

GREEN POLICY

Preamble:

The world's need for environmental sustainability is increasing with the adverse impact of deforestation, climate change and global warming, which is caused by the growing population and evolving lifestyles. There is a dire need for addressing and creating mass environmental awareness and promoting green campuses in Higher Education Institutions. The excess use of resources, consumption of energies and damages to the biodiversity are the key issues needing immediate attention. The Universities and Colleges in India can collectively promote environmental awareness to the masses by taking stride themselves in making many developmental plans and activities for environmentally sound practices as model for others. The students need to be trained to proactively involve and participate towards sustainable future by turning eco-friendly activities at institutions and also creating mass awareness among public through several measures. Technology and innovation are paramount for the progress of any nation but the carbon footprint it leaves behind is detrimental. The need to incorporate eco-friendly ways of producing and consuming as well as efficient use of energy, water, and natural resources is imperative for our survival and future wellbeing. Green technology is essential to rejuvenate our ecosystem and provide us with alternatives that do not harm our environment and deplete our resources. In this context, as one of the premier higher education institutions of 140 years' standing, St Aloysius (Deemed to be University) Mangaluru aspires to pursue a sustainable Green Policy by evolving an Action Plan of Research and Development programmes and strategies that can turn the campus into a prototype of a zero waste and a carbon-negative site in the region.

Aims and Objectives of Environmental Management:

- To actively engage students, staff and the community in developing a clean, green and sustainable environment
- To foster best of the practices in the world by empowering all stakeholders to be catalysts in ensuring sustainable future driven by collaboration, networking and

deep civic engagement

- To facilitate initiatives towards conservation of the natural environment and develop sustainable solutions, innovations and startups through organic and sustainable technologies and control energy consumption as priorities
- To evolve Research and Development programmes and strategies that can turn the campus into a prototype of a zero waste and a carbon-negative site in the region.
- To create a Model Curriculum with Courses which enhance Environment Management and Conservation awareness activities with a mandatory component on exposure to organic and rural sustainable practices
- To promote sound environmental management policies and practices throughout the University.
- To comply with the requirements of relevant regulations
 - to reduce and prevent pollution
 - to adopt targets for improving environmental performance.

Environment Policy Statement:

The world's need for environmental sustainability is increasing with the adverse impact of deforestation, climate change and global warming, which is caused by the growing population and evolving lifestyles. Technology and innovation are paramount for the progress of any nation but the carbon footprint it leaves behind is detrimental. The need to incorporate eco-friendly ways of producing and consuming as well as efficient use of energy, water, and natural resources is imperative for our survival and future wellbeing. Green technology is essential to rejuvenate our ecosystem and provide us with alternatives that do not harm our environment and deplete our resources.

The institution proposes the following guidelines towards achieving the above stated vision:

Guidelines:

The University will:

- Consider the environmental impact of its development, communication,

procurement, curriculum, research and campus activities.

- Encourage the conservation of native ecosystems on campus, where possible, and will use these natural classrooms to teach stewardship and environmental responsibility.
- Strive to practice ecological responsibility focused on the preservation of its natural woodlands and gardens.
- Broaden its commitment to environmental education by introducing relevant environmental content to curriculum material.
- Seek to minimize its impact on landfills through the promotion of best practices to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Strive to minimize damage to non-target biological organisms through the elimination of pesticides in lawn and garden applications, with limited exception.
- Promote the use of environmentally conscious transportation to all members in the campus.
- Partner with other educational institutions and government agencies to improve best practices in its operations and involve the staff and students in promoting its initiatives in Waste Management in the campus and the civic society.
- Provide waste diversion and recycling stations and item-specific collection options in different areas across campus. Purchase all equipment, computers, appliances, cleaning material for the institution with the definite choice of products with energy saving and zerocarbon certifications.
- Maintain a user-friendly sustainability website with tips, links and suggestions for meeting policy guidelines and regular evaluation by internal and external agencies.
- Steadily move towards conducting paperless exams to reducing and reusing plastic waste on campus and take up the cause of sustainable living and create a prototype of a zero waste and zero carbon site in the region.

Action Plan:

The institution will propose the following initiatives in various areas of sustainable environment:

The University proposes to/implement:

- Implement a carbon management strategy, including the efficient use of energy.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with institutional targets; 6% on 2019-20 levels by 2025
- Ensure the uptake of low carbon technologies in buildings and equipment
- Make efficient and environmentally responsible use of water, including identifying opportunities for water reuse.
- Promote life cycle thinking in all procurements of goods and services
- Negotiate with vendors to promote sustainable resource management practices
- Set and achieve targets for reducing resource use
- Minimize the adverse environmental impacts of the decommissioning and disposal of the University assets by waste reduction and recycling
- Enhance the rate of recycling of all appropriate material based on life-cycle principles and implement the practice of reduce, reuse and recycle principles
- Implement sustainable transport practices across all activities with the aim of achieving the institutional carbon reduction targets
- Develop and implement the Institutional Estate Strategy based on sound environmental and sustainability principles with a special consideration to biodiversity enhancement in the campus
- Evolve a sustainable construction plan for all new University's Development and Renovation Projects
- Communicate internally and externally the Institutional Environment aims and objectives and performance
- Raise awareness of staff and students of the University's environment impact, activities and performance and best practices
- Provide regular environment educational programmes to the staff and students
- Encourage and facilitate feedback and suggestions on ensuring best eco-practices.

Evaluation of Environmental Policy:

The University proposes to undertake regular review of its environmental management procedures and activities to ensure sustainability, adequacy and effectiveness of its plan of action.

Responsibilities:

The main responsibility for implementation of this policy lies with the University management and the Principal. The Director and Coordinator of Centre for Environmental Concerns (CEC) of the University and the Directors of the various Blocks are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Institutional Environment Policy within their area of control. The University will actively monitor the performance of all the Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Research departments of the University. Regular assessment will be held on the level of implementation of the aims and objectives of the policy and all the green activities under their jurisdiction and a report will be submitted to the Principal. While the University accepts the main responsibility for implementation of this policy, individuals have a very important role in co-operating with those responsible for safeguarding the environment. Individuals are required to abide by rules and requirements made under the authority of this policy issued from time to time.

The university authorities reserve the right to modify, update, or add new conditions to this policy as needed, in response to evolving technological, legal, or institutional requirements.

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Vice Chancellor