



“Environmental and Sustainability Programs Mission Statement”

Proposed Motion: Approve the new Environmental and Sustainability Programs Mission Statement

Sponsor: Emma Palumbo

Persons of Contact: Anna Kemper, ESP Director. Emma Palumbo, ASVP for Student Life

Guest Speaker: None

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Attached Document

No attachment.

Background & Context

The Environmental and Sustainability Programs (ESP) has gone through a great deal of internal evaluation and direction setting, and through this process determined that the current ESP Mission Statement no longer fits. As it is now, the ESP mission statement is:

“The AS Environmental & Sustainability Programs (ESP) offers the education and resources necessary to promote environmentalism and provides opportunities to become actively involved in sustainable practices through events, volunteering, and student activism.”

This does not fit the direction of the ESP or the fully encompass the work they are already doing.

Summary of Proposal

We are proposing this new Mission Statement:

“Through conscious and inclusive outreach, events, and activism, the ESP promotes the social, economic, and environmental elements of sustainability. The programs of the ESP are dedicated to supporting a diverse, aware, and engaged campus which positively impacts the local and global community.”

Fiscal Impacts

None

Rationale

This mission statement better encompasses what the ESP strives for as a program. It also reflects the commitment to a more inclusive idea of sustainability- an important shift in the narrative of sustainability.

The Environmental and Sustainability Programs (ESP) is a growing part of the Associated Students. Originally just the individual entity of the Environmental Center, the ESP has now evolved to include the Outback Farm, the Sustainable Action Fund, the Environmental Center, and Alternative Transportation. The program has also evolved in what it defines “sustainability” as. Sustainability is not just ecological restoration, it also involves social justice and economic viability. We rewrote our mission

statement to reflect these values, as a concrete way to show that the direction of our programming has shifted.