, and Operational Excellence, Initiatives.

As Written~

While continuing to further its mission to achieve excellence in higher education, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) is committed to the development of programs, initiatives, and practices that promote sustainability practices and that contribute meaningfully to the environment. These efforts must be developed and implemented within budgetary constraints and all legal, regulatory and programmatic requirements.



The UTSA Sustainability Council consists of faculty, staff, and students from the Main and Downtown campuses and includes representatives from the offices of University Leadership. The Council functions as a university standing committee and its chair and members are appointed by the President and/or his/her designee.

One of the responsibilities on behalf of the Sustainability Council is to develop an annual report on the progress of the university-wide sustainability.



MEI LANI CABICO MAY
COMMITTEE CHAIR, AND
DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

SARAH HADA
RESEARCH REPRESENTATIVE

DR. MELISSA VITO
INTERIM VICE PROVOST
ACADEMIC INNOVATION

MARYKATE MESSIMER
HONORS COLLEGE
REPRESENTATIVE

LINDSAY RATCLIFFE
CAAP REPRESENTATIVE

LAUREN BEAVER
VPBA COMMUNICATIONS

LUIS BORERRO
FACILITIES REPRESENTATIVE

INGRID WRIGHT
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
REPRESENTATIVE

TAYLOR EDWARDS
SGA PRESIDENT 2020

DR. MYRON ANDERSON
VICE PRESIDENT FOR INCLUSIVE
EXCELLENCE

DAGOBERTO RODRIGUEZ
CAMPUS ENERGY MANAGER

DR. SEOK KANG
COLFA REPRESENTATIVE

DR. HEATHER SHIPLEY
DEAN OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
LT ROBINSON
DEAN OF STUDENTS

KENNEDY CASKEYS
STUDENT APPOINTEE

MADELINE MORALES
STUDENT APPOINTEE


JASMIN PAQUET-DURAND FORD
STUDENT APPOINTEE

ANDREAS CHRISTODOULOU
SGA SUSTAINABILITY
DIRECTOR

JOSE ESCOBEDO
SGA PRESIDENT 2021

COUNCIL MEETINGS

2020-2021



September 24, 2020	Online
October 20, 2020	Online
November 2020	No Meeting
December 2020	No Meeting
January 21, 2021	Online
February 2021	No Meeting
March 25, 2021	Online
April 22, 2021	Online
May 20, 2021	Online





“ Like the iconic **pillars** of the Sombrilla Plaza, UTSA follows the 3 pillars of sustainability that intertwine **social, economic, and environmental** principals. ”



PHYSICAL

Mobility
Micro-climate
Energy and Carbon
Water
Ecology
Waste
Disaster Resilience



SOCIAL

Equity
Cultural Diversity
Student Success
Recruitment & Retention
Art
Wellbeing
Community Connections
Health and Wellness
Equal Access



ECONOMIC

Affordability
Capital Resources
Revenue Generation
Leveraged investments
Operational efficiency
Partnerships
Finance and Investment
Economic Development

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AROUND CAMPUS

UTSA departments work hard to incorporate sustainable practices and policy into campus operations. A few examples are highlighted.

You'll find more information by visiting department websites.





INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

The University Of Texas at San Antonio Office of Inclusive Excellence seeks to promote an inclusive community of learners, an awareness, and an appreciation of multicultural perspectives and the establishment of policies, practices, programs, and resources designed to embrace and support diversity.

Inclusive Excellence shifts the responsibilities of bolstering diversity toward the whole institution, as opposed to one unit or area having the sole responsibility of understanding and implementing the diversity mission. Inclusive Excellence moves an institution, organization, or program from valuing diversity – with access and cultural competence as its primary goals – to ensuring through structural interventions that all groups are achieving the desired outcomes at equitable rates.

<https://www.UTSA.edu/inclusive-excellence.edu/>

SURPLUS

UTSA Departments have been busy making UTSA more sustainable!
Read More about it!

.....

10,964

Surplus Property Collected

REUSE

3,456

Surplus Collected from The Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice Computer Recovery Program

1,415

Capital/noncapital items initial purchase price valued over \$2,000,000.

1,327

Surplus Property Redistributed back to The University of Texas at San Antonio. Valued over \$187,000

Surplus is a department that handles reuse of UTSA disposable property.

They redistribute, reuse, or recycle items no longer needed by the university.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING

WELCOME
TO THE NEW

My **Training**

Learn. Improve. Pass it on!

UTSA training programs integrate sustainable practices into their business operations, new hire programs, and staff, faculty, and student education programs in order to make the campus more sustainable.



FACILITIES



ADA CIRCULATION MAP AND PHASING PLAN

Visit the Facilities website and check out the interactive ADA map

<https://facilities.utsa.edu>

STUDENT EXPERIENCE



**UTSA HAS A NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR
STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED IN THEIR
COMMUNITIES.**

*Check out these sustainable
programs!*



CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Engaged learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection in an academic course to enrich the student learning experience, instill a sense of civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Goals of Engaged-Learning

- Enhance academic learning.
- Develop character and citizenship skills.
- Learn about social issues impacting the local community.
- Deepen critical thinking and communication skills.
- Engage in meaningful service that has a mutually beneficial impact.



**Visit the Office of
Civic Engagement**
[HTTPS://cce.UTSA.edu](https://cce.UTSA.edu)

ENRICHING CAMPUS WELLBEING INITIATIVE

Wellness 360

Location: RWC 1.500
Mon-Fri
8am-5pm

Counseling

Location: RWC 1.810
Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri
8am-5pm
Wed
8am-7pm

Recovery Center

Location: JPL 4.02.0
Mon-Fri
8am-5pm

PEACE Center

Location: RWC 1.802
Mon-Fri
8am-5pm

Wellbeing Education & Promotion

Location: 1.812
Mon-Fri
8am-5pm

Wellbeing Services supports student's health and wellbeing and collaborates with staff, faculty and student groups to help students build skills in the eight dimensions of wellbeing to promote student success.

Phone: 210-458-4140
Email: wellbeing@utsa.edu



UTSA 
Recovery Center



MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER FOR EQUITY AND JUSTICE



The Multicultural Center offers:

- Equity and social justice-focused training for students, faculty, and staff
- Builds programs and events in collaboration with student organizations that reflect the cultural backgrounds and needs of historically marginalized student populations
- Is intentional about creating programs and events that foster community and reflection
- Supports students desire to build social justice and equity leadership skills

Learn more about the Multicultural Center!

Location: Student Union 2.01.04

Phone: (210) 458-4770

Email: engaged@utsa.edu

Fax: (210) 458-6927

Monday-Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm

THE ROADRUNNER PANTRY

Main campus: 210-458-EATS (3287)

Downtown campus: 210-458-CANS (2267)

Email: RoadrunnerPantry@utsa.edu



SINCE OPENING, THE PANTRY HAS:

The Roadrunner Pantry provides healthy and nutritious food to students and staff struggling with food insecurity.

The Pantry improves equity by helping students reach their academic excellence and full potential without needing to worry about the basic necessity of food access.

This year the Roadrunner Pantry and the Student Community Garden partnered to provide fresh produce to the pantry.

SERVED 3,696 UTSA STUDENTS
DISTRIBUTED 16,719 POUNDS OF FOOD
HANDED OUT 4,909 NON-FOOD ITEMS
RECEIVED 17,695 POUNDS OF DONATED FOOD

IN 2021, THE PANTRY OPENED THE
WHATABURGER RESOURCE ROOM AT
THE DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

THROUGH A **SUSTAIN** GRANT, THE
PANTRY RECEIVED FUNDING FOR
COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS

Sustainability in **CURRICULA INTEGRATION**

UTSA seeks to add learning outcomes to degree programs and coursework to introduce sustainable topics on the interconnectedness of economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

“

.....
We believe that by empowering our students to converse in and apply modern sustainability practices, we not only position them to be more competitive in the marketplace, but to make lasting impacts on their workplace and how they interact with the world.

- Dr. Joann Browning

”



RESEARCHING MISSION PRESERVATION

Condensation from air conditioning units, exterior and interior humidity, and rainfall have led to the gradual degradation of the walls of Mission Concepción. Dr. Antonio Martinez-Molina, working with professors William DuPont and Dr. Angela Lombardi with UTSA's Center for Cultural Sustainability, researched preservation of the historic structure. Condensation from air conditioning units, exterior and interior humidity, and rainfall have led to the gradual degradation of the walls of the church and the 265 year old frescos painted inside. The team integrated opportunities for students to learn from the research by being on site and performing assessments and using questionnaires to help determine indoor air quality.

.....

“OUR GOAL IS TO ADAPT HISTORIC BUILDINGS TO CURRENT INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STANDARDS WITHOUT DAMAGING THEIR INTEGRITY, ALLOWING THEM TO BE ADMIRIED BY PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS ALIKE.”

- DR.MOLINA



UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER STUDY ABROAD

“
The Undergraduate program in Geography and
Environmental Sustainability offers a curriculum that
contributes meaningfully to our students' appreciation of an
increasingly complex, divided, and shrinking world. ”
.....

DR. RICHARD JONES





ROADRUNNERS ON CAMPUS ARE HIGHLY INVOLVED!

UTSA HOSTS OVER **400** CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS. OUT OF THESE **20%** QUALIFY THEIR PRIMARY PURPOSE AS BEING CLASSIFIED UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF SOCIAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, AND/OR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY. UTSA HAS OVER 50 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ON CAMPUS ENCOMPASSING ENVIRONMENTAL, BUSINESS ECONOMICAL, OR SOCIOCULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY.



A photograph of two students, a man and a woman, working in a garden. They are both wearing blue shirts and are crouched down, planting or tending to plants. The background is a lush green garden with various plants and trees. The text "THE GREEN SOCIETY" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters across the middle of the image.

THE GREEN SOCIETY

The Green Society is an environmental/sustainability focused student led organization. The Green Society works in conjunction with the UTSA Campus Garden Club. Their objective is to work together to reduce their carbon footprint, and advocating environmentalism to others.

BLUEPRINTS FOR PANGAEA

Blueprints for Pangaea strives to spread, promote, and educate the public on sustainable solutions for healthcare resources through the collection and redistribution of unused medical supplies to areas in need around the world.



Texas Rising, a project of the Texas Freedom Network, focuses on voter registration and turnout of young Texans, organizing on college campuses, youth leadership development and training, grassroots and digital organizing, and issue advocacy. We focus on LGBTQ rights, reproductive rights and justice, immigration reform, criminal justice reform, and voting rights.



TEXAS RISING

WOMEN IN MEDICINE

For pre-medical, pre-dental, pre-physician assistant, and other pre-health profession students, who identify as a women. To promote a collaborative and inclusive environment for success as well as provide a safe space about gender, social, and racial issues that exist in the space of healthcare



UTSA[®]

Office of Sustainability

A photograph of a modern building at night. The building has a flat roof and large, multi-paned windows. The interior lights are on, and the windows are glowing with a warm, yellowish light. The building is illuminated by warm, yellowish lights, and the sky is dark.

Realized in 2019 through student initiative, the Office of Sustainability leads campus efforts to improve social, economic, and environmental campus sustainability in the built environment.

UTSA® ROADRUNNER FOOTPRINT

In 2020, the Office of Sustainability was awarded **\$407,000** for a three-year grant from TXDOT to reduce congestion on campus and improve air quality by increasing **active transportation**. Through events, seminars, lectures, upgraded infrastructure, and policy development, the project seeks to **increase walkability at UTSA.**



In 2020, through a \$50,000 grant from the City of San Antonio, the Office of Sustainability planted 80 new trees on campus. Trees reduce temperatures, provide shade, improve air quality, and reduce urban noise.

UTSA[®]

**IMPROVING YOUR CAMPUS
THROUGH ACTION**

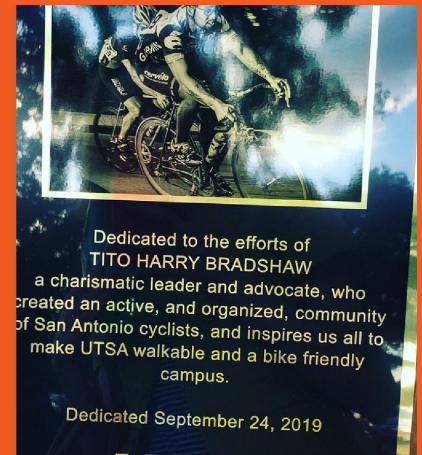
UTSA[®]
Sustainability

THE TITO BRADSHAW BICYCLE REPAIR SHOP

Opened in 2019, the bicycle repair shop provides students with tubes and tools to repair bikes for free. The shop is open most weekdays and located on the Main Campus at the corner of Ximenes and Brackenridge Ave. Come by for a tour or check out our Rowdylink page for hours of operation.

Tito Bradshaw owned a bike shop on South Flores street. The bike shop was named after him in remembrance of his effort to bring the community together through bicycling. Tito was tragically killed when he was hit by a motorist while riding.

Join us through the year for social rides and workshops.



Supporting **UTSA** Sustainability Through Action, Initiatives, and Narrative

SUPPORTED PROJECTS

The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) designates funds from tuition revenue to be allocated toward campus sustainability programs and initiatives. Funds are available to students in the form of seed grants to be used and used toward improving the efficiency or sustainability of the institution. Through these projects or initiatives, UTSA will become more efficient and sustainable or meet the University's goals for sustainability as outlined in UT System Rule 169. Applications are reviewed and recommended for funding through a student-led sub-committee of the Sustainability Council.

FY 21 PROJECTS

**Commercial
Refridgerators were
provided for produce
and dairy items at the
Main campus and
Downtown Roadrunner
Pantry as well as crates
and tote bags.**

\$17,846.00



**Commercial fridges for
the UTSA roadrunner
Pantry**



- **The UTSA student community garden was refreshed and maintenance was provided. A Fall planting was contracted while campus was closed during COVID-19 \$3600.00**

OUTDOOR WELLNESS SPACE

OUTDOOR SPACES TO RELAX AND DECOMPRESS IN NATURE ARE ESSENTIAL TO WELLBEING. A NEW WELLNESS SPACE WAS ESTABLISHED OUTSIDE THE HEB STUDENT UNION CONSISTING OF 6 ADIRONDACK CHAIRS AND BOLLARD LIGHTS WITH CHARGING BOXES AND USB PORTS FOR OUTDOOR STUDYING.

\$13,568



BE A GREEN 'RUNNER!



In FY21 a new program was initiated to encourage UTSA Students to be aware of their waste, energy, and transportation footprint. The new program was tagged: Roadrunner Footprint. Students can take the Green 'Runner Challenge to win a tote bag of sustainable products filled with reuseable items and bike tools. \$8,456.00

<https://utsa.campuslabs.com/engage/event/7121803>

UNDER GRADUATE RESEARCH

Due to COVID, the 3 year program to support undergraduate research in Pollinators was put on hold until FY2021. The Environmental Science Department mentors undergraduates to gain experience in field work and experimentation. The Office of Sustainability provided \$8,690.00 to Dr. Jessica Beckham for Epi pens, signage, bee protection, conference attendance and travel. This opportunity gives undergraduates the confidence and experience to go on to graduate studies.



UTSA[®]

Sustainability

**For more information on
campus sustainability, contact
the Office of Sustainability at
sustainability@utsa.edu
or visit our website at
<https://sustainability.UTSA.edu>**

The Sustainability Council's Annual Report is a
requirement of the University System rule on
Sustainability (Rule 169)

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