Sustainable Development as a Framework for Planning

Around the United Nations Sustainability Development (UN SDG) Goal 4, all other goals can work together to create a meaningful framework into which fits almost all aspects of our work across the institution. In accord, use the UN SDGs as a framework to:

1. Articulate campus-wide planning framework
2. Create planning checklist that connects unit planning to campus mission and Strategic Plan goals
3. Develop a shared vocabulary
4. Support the campus’s development of a common understanding of the connections between the SDGs and Strategic Plan Essential Initiatives and related institutional goals and priorities
5. Align and articulate targets
6. Encourage process/skill development
7. Draw upon the following themes outlined in the SUNY Chancellor’s State of SUNY address in foregrounding sustainability
   - Individualized education
   - Innovation and entrepreneurship, including scholarship and research
   - Sustainability
   - And all underpinned by partnerships
8. Integrate sustainable development into our Middle States Self-Study (see #2 below)

Institutional Priorities to be Addressed in the Middle States Self-Study
New Paltz will pursue the following institutional priorities for this self-study:

1. Nurture a learning environment founded on critical thinking, creativity, and the growth and sharing of knowledge
2. Cultivate sustainability in all its forms, including institutional, social, economic, and environmental sustainability
3. Forge community and enhance our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion
4. Increase accessibility of undergraduate and graduate education in the region


Connect planning goals to targets/metrics/assessments

1. Help academic and academic support units to connect their planning goals to broader campus goals and institutional targets/metrics/assessments (e.g., connecting institutional, general education (GE), and program goals to assessments)

Middle States

1. Support the Standard 1 Working Group to fulfill its charge. The Council has representation from a wide range of schools and departments and a clear perspective of how the criteria in Standard 1 have been addressed in the Strategic Plan. A member of the Self-Study Steering Committee chairs each Working Group, thereby increasing coordination and efficiency between Working Groups.
2. Work with the Middle States Steering Committee and chairs to collect and interpret data for the self-study, paying close attention to how the criteria in Standard 1 have been addressed in the Strategic Plan

Excellence in Academic Advising – Support the Excellence in Academic Advising (EAA process) (e.g., provide feedback on oral and written reports to the Council from Dante Cantu and others)