

Sustainability at the University of Hawaii System

Policy

UH President David Lassner signed the [Executive Sustainability Policy](#) on Thursday, February 26 at the [3rd Annual Hawai'i Sustainability in Higher Education Summit](#). This will guide each campus administration in the implementation of the recently adopted Board of Regents Sustainability Statement.

- Executive Sustainability Policy available [here](#)
- BOR Sustainability Policy available [here](#) under Section C.4. "Purpose & Mission"
- See UH News coverage of the signing of the Executive Policy [here](#).

New UH sustainability policy aims for carbon neutrality by 2050

February 26, 2015 | UH News | Comments

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The [University of Hawai'i](#) has adopted an [executive policy on sustainability](#) that sets a number of significant goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, and provides a framework for the university to fulfill its commitment to sustainability in operations, curriculum, scholarship and engagement.

The new policy was approved electronically by UH President **David Lassner** at the kickoff of the [3rd Annual Hawai'i Sustainability in Higher Education Summit](#), a gathering at UH Mānoa of students, faculty, staff and administrators from throughout the state. The policy provides a comprehensive framework for goals, metrics, planning, coordination and oversight across the many dimensions of sustainability.

> The policy is available online at <http://go.hawaii.edu/8G>.

UH President Lassner said, "I want to thank the many students, faculty and staff from across the UH System who have contributed to creating our university's sustainability policy. We have set bold goals for ourselves, and we are committed to putting in place the framework to achieve success as we become a model for global sustainability and help the State of Hawai'i meet its energy independence goals."

- See Ka Leo's coverage of the adoption of the BOR Policy [here](#).

Regents adopt sustainability policy

Story **Comments**

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Melissa tangalin Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Senior political science major Call Reed testified at the Board of Regents' meeting in support of the sustainability statement.

and state."

Seven goals following the policy specify the university's commitment to social, cultural, environmental and economic sustainability in operations; education, research and service; planning, administration and engagement; and cultural and community connections.

Posted: Friday, January 31, 2014 5:00 am | Updated: 2:46 pm, Fri Feb 14, 2014.

Noelle Fujii, News Editor

A policy on sustainability is now included in the Board of Regents' policy as the board gave its approval at its Jan. 23 meeting.

"A policy statement, such as the BOR adopted (last) Thursday, is not magic," said John Morton, Vice President for Community Colleges. "But the policy statement does make it clear that the commitment to sustainability is a high priority and is fully supported by the governing board. The statement creates a framework but relies on the university to build on that framework to make the commitment real."

According to Daita Serghi, a biology lecturer at UH Mānoa, the sustainability policy was added to the Mission and Purpose of the university (Section 4-1c) "which commits the university to sustainably allocate and use resources for the well-being of our communities

The BOR Sustainability Statement was presented by the Office of Sustainability & the Student Sustainability Coalition of Hawai'i, and it was unanimously adopted at the Board of Regents meeting, January 23, 2014 (read meeting minutes [here](#))

[Next Steps](#) for the UH System Initiative: revised 051013

[Draft UH System Sustainability Policy](#): Revised draft 042913

[Draft UH System Sustainability Implementation Strategy](#): Revised draft 042913

[Presentation](#): Summit Outcomes Presentation to Council of Chancellors 050113

Summit 2013 Preparation Materials:

- [Background Information](#) – this document provides an overview of the activities that have led to the Summit and the purpose, particularly as it relates to the development of the UH Sustainability Policy. It also includes an optional reading list of additional resources and background materials if you'd like to be fully informed.
- [Draft University of Hawaii Sustainability Policy](#) – this is the draft policy that we will be working with on Friday, April 12th at the Summit during two facilitated policy development sessions.
- [UH Sustainability Policy – Purpose, Outcomes, Structure, and Process Map](#) – this document provides some context for what the policy is trying to achieve and how.

Additional Documentation and Resources:

- [Sustainability in University of Hawaii planning documents, strategies, and policies](#)
- The "[Outcomes, Agenda, and Participants](#)" from the Fall 2012 Sustainability Planning Session

- The “[Draft Policy Framework, Structure, and Summit Proposal](#)” – ideas generated at the Fall 2012 Sustainability Planning Session
- [Examples of University Sustainability Policies](#)
- [Final Report from the 2009 UH Sustainability Workshop](#)

The 2002-2010 University of Hawaii System Strategic Plan, “[Entering the University’s Second Century](#)“, identifies “malama ‘aina sustainability” as a commitment and core value.

The 2011-2015 University of Hawaii at Manoa Strategic Plan, [Achieving Our Destiny](#), identifies sustainability as one of five core values.

The [2012 University of Hawaii at Manoa Energy Strategic Plan](#) identifies over \$66M in potential energy efficiency and renewable generation projects and energy savings of over \$37M per year.

The [University of California Policy on Sustainable Practices](#) provides an example of a “system-wide” sustainability policy.

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