Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

University of Maryland Global Campus

(formerly University of Maryland University College)

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Higher Education
Member since October 2009

Management and Leadership

☑ **Environmental Policy Statement**

The University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) is committed to reducing the environmental impact associated with its facilities and operations, and seeks to be an exemplary advocate for sustainability among Maryland higher education institutions. Moreover, UMGC is committed to creating educational opportunities for its students, faculty, and staff to reduce their personal environmental footprint.

☑ **Environmental Team**

Members of the GHG Taskforce comprise the environmental team at UMGC. These staff members record, monitor and recommend features to improve upon current policies and procedures. The mission of the committee through the quarterly meetings is to adhere to the climate action plan as the university moves towards its goal of a more efficient and effective set of operations in the direction of carbon neutrality.

A recycling Committee was established in Summer 2018. This 8-member team meets monthly to discuss ideas and suggestions for ways to increase recycling at UMGC.

In terms of UMGC's core mission of education, UMGC offers sustainability and climate education opportunities for Faculty and Staff including an annual Earth Day event held at the Academic Center at Largo. This event which attracts

more and more Faculty and Staff every year highlights a different environmental topic of interest. In 2018 over 60 faculty and staff were in attendance.

UMGC Earth Day Presentations
2015 – Sustainability UMUC and Beyond
2016 – Recycling & Home Energy Efficiency
2017 – Climate Change 101
2018 – The Problem with Plastics

☑ **Annual Environmental Goals**

In January 2008, UMGC (known then as the University of Maryland University College) signed the Second Nature's Carbon Commitment, (formerly known as the American Colleges and Universities President's Climate Commitment - ACUPCC). UMGC performed its first greenhouse gas inventory for fiscal years 2007 to 2008. UMGC has a Climate Action Plan that includes 13 strategic goals to improve operations and has set a goal to be 100% carbon neutral by 2050.

Normalized by community size or physical space, UMGC's gross GHG emissions have decreased annually since 2008. Each year UMGC is emitting fewer GHG emissions per student served and per gross square foot of space, which is an important indicator of success. The most significant drivers of decreased GHGs to date have been a change in the University's testing policy in 2011 which enabled students to shift their commuting patterns, as well as energy efficiency improvements in UMGC's new and existing buildings which has decreased electricity and energy consumption per square foot of physical space. (see Table 1).

Table 1. GHG and energy metrics, 2008-2016 with annual changes*

Metric	2008	2014	2015	2016	*15-16 %Change*	*08-15 %Change*
$MTCO_2e$/Student	1.27	0.86	0.73	0.66	-8.9%	-47.8%
$MTCO_2e$/ 1000 GSF Physical Space	28.34	20.70	19.99	19.64	-1.8%	-30.7%
$MTCO_2e$/Comm. Member	1.04	0.71	0.62	0.56	-8.9%	-46.2%
$MTCO_2e$/HDD+CDD	3.94	3.35	3.29	3.46	5.2%	-12.2%
MMBTU/Student	11.53	7.72	6.44	5.61	-13.0%	-51.4%
MMBTU/ 1000 GSF Physical Space	257.88	186.27	177.41	166.59	-6.1%	-35.4%
MMBTU/Comm. Member	9.48	6.43	5.46	4.75	-13.0%	-49.8%
MMBTU/ HDD+CDD	35.83	30.13	29.17	29.32	0.5%	-18.2%
$MTCO_2e$/MMBTU	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.12	4.6%	7.3%

* Calculated on gross emissions (does not include subtracted $MTCO_2e$ as a result of RECs)

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Procurement**

As applicable, Energy Star products are the preferred product for purchases at UMGC. All requisitions are reviewed prior to issuing a purchase order to ensure the most efficient merchandise is purchased. Language is incorporated in request for proposals (RFP) which requests information about the company's sustainability practices. Procurement staff, as well as those on the environmental team, research, recommend and consider products that lead the university towards campus wide sustainability.

UMGC is committed to the following environmentally preferable procurement strategies:

- *Procurement of more fuel-efficient vehicles and potentially hybrid electric vehicles;*
- *Procurement of more recycled paper;*
- *Continue promotion of water conservation measures through marketing and/or by working directly with major water users such as the UMGC Marriott College Park Hotel and their guests (e.g., reduce towel replacement for guests staying longer than one night, low flow shower heads).*
- *The regalia used for graduating students is from Oak Hall and is made from 100% recycled bottles.*

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

We offer online classes, which have a lower carbon footprint than face-to-face classes. UMGC has course offerings in its Environmental Management Program with content area in climate change and sustainability. There are 12 graduate environmental classes offered each semester and there are 14 undergraduate environmental courses that were offered during 2017 and 2018.

Graduates from Environmental Management in Academic Year 2017:
Bachelors degrees: 63
Masters degree: 69

The Schedule of Classes is available online. The number of schedule of classes printed has been reduced in great numbers over the last several years and for those publications that are printed it is created using recycled paper.

Waste

☑ **Recycling**

UMGC has a "desk side" recycling program and has achieved an overall recycling rate of 64% for 2017.

In 2016, implementation of a Recycling Information Program was instituted to provide different methods of educating staff on helpful, useful tips to improve upon recycling. UMGC has included recycling tips in the banners on the internal website, in the monthly electronic newsletter, and at every earth day event. In addition, in 2017 UMGC changed out all of the recycling containers in all of the pantries of the UMGC owned facilities with color coordinated receptacles and additional signage.

Other noteworthy recycling efforts included the 2018 Earth Day Trex Recycling Challenge and the 2018 old logo drop off event.

As an activity to support the 2018 Earth Day theme (End Plastic Pollution) UMGC partnered with Trex Company. Collection boxes were placed in 3 buildings for the month of April. UMGC staff, faculty and students participated by filling the collection boxes with ziplock bags, plastic bags, case wrap, newspaper sleeves, etc.) 120 pounds of single use plastic was collected and taken to a nearby store to be delivered to Trex. The plastics collected will be recycled to create plastic composite decking.

In correlation with the MD Day to Serve Campaign UMGC conducted a week long recycle event. This event was created to recycle, reuse and donate old logo items as a result of a new UMUC logo. During recycle week in September 2018, UMGC department liaisons were encouraged to bring in their old logo products which had recently been replaced in June with the new UMUC new logo. This event resulted in over 200,000 pieces of paper and 5,000 cardboard boxes being recycled. In addition, UMGC collected over 40,000 pieces of letterhead that were later made into 800 5x7 notepads for reuse. Clothing, lanyards, tote bags, hats, notepads, pencils, ink pens, and the like were donated to local Prince George's county schools, community centers, women's and battered children shelters, homeless shelter, and veterans home.

Incorporating environmental features to our regional sites is an ongoing process. Currently Waldorf, Maryland maintains a Recycling Program at our leased site. Recycle containers are incorporated throughout the building, a commercial container placed on site for daily use and while working on this project, the property manager also installed a bike rack and replaced landscaping with native plant material. Efforts continue to work with other project managers at regional sites to improve and/or create sustainability measures.

Materials recycled at UMGC include: office paper, newspaper, plastic, aluminum, batteries, ink cartridges, electronic equipment, cardboard, bulbs, and metals.

☑ **Composting**

207 short tons of composted food waste were generated in CY 2017 from the UMGC Academic Center at Largo and the UMGC Conference Center in Adelphi.

Energy

☑ **Energy Efficiency**

UMGC's Academic Center at Largo has instilled an energy model, which establishes all standard operating procedures to adhere to the purchase and installation of materials that are energy efficient. All lighting, materials, water reduction products and landscaping was designed for energy efficiency. Light sensors were installed in all offices at the Largo site. These sustainable features were also incorporated into the renovation of the Adelphi Student & Faculty Service Center (which was renamed Administration Building), the renovation of a second building in Largo, Maryland as well as the Conference Center in Adelphi, Maryland. The facilities in Largo both have energy conserving white roofs.

To further conserve energy, UMGC went from T8 to T5 lighting in all facilities, and where cost effective, the University will be upgrading to LED. In addition, we switched motors in the air handlers to high efficiency where applicable and installed CO_2 monitors to regulate the dampers. We also added variable frequency drivers where applicable.

In the spring and summer of 2015, UMGC undertook a major parking garage lighting retrofit with assistance from utility rebates. The project included replacing the original (1992) 468 light fixtures with LEDs. Breakdown of the types of lights replaced: 343; 175-watt metal halides, 48; 400-watt metal halides, 48 fluorescent tubes, 23 fluorescent 8-watt exit lights, 6 exterior 175-watt metal halide wall fixtures, all were replaced with high efficiency LEDs. Sensors were installed on 439 lights. The new lights will save 546,233 kilowatt-hours per year, a 65% reduction in electricity use in the garage. The total project cost of $258,000 was supported by $107,000 in Pepco rebates, leaving UMGC with an out-of-pocket cost of $151,000. With an expected annual electricity cost savings of $76,500, UMGC anticipates recovering the up-front cost in less than 24 months.

In Spring 2018, UMGC replaced existing light fixtures with LEDs. In a 70 space surface parking lot, 8 lights were replaced; at the east loading dock, 3 flood lights and 2 street lights were replaced, and 5 lights along the roadway at UMGC's parking garage were replaced.

Transportation

☑ **Employee Commute**

The University continues to promote alternative transportation including commuter connections, preferred parking for carpoolers and high efficiency vehicles, bike racks, and Metro. The following resources encourage alternative commuting by employees:

- *UMGC created a policy for teleworking and also established a four-day work week as optional;*
- *Each facility is within walking distance to public transportation;*
- *A dual Electric Vehicle Charging Station is located at the UMGC Academic Center surface parking lot in Largo, Maryland;*
- *Bike Racks are also located at each of the UMGC owned facilities;*
- *UMGC employees and students are able to utilize the UM College Park bus system known as "Shuttle-UM";*
- *Largo and Adelphi sites have reserved parking for fuel efficient vehicles and/or carpoolers.*

☑ **Efficient Business Travel**

UMGC has provided a number of options to staff including rideshare programs, and public transportation options via metro, local bus routes, etc. UMGC has an ongoing contract for transit shuttle service, which is open to all UMGC staff, faculty and students. When large meetings are held shuttles are provided for staff to travel to a neighboring UMGC campus (i.e., Adelphi to Largo).

Teleconferencing equipment and satellite offices are available at all UMGC facilities. Hoteling office space is available at Largo and Adelphi.

Travelling between buildings for mail delivery has been reduced from two runs a day to one.

The UMGC Master Plan outlines hoteling office space for the future, which will ensure space is used efficiently and reduce UMGC's physical and energy footprint.

UMGC is exploring offsets for air travel emissions.

☑ **Fleet Vehicles**

Three out of four UMGC vehicles accept E85 fuel and the University will use E85 fuel when accessible and affordable. In 2017, 49% of the fleet was fueled by E8.

Water

☑ **Water Conservation**

Low flow fixtures (i.e., toilets, faucets, showerheads) as well as waterless urinals have been installed at UMGC owned facilities. Energy Star washing machines are used at the Adelphi hotel. Our landscape guidelines outline procedures for manual watering to be done throughout the season, but not more than twice a week. Currently UMGC has discontinued all exterior watering.

☑ **Stormwater Management and Site Design**

The Leroy Merritt Center for the Art of Joseph Sheppard at the UMGC Inn and Conference Center has a 2,112 square foot green roof that keeps energy demand down and decreases harmful stormwater runoff into the Chesapeake Bay.

Green Building

☑ ***LEED Platinum for Commercial Interiors:***

UMGC/Marriott College Park Hotel and Conference Center, Adelphi, MD – 2015

LEED Gold *for Commercial Interiors:*

1601 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD - 2013

The Administration Building in Adelphi, MD – 2013

The UMGC Academic Center at Largo, MD - 2010

Certified:

The UMGC Hotel Addition is LEED Certified under the New Construction Rating System in 2005.

All UMGC facilities are LEED-certified. Each building is equipped with low-flow toilets, high-efficiency lighting and appliances, and light sensors. By taking advantage of these cutting-edge facility management technologies, UMUC has captured significant electricity savings and reduced GHG emissions.

Environmental Certification Programs and Awards

☑ *Received Award of Excellence from the University and College Designers Association (UCDA) 2014 for our LEED Displays in each of the Gold certified buildings. Award was received for Best Environmental Message.*

Received Mark of Distinction from the Second Nature Carbon Commitment 2018. An initiative that recognizes signatories that set high-performance goals, demonstrate and report measurable progress toward these goals, and support Network activities.

Profile Updated October 2019