ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES COMMITTEE (EIC)

PPM 1-13 Article B-5, Section 4.6: Committee on Environmental Initiatives
The Environmental Initiatives Committee, working in conjunction with the Sustainability Practices and Research Center (SPARC), facilitates the integration of environmental and sustainability initiatives into Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Facilities Management. This committee also supports SPARC in its activities and role as a local and statewide resource for scientifically-based information and for leadership in addressing sustainability challenges. The committee serves as both advisory board to SPARC and a rotating working group of faculty from across the colleges, which studies, evaluates and makes recommendations for sustainability-supportive policy affecting the campus community. The committee shall be led by Co-Chairs: one faculty member from the EIC and the other the Director of the SPARC, or the Director’s designee.

1. Organize the EIC subcommittee for the Student & Faculty Sustainability Research Awards, which is responsible for the advertisement/promotion on campus, judging of submissions, and making awards (sponsored by the SPARC) during Spring semester each year. Streamline the submission forms so that the infrastructure can easily be passed along when committee members turn over. (Ongoing)

2. Contribute to the planning, management, promotion and hosting of events in the campus sustainability speaker, film, and discussion series (working with SPARC as the central coordinator), 2-3 events per semester. (Ongoing)

3. Support the SPARC in the planning and implementation of the Intermountain Sustainability Summit. Two to four EIC members will serve on the planning committee for the annual Intermountain Sustainability Summit in March. EIC members also serve as moderators/judges/volunteers on the day of the Summit. (Ongoing)

4. Work with the SPARC on content for the campus sustainability newsletter (3-4 issues per Semester). (Ongoing)

5. Support efforts to advance the inclusion of sustainability in general education at WSU. (Ongoing)

6. Collaborate with the SPARC in the development and maintenance of content for SPARC’s web-based sustainability resource hub for the WSU and wider community. (Ongoing)

7. Continue to support efforts to expand partnerships across campus with various programs/departments, e.g., Wellness, the WSU Outdoor Program, alumni, student affairs, Center for Community Engaged Learning, student organizations, and in the broader community (e.g., Ogden City) to envision and implement sustainability-related initiatives. (Ongoing)

8. Maintain the SUS Attribute Review subcommittee (made up of the faculty director of SPARC/EIC co-chair and one faculty experienced with sustainability teaching from each college, ideally EIC members) for the review of courses submitted for possible SUS designation. (Ongoing)

9. Develop policy for waste/purchasing that allows a more sustainable university-wide approach for recycling and waste.

10. Support working toward SPARC’s goal to have 100% of all academic departments at
WSU offer at least one SUS designated course.

11. Explore advancing sustainability in one or more area(s) of planning and administration at WSU, guided by criteria in the Planning and Admin. Section of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) 2.2.

12. Ensure that the language of new or updated policies are inclusive. Review those policies to see how they may inadvertently impact particular communities in an adverse manner. Consult with DEI taskforce for guidance (Ongoing)