Roosevelt University
Sustainability Report

First Year Evaluation of 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan

December 2015
Summary

The Physical Resources Department is dedicated to transforming Roosevelt University into a resilient, adaptable, and sustainable institution. In order to achieve this all-encompassing mission, a 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan has been developed and is in its first year of implementation. Containing clear, measurable goals and an overall timeframe, this plan is the first of its kind for Roosevelt University and is a foundation in which the University’s potential for sustainability endeavors and leadership can grow.

Recognition of our department’s sustainability-focused programs and projects comes in many different shapes and sizes. The following are examples of our accomplishments:

- Significant reduction in environmental impact resulting from changes in operations, building retrofits, and student, staff, and faculty outreach and involvement
- Improved on-site educational opportunities
- Financial benefits in the form of grants, rebates, and long-term cost savings
- Numerous sustainability-related awards in recognition of our efforts

All of these benefits were a direct result of incorporating sustainability into the planning and operations of the University. In the following Sustainability Report, you will be able to get a glimpse of our financial benefits, awards, goals, projects, team, and much more.

Roosevelt University’s sustainability information can also be accessed through the Green Campus webpage at http://www.roosevelt.edu/GreenCampus.aspx.
Meet Our Team

Paul J. Matthews  
*Assistant Vice President, Campus Planning & Operations*

Paul J. Matthews is a key driver and leader in Environmental Sustainability at Roosevelt University. Recently serving on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council through 2011, Matthews currently is co-chair of the USGBC-IL Green Schools Higher Education subcommittee. Paul also helped develop RU’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan and leads the Climate & Energy action group of the Environmental Sustainability Committee.

Since arriving in 2010, Matthews completed three major capital projects: construction of the 32-story USGBC Gold Wabash “vertical” campus, USGBC Silver Goodman Center Field House, and renovation of College of Pharmacy which is featured in the American School & University (AS&U) Interiors Portfolio for outstanding design. Currently under Paul’s direction is a 22-acre sustainable landscape renovation at Roosevelt’s Schaumburg, including prairie restoration, pervious paving, rain gardens and a community vegetable garden.

Matthews holds a Master’s degree in Public Management from Carnegie-Mellon University and a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Ohio State University. Commissioned as an officer in the USMC, Matthews served for twenty-four years, retiring in 1996 as a Major.

Michael A. Bryson  
*Professor of Humanities and Sustainability Studies*

Michael A. Bryson is director and co-founder of Roosevelt’s **Sustainability Studies program** (est. 2010), the first of its kind in the Chicago region, and a Research Associate at the **Field Museum of Natural History** in Chicago. He is also a key leader of Roosevelt’s Sustainability Initiative. Bryson teaches a wide range of interdisciplinary courses and specializes in designing field study opportunities for his students. An active **scholar**, writer, and editor on subjects ranging from urban ecology environmental literature to sustainability education, Bryson has published the well-reviewed book, *Visions of the Land: Science, Literature, and the American Environment from the Era of Exploration to the Age of Ecology* (University of Virginia Press, 2002) as well as many other **articles and essays**. Michael helped develop RU’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan, is part of the Environmental Sustainability Committee and is the leader of the Education & Outreach action group.

Dr. Bryson received his BA in biology and English (1990) at **Illinois Wesleyan University** in Bloomington, IL; and his PhD in English (1995) State University of New York at Stony Brook (now **Stony Brook University**) on Long Island.
Rebecca Quesnell
*Sustainable Operations Coordinator, Campus Planning and Operations*

Rebecca Quesnell started as RU’s Sustainable Operations Coordinator in July 2015. Previously, she worked as an Environmental Sustainability Student Associate for Physical Resources for a year and a half. She manages six student workers and interns that fall under the Physical Resources Department and helps create and manage various projects that they work on. For her, current projects of focus include reporting data to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) (complete); purchasing green energy for the University; working on energy reduction and savings; and reaching out to and building relationships with other RU departments and students.

Rebecca graduated from Roosevelt University in May 2015 with a BA in Sustainability Studies, and a minor in Environmental Science and Psychology. She is involved with pursuing RU’s energy reduction commitment for Retrofit Chicago, helped in planning sessions for RU’s 5-year Strategic Sustainability Plan, and helps to organize the Environmental Sustainability Committee and work on different initiatives to help achieve the committee’s goals.

Gus Kalady
*Chief Engineer, Chicago Campus, Campus Planning and Operations*

Gus Kalady, Chief Engineer for Roosevelt’s downtown Chicago Campus, has been with the University since 2007. He and his team have worked very diligently on many sustainability-related projects at RU. Gus has helped save energy by tying in devices and doing scheduling through the building automation system and has also developed a curtailment project with EnerNOC that has resulted in over $34,000 in rebates to Roosevelt this past year, with an anticipated $64,000 this coming year—all which help fund more energy reduction projects. A current project that Gus is working on includes retrocommissioning of the Auditorium and Wabash buildings, which will help the University create a plan to decrease energy expenses and lower our carbon footprint.

Gus contributes to RU’s Retrofit goal, is part of the Environmental Sustainability Climate & Energy action group, and helped develop RU’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan. Gus also worked closely with the non-profit organization called Elevate Energy to do a free energy assessment (fall/winter 2015) for the University, which will result in additional savings. Gus received his BA in Liberal Arts from Roosevelt University, and has taken many courses at Purdue University and the University of Texas in Arlington towards a Mechanical Engineering Degree.
Pedro Perez
*Chief Engineer, Schaumburg Campus, Campus Planning and Operations*

Pedro Perez is Roosevelt’s Chief Engineer for the Schaumburg Campus, and has been with the University for 19 years. At the Schaumburg Campus, Pedro has contributed to various projects that have all targeted energy savings. Some of those projects include: replacement of incandescent light bulbs to compact bulbs, replacement of track lighting to LED, installing time clocks on equipment to help with energy savings, and more.

Current projects that Pedro is involved with include the replacement of the parking lot lights to LED, tying several pieces of cooling and heating equipment to the building automation system, and retrofitting several of the school lamps to LED. He can always be found keeping busy at the Schaumburg campus, and has also helped with the community garden via helping install and set the timer for the irrigation system. Pedro is part of Roosevelt’s Environmental Sustainability Committee and makes valuable contributions to the Climate & Energy action group.

Tom Sliwinski
*Electrical Foreman, Campus Planning and Operations*

Tom Sliwinski has been RU’s electric foreman since 2002. He has led quite a few energy savings projects for the University including installation of light sensors in the Auditorium and Gage buildings, installation of controls for motors and fan units at RU, the recycling of lamps, batteries, and light bulbs at the downtown Chicago Campus, and much more. A current project includes pursuing the implementation of more LED technology in our campus buildings. Tom is also helping with a project to retrocommission the Auditorium and Wabash buildings.

All of the projects that Tom has led and participated in have resulted in savings for the University and, ultimately, a lower carbon footprint. These projects also play in to Tom’s role in helping Roosevelt achieve a 20% energy reduction by 2019 for the Auditorium Building as a part of the University’s commitment to Retrofit Chicago. Tom is part of the Environmental Sustainability Committee at RU, has helped develop RU’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan, and is the co-leader of the Climate & Energy action group.
Maria Cancilla

STARS Intern

Maria Cancilla is a Sustainability Studies major at Roosevelt University’s Chicago Campus. She was honored and excited to be work as a student intern with Physical Resources and the Sustainability Studies Program on the STARS Team. This team is followed up on a course, “SUST 390: The Sustainable Campus”, that had its inaugural semester in spring of 2015. Students gathered data to be reported in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). Both SUST 390 and the STARS reporting are crucial parts of RU’s 5-year Strategic Sustainability Plan. Maria also helped in the planning of RU’s 5-year Strategic Sustainability Plan.

Cancilla is also happy to be a contributing member of both the RU Environmental Sustainability Committee and the Waste and the Natural Resources action group, of which she is the co-leader. She likes volunteering at the RU Urban Rooftop Garden and, when not up on the roof, she can be found tiptoeing and twirling with her young dance students. Upon graduation, Cancilla hopes to shift her focus to teaching children about where their food comes from and how to grow their own sustainable food. By doing this, she hopes to inspire young people to improve our food systems of the future.

Shannon Conway

Environmental Sustainability Student Associate, Chicago Campus

Shannon Conway was the Environmental Sustainability Student Associate for Roosevelt University’s Chicago Campus (via Physical Resources) for fall 2015. At Roosevelt, Shannon was in charge of organizing and planning the 5th floor Wabash rooftop garden. She worked alongside the Physical Resources staff to help promote a more sustainable community at Roosevelt by reaching out to students, faculty, and staff to get them involved in sustainable initiatives at the university.

In spring 2015, Shannon interned for the Physical Resources Department where she assisted with Bike2Campus Week and Earth Week, and helped build a better recycling system at Roosevelt. Shannon is an advocate for climate protection and environmental justice. This past summer of 2015, she went on an educational voyage to Denmark and Iceland through the Danish Institute for Study Abroad. There, she studied and saw firsthand the detrimental impacts of climate change and what effects they’re having on glaciers, sea ice, and coastal regions in Iceland and other areas with similar geography. Shannon graduated from Roosevelt University in December of 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability Studies.
Brennan Morrow
*Energy Management Student Associate*

Brennan Morrow is RU’s Physical Resources’ Energy Management Student Associate. Working for the department since early spring 2015, Brennan switched from an operations position to one that is more focused on energy use and tracking in fall 2015. Most of Brennan’s work involves creating monthly utility energy reports for all of RU’s buildings, submitting rebates and tracking energy savings projects, submitting data to the USEPA Portfolio Manager, and helping RU work towards achieving a 20% energy reduction by 2019 for the Auditorium Building. Brennan is part of RU’s Economics & Governance action group and Environmental Sustainability Committee.

The energy position interests him because it is a bridge between the business side of firms and sustainability efforts: it demonstrates the common goals between business and sustainability; efficiency and cost reduction. Brennan received his Associate’s degree in Accounting from Harold Washington College in fall 2013. Now, he is pursuing his BSBA in Accounting at Roosevelt, and will be graduating in May 2016. Upon graduating, Brennan hopes to work in Government or the non-profit sector.

Sarah Tag
*Environmental Sustainability Student Associate, Schaumburg Campus*

Sarah Tag was the Environmental Sustainability Student Associate for Roosevelt University’s Schaumburg campus (2015), where she primarily managed the community garden. With a passion for ethology, Sarah enjoys the opportunity to work on the prairie grasses out in Schaumburg where she can watch the fauna that live within. She also monitored trees at the Schaumburg campus, and worked on a tree tagging project to help convey their importance to the community.

Sarah has a serious interest in conservation. She believes that the key to sustaining our planet begins with conserving our flora along with its biodiversity. Eventually she’d like to be part of a project to save the bees. Sarah received a Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability Studies, with a minor in Biology, in December of 2015. She is a member of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, and is cooperatively leading the Waste and Natural Resources Action Group with Maria Cancilla. Starting in the spring semester of 2016, we are very excited to have Sarah become our Environmental Sustainability Student Associate for the Chicago Campus.
RU green

*Student Organization*

Currently being revamped under new leadership, RU Green is pursuing RU student organization status. Comprised of passionate students from the RU community, RU Green will have a focus on sustainability initiatives at RU, engagement, and much more.

**Environmental Sustainability Committee**

Roosevelt has had an established Environmental Sustainability Committee for many years. In the past, the committee contained several subcommittees that have focused on unique aspects of campus sustainability. Now, the committee is focusing on the four action groups of RU’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan: Climate & Energy, Education & Outreach, Waste & Natural Resources, and Economics & Governance. The committee consists of RU students, faculty, and staff—each with a unique experience and knowledge base to bring to the group. We have held two committee meetings in the 2015-2016 academic year, thus far, and are now organizing to start meeting in action groups on a regular basis in order to implement our goals. Below is a list of current/active members of the group. An * designates that they also contributed to the Plan during the planning phases. A full list of those who contributed can be found in the Plan. The Sustainable Operations Coordinator, Rebecca Quesnell, floats between all of the action groups.

**Climate & Energy**
- Paul Matthews*, leader
- Tom Sliwinski*, leader
- Gus Kalady
- Pedro Perez
- Vince Perkins
- Ibraheem Rajab
- Mary Rasic*
- David Szpunar

**Education & Outreach**
- Mike Bryson*, leader
- Bethany Barratt*
- Yessenia Balcazar*
- Daniel Cryer
- Kenneth E. Hundrieser
- Kimberly Ruffin
- Elizabeth-Anne Stewart

**Waste & Natural Resources**
- Maria Cancilla*, leader
- Sarah Tag, leader
- Nicole Braus
- Sarah Gibson
- Bill Reich
- Susan Weiner
- Noe Villagomez*

**Economics & Governance**
- Graham Pickren , leader
- Brennan Morrow
- Patrick Alforque
- Claudine Daley
Relationships, Alliances, Awards, and Certifications

Relationships & Alliances
- Alliance for a Greener South Loop—Member Organization
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)—Member Organization
- Chicagoland Network for Sustainability in Higher Education (CNSHE)
- Illinois Food Scrap Coalition (IFSC)
- Local Partnerships—Roosevelt University partners with Bright Horizons Schaumburg Early Childhood Education Center, the Institute of Continued Learning at Roosevelt University, the Chicago Architecture Foundation, Fermi Lab, and Boy Scout troops by collaborating on projects, hosting events, providing education, and conducting community outreach.
- Morton Arboretum—ArborNet Interactive community of Arboreta
- National Arbor Day Foundation
- National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
- Society of Environmentally Responsible Facilities (SERF)
- Retrofit Chicago
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)—Green Power Partnership
- United States Green Building Council (USGBC)—Member Organization
- Chicago Higher Education Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project

Awards & Certifications
- Alliance for a Greener South Loop, Greenest Institution (2012) and Greener Institution (2011) Awards—Entire Institution
- ArborNet, Accreditation I—Schaumburg Campus
- AASHE, STARS Bronze Award—Entire Institution
- Conservation Foundation, Conservation@Work Recipient (2012)—Schaumburg Campus
- Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact, Gold Level—Entire Institution
- IFSC, Gold Level—Roosevelt University Dining Services
- National Arbor Day Foundation, Tree Campus USA recognition—Schaumburg Campus
- NWF, Certified Wildlife Habitat—Schaumburg Campus
- Society of Environmentally Responsible Facilities (SERF), Certified—Wabash Building
- USGBC, Green Schools Emerald Award for Green Innovation (2013)—Entire Institution
- Urban Land Institute (ULI), Vision Award (2013)—Wabash Building
- USGBC, Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Level—Wabash Building
- USGBC, LEED Silver Level—Lillian and Larry Goodman Center
- The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Chicago, Design Excellence Awards (2015)—Wabash Building
- Fiabci International Real Estate Federation U.S. Chapter, Grand Prix of Real Estate Award (2014)—Wabash Building
- Fiabci International Real Estate Federation, Gold Prix d’Excellence Award (2015)—Wabash Building
What’s New

5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan
In fall 2014, three planning sessions were held through the combined efforts of students, faculty, and staff, to create a 5-year Strategic Sustainability Plan for Roosevelt. Initiated and facilitated by a passionate Sustainability Studies student, Mary Beth Radeck, the plan has really taken off! Approved in spring 2015, the plan is now ready to be implemented. Containing four action groups (Climate & Energy, Education & Outreach, Waste & Natural Resources, and Economics & Governance) our Environmental Sustainability Committee members are working hard to address and implement the plan’s goals. Leadership for and participation in seeing the plan from start to finish is very important to our department. By having several action groups with different, but intersectional focuses and goals, we are able to address several areas of campus sustainability. This will help our institution move forward as a “green campus” while also holding true to our social justice mission. Several of the goals and projects under our Plan could also save us money in the long-term. Currently, our Environmental Sustainability Committee is geared up with various students, faculty, and staff, all with a group interest and larger vision in mind.

To see our Plan, please visit http://www.roosevelt.edu/GreenCampus/StrategicSustainPlan.aspx.

AASHE STARS Reporting
In January 2010, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) launched the first version of STARS: The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System. With great success, STARS has evolved over the years and has gone through a few versions, with the newest version slated to come out in March 2016. In spring 2015, a Sustainability Studies course at Roosevelt titled “SUST 390: The Sustainable Campus” undertook preliminary research on the full range of STARS credits across the main categories of Academics, Engagement, Operations, and Planning and Administration, with many subcategories under each of these. After the initial data collection occurred, a team of four (Mike Bryson and Graham Pickren (SUST faculty); Maria Cancilla (SUST student); and Rebecca Quesnell (staff)) worked on a final review of the data, and submitted the report on December 18, 2015. Roosevelt received a Bronze rating during its first ever STARS submission. Such a report and rating conveys both where RU is at right now in terms of institution-wide sustainability, and where we plan to go in the future!

To see Roosevelt’s rating, please visit https://stars.aashe.org/institutions/roosevelt-university-il/report/2015-12-18/.

Behavioral Modification
In conjunction with the University of Michigan, Roosevelt University encouraged RU Wabash residents and general faculty and staff to partake in an occupancy survey at the end of the 2015 spring semester. This survey was administered in order to collect data on occupancy energy use characteristics that result in impacts on our buildings’ energy performances.
On October 23, 2015, RU’s Campus Planning and Operations Assistant VP, Sustainable Operations Coordinator, Electrical Foreman, Energy Management Intern, and the Wabash Residence Hall Coordinator discussed the survey results with the University of Michigan team who put together and collected survey results. The results focused on occupants’ use of the Wabash dorm rooms and other RU office spaces. Occupants’ energy use characteristics were based on three categories: motivation, opportunity, and ability.

After further discussion, an application interface tool (via the University of Michigan team) is slated to come out in February 2016. There will be a digital application for students and for faculty and staff. There are many features that would be included, such as advice on whether or not students should use their window or air conditioner to cool their room, based on indoor and outdoor air temperatures. The purpose of the tool is get the RU community engaged and empowered about saving energy, and it would provide positive reinforcement (incentives) for helping RU save energy. Our current timeframe is to test the application (via resident students) in spring 2016. We look forward to next steps for this project, and the ensuing results.

**Benchmarking**

In accordance with the City of Chicago Benchmarking Ordinance, Roosevelt University benchmarks, verifies, and reports data for the Auditorium and Wabash Buildings. The Benchmarking Ordinance requires existing buildings (municipal, commercial, and residential) larger than 50,000 square feet to track energy use, report the data to the city annually, and verify data accuracy every three years (after the initial reporting). Roosevelt remains in compliance with this ordinance. The Physical Resources Department, namely our Energy Management Student Associate(s), greatly contribute to this reporting process.


**Building Automation System**

Phase 1 of linking the Schaumburg campus to the Building Automation System (BAS), has been completed and is operational. So far the boilers, rooftop cooling units, and hot water heaters are on the system. When the entire project is completed, we expect to see energy savings up to 80,000 kWh hours—which results in monetary savings. Through this project, we will receive $36,750 from COMED and $32,328 from Nicor. Additionally, $8,250 from ComED is pending for the new College of Pharmacy research teaching labs to be put on the BAS.

**Energy Curtailment Participation through EnerNOC**

Through EnerNOC (energy software/provider) and PJM (grid supplier) Roosevelt participates in voluntary energy curtailments. During scheduled curtailments, our department is notified and our engineers develop a plan so that we can reach the energy baseline for at least two hours. When we reach and stay at the curtailment baseline for the required time, we receive checks from EnerNOC. The money we receive can then be invested into other energy savings projects. Just this past August, both of our campuses more than reached the baseline goal and preliminary results are showing that we may receive up to $64,000 in checks. In the past, we have received $34,000. In addition to energy savings and monetary reward, participation from the RU community in the curtailment can also contribute to behavioral changes in energy use.
Hydris Cleaning System
In early November 2015, an Ecolab Hydris system was installed and became ready for use campus-wide. This system uses ‘Electrically Activated Water (EAW) Technologies’ to create a product that is sanitary and chemical free, improves indoor air quality, and that can be used for multiple types of cleaning on campus. Being scent-free is an added benefit of this product, as it will not negatively affect those who have certain types of allergies. This product will be replacing all green chemicals except for those used to clean our University windows.

To learn more about this system and its benefits, visit http://www.ecolab.com/program/hydris/.

Princeton Review
Roosevelt has been recognized in the Princeton Annual Review: “Guide to Green Colleges” in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. In 2015, 2,000 colleges and universities were reviewed, and RU was 1 out of 353 higher education institutions selected for this honor. Roosevelt is now in the process of submitting for 2016 recognition.


Retrofit Chicago
Using 2014 energy use as a baseline, RU joined the Retrofit Chicago program in 2014 and has committed to reduce energy use in the Auditorium Building by 20% by 2019. The Auditorium’s role with this project is unique, mainly due to the age and historical designation of the building. Our team is working diligently to accomplish the commitment.

Most recent summary:

Retrocommissioning
In November and December of 2015, the Physical Resources Department went through a process of interviewing four different, pristine retrocommissioning (RCx) companies in an effort to select one company to conduct RCx on the University’s Auditorium and Wabash buildings. RCx is a process of identifying equipment in need of repair or replacement, while also finding energy inefficiencies. Through this project, adjustments will be made to improve our buildings’ performance levels. RCx will be an especially beneficial process for our historic Auditorium Building as the building, and much of its equipment, is old and needs repair or replacement. This offers us an opportunity to see potential monetary and energy savings, as well as having a better Building Management System. In early December, the decision was made to go with Grumman Butkus Associates, and an application to start the RCx process is underway.

Sustainable Operations Coordinator
July 2015 marked the first time that Roosevelt University had an official position for a “Sustainable Operations Coordinator”. Working through the Physical Resources Department, the coordinator focuses on many sustainability-related initiatives at the downtown Chicago campus and Schaumburg campus. Some current projects of focus include the following: organize for the implementation of the University’s 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan; coordinate meeting
times with RU’s Environmental Sustainability Committee; report data to AASHE using the STARS tool; work with the Assistant VP of Campus Planning and Operations, the Chicago campus Chief Engineer, and others on energy related initiatives; purchase green energy for the University; build relationships with various departments of RU; and manage the department’s student workers and interns with their ongoing projects including energy tracking, rebates, events, and much more.

**The Campus Wild**

In the National Wildlife Federation’s latest report of “The Campus Wild: How College and University Green Landscapes Provide Havens for Wildlife and “Lands-on” Experiences for Students”, Roosevelt University was one, out of a select few, higher education institutions recognized. Roosevelt is acknowledged under section 3: Natural Areas on Campus, Part B: NWF Certified Wildlife Habitats. Being 1 of 85 recognized higher education institutions, and one out of three in Illinois, is quite an achievement.


**Tree Removal & Replacement Plan**

As an addition to our 5-Year Strategic Sustainability Plan, we are in the process of working with our outside arborist for the Schaumburg Campus to create a phased approach for tree removal and replacement. Sixty of our trees at the campus are dead or dying—many are Ash trees, with health that declined due to the Emerald Ash Borer. As we create a phased approach, we will be modifying the location of where we replant some trees, so they have a better opportunity to thrive. Looking into trees that are native to Illinois and that are predicted to be resilient in the coming years is a priority as we develop this phased approach. Our current timeline is to start removing trees as the snow thaws, and to start tree plantings in the spring.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency: Green Power Partnership**

For four years, Roosevelt has been part of the USEPA Green Power Partnership in an effort to exercise responsible purchasing of energy and to help encourage growth in the “green power” market of renewables. By purchasing RECs, our institution is able to support and encourage the renewable energy industry while also offsetting our carbon footprint. In early 2016, we will make our newest REC purchase.

For more information on this partnership visit [http://www3.epa.gov/greenpower/](http://www3.epa.gov/greenpower/).

To see RU’s role in this partnership visit [http://www3.epa.gov/greenpower/partners/partners/rooseveltuniversity.htm](http://www3.epa.gov/greenpower/partners/partners/rooseveltuniversity.htm).

**Visit from French Ambassador of U.S. and Ghana Delegation**

In the summer of 2015 French Ambassador Gerard Araud visited Roosevelt University. The purpose of the visit was to take a “walking campus” tour to see what our [urban] University has and is doing to be a sustainable higher education institution through reducing energy consumption, encouraging and educating our community on recycling, and much more. Paul Matthews, Assistant VP of Campus Planning and Operations, escorted the Ambassador and his party through the Wabash building. During this tour, several features of the building were focal points for questions and discussion including, but not limited to, the rooftop garden initiative led
by Rebecca Quesnell (Sustainable Operations Coordinator) at the time. Our team was enthused to give such a tour, and it was especially applicable due to the Paris Earth Summit held later in the year (December 7-8, 2015). Later that summer, Paul also gave a “walking campus” tour to the Government Delegation from Ghana.

**Water, Sustainability, and The City**

On September 29, 2015, Roosevelt University alumnus Damon Williams (BS, ’69 Physics) returned to campus to give an outstanding lecture to the RU community, as well as the public. Mr. Williams is an experienced and successful civil engineer, with a focus on water and wastewater management, and is part of the management team at DSW Water Strategies located in Arizona. Damon’s presentation focused on waste water treatment, water recycling, water conservation in drier climates (in connection to drought and water scarcity in the California region), and connected those points to how water is used and perceived in the Chicagoland area.

In concluding the presentation, Damon emphasized that it takes group effort to invoke changes and he ended the presentation with a “Water-Energy-Food Nexus”. These are things we need, and in varying quantities. How do we find a balance between our needs? How do we get what we need to survive (and maybe even thrive) without destroying everything in our path?
Goals & Measurement

Climate & Energy Goals

1. Energy: Reduce energy usage by 10% in 5 years, across campus.
   • Retrocommissioning (RCx)—In progress
     o Link Schaumburg Campus to a DCC Building Management System by 2018 — Phase 1 of Building Automation System is completed and operational. Phase 1 controls boilers, rooftop cooling units and hot water heaters. When the entire project is completed, this could calculate out to savings of 80,000 kWh.
     o 50% of all electricity use university wide to be generated from renewable resources or offset through the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits—Have had REC purchases in the past to offset. In January 2016, will be looking at REC purchase or longer term agreement. Applications for the Cook County Community Solar Project were submitted in November 2015 for the Goodman Center rooftop, Schaumburg Campus east parking lot, and Schaumburg Campus rooftop
     o Damper replacement in Auditorium Building
     o Laboratory fume hood DCV in Auditorium Building
     o VFDs on the 100% outside air AON units at the Goodman Center
     o Boiler water pump controls for the Wabash Building
     o VFDs on the AHUs at 430 S. Michigan Avenue
     o Electric reduction in IT—Use of software ‘Juice Press’? Not started.
     o Link Labs to Schaumburg BAS—Controls would link the static pressure to the BAS. Not started.
     o Submetering of utilities—Started.
   • Continue Retrofit Program—Reduce energy usage in the Auditorium Building by 20% by 2019. We are currently continuing this program.
     o We started a RCx process in December 2015 with Grumman Butkus Associates to RCx the Auditorium and Wabash Buildings.
   • Create an Energy Management Plan—In progress.
   • Tracking: Currently, all building energy data is documented in the USEPA Energy Star Portfolio Management System. From there, our department’s Energy Management Student Associate creates monthly energy reports. Additionally, in spring 2015, students, faculty, and staff participated in an Occupancy Survey. The results are forthcoming and will help us to start targeting behavioral modification in regards to energy use at the Chicago Campus.

   • Chicago Campus to be SERF certified in 5 years—Wabash Building
completed. Looking to pursue for rest of Chicago Campus in spring 2016.

- **“Green” Schaumburg Campus** over 5 years—Ongoing.
  - Natural prairie—Schaumburg Campus natural prairie is in its 4th year, with 3 years of burns. Continuing.
  - 6/10 of mile prairie walking trail—Schaumburg Campus prairie trail is in its second year. Continuing.
  - Low Volatile Organic Compounds—Mastics, caulks, and paints are being used at the SCH campus and most recently with the College of Pharmacy 42 seat teaching and research lab. All of these contain low VOCs.
  - Irrigation installation—Installed on Roosevelt Boulevard side of Schaumburg Campus building for landscaping purposes. Completed.
  - Reuse of serviceable carpet squares—Schaumburg Campus. Continuing.
  - LED lighting installations—Schaumburg Campus, ongoing. Thus far, completed in Alumni hall, Torch, Licht Center, Marque corner sign, and sidewalk bollards.

- Maintain **Green Campus Princeton Review Recognition** annually—Most recent recognition was in 2015. Next submittal date is the end of February 2016.
- Maintain memberships in **USGBC, AASHE, and SERF**—Memberships currently maintained.

3. **Transportation**: Implement DIVVY Bike and Alternate Fuels Vehicle Programs.

  - **University discount** to annual DIVVY bike membership—Student, faculty, and staff memberships as of spring 2015.
  - Purchase **alternative fuel vehicles and install refueling stations**—No purchases currently made. Would like to start getting quotes for installation of “alternative fuel” stations at Schaumburg campus. Not started.
  - Establish another, or creatively expand current, **Bike Room**—Wabash Bike Room was at full capacity in fall 2015 with many needing a spot. Started.
  - Communicate importance and opportunities for alternative transportation—Participation in Bike2Campus week and DIVVY Discount. Ongoing in communication of importance.
  - **Transportation alternative**—A more convenient way to get between the two campuses. Perhaps a closer Pace Bus stop near the Schaumburg campus. Not started.

4. **Air & Climate**: Use AASHE STARS or similar evaluation system by 2015.

  - **Continue membership** in the USEPA Green Power Partnership Program—Currently a member. In the process of looking into purchasing more renewable energy credits.
  - Maintain AASHE STARS or similar **evaluation program** for 5 years—RU data for STARS was submitted on December 18, 2015.
  - Complete a **Climate Action Plan** by 2019—Not started.
  - **GHG Emissions Inventory**—Not started.
Education & Outreach Goals

1. Academics: Establish RU as a leader in sustainability education.
   - Inventory sustainability-related courses across university (spring 2015)—Completed by student researchers in SUST 390, spring 2015.
   - Expand Sustainability Studies undergraduate program and strengthen ties to other departments (2015-17)—No program expansion yet, but are strengthening ties with other departments. In the summer of 2015, the SUST Program (established in 2010) moved from its original home in the College of Professional Studies to its new location in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), where it now functions as a free-standing academic department. In addition, SUST was successful in hiring a full-time faculty member with expertise in geography, urban sustainability, and environmental policy, to replace a founding SUST faculty member who left RU in 2012. Finally, SUST faculty members are in the process of building collaborative relationships with related departments in CAS, such as political science, economics, sociology, and the biological/physical sciences. Among other benefits, these collaborations now allow students to double-major in SUST and a wide range of liberal arts/sciences disciplines.
   - Create an academic Center for Sustainability (2015-16)—As an initial step toward the long-term goal of creating a Center for Sustainability, the SUST Program launched the Roosevelt Urban Sustainability Lab in fall 2015. While currently without separate funding, the Lab has a physical location in AUD 526. Its initial projects include Roosevelt’s STARS Report (fall 2015), a collaborative endeavor between SUST faculty/students and the Physical Resources Dept. staff (as described above). The Lab’s mission is to serve as an incubator of ideas and projects that take advantage of cross-department and faculty-student collaborations and which facilitate partnerships within and outside the university.

2. Campus Engagement: Create a sustainability minded culture.
   - Develop co-curricular sustainability themed activities (2015-16)—Collaboration between different departments and RU organizations in the planning of Earth Week every April.
   - Educate staff (2015-20)—Ongoing. Have educated Residence Life RAs on some initiatives. Prof. Mike Bryson is taught a sustainability-focused section of ACP 101 First Year Seminar in fall 2015 with Elizabeth Choporis as staff co-instructor. As the director of the Center for Student Involvement, Elizabeth represents an important link between academic sustainability education and potential student co-curricular programming.

3. Community Engagement: Develop strong partnerships with local organizations.
   - Collaborate with environmental organizations, public/educational institutions, and local communities (2015-20)—Different RU academic departments have existing partnerships or are exploring new collaborations with outside organizations, institutions, and communities. For example, the SUST program offered its 3rd service learning course (SUST 350) in fall 2015 on the South Side of Chicago at Eden Place Nature Center, an environmental education/justice/
conservation/agriculture non-profit based in the Fuller Park neighborhood. SUST 330 Biodiversity is regularly taught onsite at the Field Museum of Natural History, giving students the opportunity to work directly with FM scientists on museum research. Various RU academic departments partner with environmental justice organizations such as the Southeast Environmental Task Force and the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization to offer field trips and service learning opportunities for RU students.

- **Foster collaboration among RU entities (2015-16)**—A longstanding and fruitful collaboration since 2011 is that between SUST and Physical Resources on special events, the Environmental Sustainability Committee, STARS research and reporting (2015), and Strategic Planning research and leadership (2014). The creation of the RUSLab in the College of Arts and Sciences continues that collaboration, with the prospect of building bridges with other RU entities, notably the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Policy Research Collaborative, the Joseph Loundy Project, the Mansfield Institute, the Center for Student Involvement, the Office of Residence Life, and others.

4. **Research**: Encourage and support research on sustainability, science, and policy.

- **Connect faculty (and student) research interests and projects** to needs of local communities (2015-20)—One example of this via the avenue of service learning occurred in spring 2013, when students in SUST 350 Service & Sustainability created “action research projects” for the Chicago Lights Urban Farm. Graduate students in the College of Business program in real estate have won the HEEF Midwest Real Estate competition three years running, in which schools compete on a site design plan for urban redevelopment of vacant land. The Policy Research Collaborative, launched in fall 2014 and directed by CAS professor Mike Maly, is a key driver of community-based and collaborative research at Roosevelt, and has expanded significantly in 2015. Other faculty across RU’s colleges and departments may be doing some additional community-based research, but to date we have not thoroughly documented it.

- **Inventory sustainability-related faculty research** across university (spring 2015)—Initial scan in spring of 2015, as part of the STARS research in SUST 390.

5. **Social Justice & Diversity**: Sustain RU’s historic legacy of opportunity and access.

- **Expand social justice/ transformational service learning (2015-16)**—Not started.

- **Recruit a diverse student body** (ASAP)—The Department of Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences, the Math Department, and SUST began a partnership in summer 2015 with the Louis Stokes Midwest Center of Excellence (LSMCE), which focuses on “improving the performance, persistence and success of underrepresented minority students in STEM degree programs and...provide[ing] opportunities for faculty and students to participate in STEM activities including workshops/conferences, webinars and research internships.” The organization holds an annual conference open to faculty and students,
provides modest travel funding, and supports universities in retaining minorities in STEM fields.

**Waste & Natural Resources Goals**

1. **Waste:** Advance recycling and composting efforts University wide.
   - Engage a student-led recycling team for a gap analysis, recommendations and promotion to improve recycling and upcycling—*Not started.*
   - Engage student-led recycling team to research and recommend an on-site composting solution for both Chicago and Schaumburg campuses—*Not started.*
   - Increase recycling signage and labels—*Both on receptacles and in common areas. Not started.*
   - **Tracking:** Currently, we receive reports from Flood Brothers, Independent Recycling, VetTech, and the Resource Center. These reports give us data on how much we are recycling, composting and more, and allow us to see our progress on diversion rates.

2. **Local Food:** Start (a) sustainable, local food business(es) at RU.
   - Research local food opportunities and identify two approaches which provide a return on investment in 2015—*Not started.*

3. **Landscape Plan:** Expand community and rooftop gardening and continue prairie restoration and recognition.
   - Engage a SUST student-led team to identify interest and viability of community garden locations and options for Chicago campus—*Not started.*
   - Continue to expand prairie restoration at the Schaumburg campus—*Not started.*
     - Tree Tagging—*Communicates importance of trees to the community.*  
       - Started fall 2015.
     - Tree Care & Replacement Plan—*Collaboration with arborist underway in fall 2015.*
   - Continue to engage in certifications and national green recognition through landscape at Schaumburg—*Started.*
   - **Bring bees to Schaumburg Campus**—Work with a local organization to bring bee colonies to the Schaumburg Campus. RU would not manage them; purposes are for biodiversity, pollination, and research. Eventually become certified as a Bee Campus USA. *Started.*

4. **Water:** Raise awareness of water conservation.
   - Water awareness marketing campaign—*Not started.*
   - Research opportunities to capture rainwater and use for irrigation at Schaumburg campus—*Not started.*
     - Replace all paved parking areas at Schaumburg Campus with Pervious Pavement by 2023—*Currently, we have two educational sites that have been constructed: One is at the main courtyard walkway, and the other is a cut through on the west side of the storage building.*
- Educate the Community on environmentally-sound landscape management practices—Ongoing.
- Increase Rainwater harvesting—Focus on Schaumburg campus, but possibly downtown too. Not started.
- Add additional bio swales—One location: starting at the community garden, along the volleyball court, and running to the detention area. Add another bio swale—Not started.
- Utilization of greywater—Not started.

Economics & Governance Goals

   - Secure a funding source and structure—Not started.
   - Create a mission and responsibilities—Not started.

2. Purchasing: Formalize a University Green Purchasing Policy.
   - Review all current and potential University vendors—Not started.
   - Create green vendor commitment and review program—Not started.

3. Health, Well-Being and Work: Coordinate health and well-being programs with RU and Residence Life.
   - Promote health and well-being through HR—Not started.
   - Increase stairwell, fitness center, and nature work and alternate transportation—Not started.

4. Investment & Innovation: Create a single funding account for sustainable activities.
   - Explore and secure funding sources—Not started.
   - Maintain existing memberships and secure new memberships with organizations—Not started.
   - Decouple from fossil fuel endowments—Not started.
Policies & Commitments

Physical Resources’ Commitment to Sustainable Purchasing and Services

1. Integrated Pest Management—Roosevelt contracts only with pest control services that use natural pest control products and have a comprehensive integrated pest management policy.

2. Green Cleaning—Roosevelt contracts only with cleaning service providers that utilize certified green cleaning products and procedures. Installation of Ecolab Hydris system in fall 2015.

3. Dining Center—Roosevelt contracts with FSI (Food Services Incorporated) at our Wabash Dining Center. FSI works through a program called Farm Logix (http://farmlogix.net/#!/page_home) to source local food to our dining center. FSI also works with Testa Produce through its LEED Platinum based food distribution center on the south side of Chicago (http://www.testaproduce.com/warehouse.html). The major sustainable initiatives that are conducted by our Dining Center are:
   - Locally grown produce from the nation’s only LEED Platinum certified produce facility: Testa Produce.
   - Use of 100% recyclable dishware—All carryout containers, cups, paper goods and flatware are made from renewable resources and are compostable.
   - Environmentally-friendly cooking ventilation system significantly reduces kitchen effluent.
   - Recycling of all plastic, glass, aluminum and other metals.
   - Cage-free eggs, hormone-free meats, fresh local produce.
   - Utilization of fresh herbs and vegetables—Some from our very own Wabash Rooftop Garden—house made sauces and stocks, and fresh made baked goods such as cheesecake and muffins.
   - All cooking oil is collected and recycled into biodiesel.

4. Recycled Bathroom Products—Roosevelt purchases Bathroom paper products made from 100% recycled fiber.

5. Office Products—Individual printers have been replaced by multi-function devices in order to save on paper and ink. Low waste, soy based color ink is used in the multi-function devices, as well as office paper made from 100% recycled fiber. Office Max supplies a catalog that highlights low cost green options, which are prioritized.

6. Vending Machines—All vending machines are “reduced-energy” systems.

7. Fresh Market—New addition of Fresh Market concept at the Schaumburg campus. Consists of fresh salads, fresh ground coffee, soups, sandwiches, and more. People use debit or food cards and no cashiers are present. Roosevelt is the first University to add this system under Mark Vending.

Physical Resources Green Building Commitment
Roosevelt University has committed to building or remodeling to USGBC LEED standards. The University will also apply for SERF certification for all university buildings by 2019.

Information on USGBC LEED can be found here: http://www.usgbc.org/leed.
Information on SERF can be found here: http://www.serfgreen.org/.
Other

Physical Resources and Student Supported Sustainability Events
Physical Resources holds annual events during Earth Week, Earth Day, Bike2Campus Week, and Arbor Day. Roosevelt also participates in the annual Earth Hour event.

On Sept 18, 2014, the Assistant VP of Campus Planning and Operations, Paul J. Matthews, presented at the annual MAPPA symposium “To LEED or not to LEED” detailing RU experiences with LEED certification and SERF initiatives for all university buildings. Additionally, Roosevelt’s past Sustainability Coordinator, Thomas Shelton, presented on October 28\textsuperscript{th}, 2014 at the annual AASHE Sustainability Conference in Portland, OR on Roosevelt University, student internships, and partnerships including SERF.

Schaumburg Campus Initiatives
A nature trail, rain, and butterfly garden were established on the Schaumburg campus to re-establish biodiversity in an urbanized, suburban environment and to enable the RU community to experience nature and sustainability initiatives first-hand.

Garden plots are available to students, faculty, and staff at the Schaumburg campus, as well as others from the Schaumburg community. Over 175 pounds of produce were donated by the gardeners to a local food bank in 2013 and, so far, 21 pounds of produce have been collected and donated to a local Schaumburg food pantry in fall 2015. A drip irrigation system was installed in 2014, and has allowed gardeners to use less water due to the nature of the device. Two dump load trucks full of university generated compost were used to fertilize the Schaumburg Community Garden during 2014-15.

In the main courtyard, there is also a Native American Trail Marker Tree. Native Americans marked trails by bending trees over time, so that they would point in a particular direction. RU has made an effort to preserve a part of this history by creating a Native American Trail Marker Tree at the Schaumburg campus. The marker is in year three, and points to the downtown campus.

Facility Assessment Report
In 2012, the Environmental Systems Group conducted a detailed Facility Assessment energy efficiency study of the Auditorium Building that was paid for by a grant from ComEd. Five cost effective projects, if implemented immediately, were projected to have a short payback period and would help lower electrical usage. Savings would be compounded over the long term, thus, generating on-going payback to the University.

Joyce Foundation (Retrofit Chicago, Higher Education)
Roosevelt is part of an 11 University study group receiving funding from the Joyce Foundation and Chicago Trust to work together and share information on improvements to energy efficiency and retrocommissioning. Some of the areas of review are: Data Center power usage, SEDAC sponsored facility assessments, conversion to USEPA Energy Portfolio Manager, green labs,
retrocommissioning, and power grids. Through the Joyce Foundation, the ComEd/People’s Smart Ideas program conducted a data center and network closet energy use analysis.

**AUD Laboratory Assessment Report**
Between December 16, 2014 and January 13, 2015, Roosevelt University engaged Sieben Energy Associates to conduct an assessment of existing laboratory space at the downtown Chicago campus. The assessment, conducted under the *Smart Ideas for your Business* Technical Assistance Services program, included site visits and collection of operating data for existing biology, chemistry, and environmental science lab equipment. In the end, five recommendations were presented to Roosevelt which could equate to nearly $42,000 in energy savings on a yearly basis. The overall building energy reduction would be 10%.

**Data Center Analysis Report**
Conducted by Sieben Energy Associates, in a similar fashion to the Auditorium Laboratory Assessment, this assessment focused on energy savings on behalf of the Auditorium building Data Center. Overall, the yearly savings would equate to a 3% reduction of the building’s energy consumption. Five recommendations were given, including increasing space temperature set point, implementing an air-side economizer, and more.

**Energy Assessment & Savings Opportunities: Detailed Report**
In the fall of 2015 a non-profit company, Elevate Energy, did an energy assessment of Roosevelt’s Auditorium Building. The report, generated on December 22, 2015, detailed and brought together information from the three reports previously mentioned (above), a known list of concerns from the Chicago Campus Chief Engineer, Gus Kalady, and findings from Elevate Energy’s energy assessment. Next steps include developing a plan to implement recommendations, and applying for financial incentives to help offset some project costs.
Sustainability Studies Program

Overview
The sustainability Studies Program, established in 2010 in the College of Professional Studies and relocated in 2015 to the College of Arts and Sciences, offers an undergraduate major and minor in sustainability studies. The SUST program is the main academic department at RU focused on sustainability education, though environmental topics are addressed in a variety of other RU departments, including Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences (which offers a minor in environmental science), Political Science, and more. In 2015, the SUST Program hired an additional full-time faculty member, which was essential to the continued health and vitality of the major.

Classes
Each semester offers an array of Sustainability Studies courses and most courses offer unique opportunities for students to get practical, hands-on experience. The Biodiversity class is taught once a year onsite at the Field Museum of Natural History, where students engage in seminar learning and are part of “research internships with museum scientists in a variety of disciplines”; the Food class has taken trips to different urban farms in Chicago; the Waste class has conducted several waste/recycling audits on RU’s Chicago and Schaumburg Campuses; the Water class has taken field trips to wastewater treatment plants, wetland restorations, and waterway, including several canoe trips with Friends of the Chicago River; and the Service and Sustainability course spends the majority of class time working on an urban farm while also engaging in thought-provoking discussion. Overall, each course gives students opportunities to complement the classroom or online experience and get engaged with sustainability in a hands-on way.

More information from the SUST Blog:
https://rusustain.wordpress.com/2015/06/25/register-now-for-fall-2015-classes-at-ru/

Student Involvement
We have had quite a bit of success with getting SUST students involved with on campus projects that are directly connected to sustainability. Students have helped create and manage our community garden at the Schaumburg campus, our rooftop garden at the downtown Chicago campus, our Environmental Sustainability Committee, and much more. SUST majors were important contributors to the Strategic Sustainability Planning process in fall 2014; in fact, the idea for the plan itself originated as an independent research project by SUST major and Environmental Sustainability intern Mary Beth Radeck. The goal now, in the 2015-16 school year, is to start pulling in students with other interests and different majors to get engaged with sustainability at RU!

Internships
In the past, academic-based internships have been offered through the joint efforts of the Sustainability Studies program and Physical Resources. These campus-based internships offer students a chance to work alongside those making sustainable changes at Roosevelt. Some of these students, such as Mary Beth Radeck, Mary Rasic, and Rebecca Quesnell, have given public presentations on their internship experiences at the biannual SUST Student Symposium. Better
yet, those students are able to be directly involved in the process to make positive, sustainable changes happen!

More information from the SUST Blog: https://rusustain.wordpress.com/category/internships/

Waste Audits
About once a semester, students and faculty from a Sustainability Studies course (usually SUST 240 Waste) conduct a waste audit on one or more of our buildings. In the past, audits have been done on the Schaumburg campus, and the Auditorium and Wabash buildings. In mid-October 2015, a waste audit was solely focused on the Wabash Residence Life Floors. After collecting garbage and recycling from three of the floors, data and results are currently being put together. We are not only excited to see the numbers, but to also implement changes based on those numbers. This will be a good way to get students engaged in campus sustainability—a student-led competition in the WB resident hall could even result.

Grants & Rebates

Physical Resources seeks as many grants and rebates as possible to help fund sustainability initiatives. In the past three years, Roosevelt University has received $540,963.53 in grants and rebates. The following chart breaks down current grant awards and rebates. This does not include savings as a result of energy efficiencies or other programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants and Rebates</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Schaumburg</strong></td>
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