



June 28, 2021

Dear President Hensrud and Cabinet members,

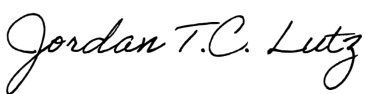
Following productive conversations regarding climate action and resilience planning (3/31/21 & 4/28/21), the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) feels it necessary to draw attention to several concerns and opportunities regarding integration and collaboration across BSU under our institutional commitment to Environmental Stewardship. We have heard from a number of student leaders, faculty, and staff who recognize a disproportionate level of commitment and engagement with our Shared Fundamental Values. We celebrate and respect the recent Cabinet-level appointment of a Campus Diversity Officer, which upholds our commitment to Multicultural Understanding. Similarly, we applaud the direct line of reporting established between the Community Engagement Council and the Office of the President, which upholds Civic Engagement. We take pride in and are committed to continuing the tradition of Environmental Stewardship and sustainability efforts at BSU established by many dedicated students, faculty, and staff who have furthered these efforts. We feel there is an opportunity for broader institutional participation and shared responsibility at the administrative level. To achieve better balance in responsibility and to uphold our commitment to Environmental Stewardship with integrity, the EAC identifies the following goals and proposes supporting actions for consideration:

- Create a culture of Environmental Stewardship that exists beyond the Sustainability Office and EAC (*Ex. It was recently suggested that Facilities sees all native landscaping across campus as the sole responsibility of the Sustainability Office. The EAC views this as problematic and unsustainable. Instead, we would like to intentionally collaborate with and empower Facilities to effectively integrate native landscaping and other practices in alignment with Environmental Stewardship.*):
 - clearly identify where reporting and responsibilities lie regarding achieving strategic sustainability goals through the HR functions:
 - create position descriptions that explicitly include environmental stewardship language
 - provide on-boarding programing to incoming staff/faculty around environmental stewardship
 - identify positions across campus key to upholding Environmental Stewardship and create appropriate performance-based evaluation criteria for relevant staff and supervisors
 - ensure campus marketing is not only strategically linked to the work of Environmental Stewardship but authentically represents our ongoing efforts
 - integrate the forthcoming Climate Action & Resilience Plan across all campus departments and offices, and defend efforts such as:
 - supporting pollinators and protecting water by maintaining and expanding native landscaping
 - strategically reducing waste
 - demonstrating and enabling active and healthy living
 - championing environmental justice

- Ensure Environmental Stewardship perspectives and sustainability expertise are represented at the Cabinet level (*Ex. Precedent has been set by appointment of the Campus Diversity Officer to Cabinet level service and direct line of reporting between Community Engagement Council and the Office of the President.*):
 - appoint Sustainability Director to serve on or directly and regularly engage with Cabinet on strategic institutional goals and efforts
- Establish clear communication and opportunity for collaboration between EAC and Facilities through both the Master Facilities Planning (MFP) process and on-going seasonal operations:
 - appoint EAC/Sustainability Office representation on MFP Committee
 - enable engagement with anticipated campus projects with sufficient lead time for substantive input

We recognize the need to further discuss these goals and proposed actions and look forward to working with you to identify realistic ways we may further integrate our value of Environmental Stewardship across campus. We invite each of you, as representatives of various campus functions, to reflect upon how your work and responsibilities may better embody our Shared Fundamental Value of Environmental Stewardship.

Sincerely,



Jordan Lutz, Anna Carlson, and Bonita O'Neal
Co-Conveners, Environmental Advisory Committee