

Sustainability & Accreditation



aashe

The Association for the Advancement
of Sustainability in Higher Education

About AASHE



Mission: to inspire and catalyze higher education to lead the global sustainability transformation

Aligning Sustainability & Accreditation

WSCUC's Three Core Commitments

- **Core Commitment to Student Learning and Success**

Institutions have clear educational goals and student learning outcomes. Institutions collect, analyze, and interpret valid and reliable evidence of learning as a way of assessing student achievement and success. Institutions support the success of all students and seek to understand and improve student success.

- **Core Commitment to Quality and Improvement**

Institutions are committed to high standards of quality in all of their educational activities. They utilize appropriate evidence to improve teaching, learning, and overall institutional effectiveness. Through strategic and integrated planning, institutions demonstrate the capacity to fulfill their current commitments and future needs and opportunities.

- **Core Commitment to Institutional Integrity, Sustainability, and Accountability**

Institutions recognize that the public has entrusted them with the critical responsibilities of upholding the values of higher education and contributing to the public good. They engage in sound business practices, demonstrate institutional integrity, operate in a transparent manner, and adapt to changing conditions

WSCUC's Four Standards

Standard 1: Defining Institutional Purposes and Ensuring Educational Objectives

Institutional Purpose

Integrity and Transparency

Standard 2: Achieving Educational Objectives Through Core Functions

Teaching

Teaching and Learning

Scholarship and Creative Activity

Student Learning and Success

Standard 3: Developing and Applying Resources and Organizational Structures to

Ensure Quality and Sustainability

Faculty and Staff

Fiscal, Physical, and Information Resources

Organizational Structures and Decision-making Processes

Standard 4: Creating an Organization Committed to Quality Assurance, Institutional Learning, and Improvement

Quality Assurance Processes

Institutional Learning and Improvement



The **Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™** (STARS) is a transparent, self-reporting framework for **colleges and universities** to measure their sustainability performance.

Launched in 2010

An Example



COLLEGE *of*
CHARLESTON

The College's new Quality Enhancement Plan is **Sustainability Literacy as a Bridge to Addressing 21st-Century Problems**. This is an initiative to endow students with the tools and knowledge they'll need to address 21st-century problems such as climate change, social injustice and economic inequality.

At the College, we acknowledge that our world faces steep challenges, and that these are global in magnitude and complexity. Whether it's diminishing resources, human-induced climate change, economic inequality, or some other pressing concern, our society has arrived at this point precisely because of the way we think and how we behave. **If we wish to change both our thinking and our actions, we will first need to change the education we deliver.** That is the central notion underpinning the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) – Sustainability Literacy as a Bridge to Addressing 21st-Century Problems.

Within this initiative, **it is the responsibility of our campus community to provide our students the sustainability literacy they will need to be effective problem solvers for the 21st century.**

1 NO POVERTY



2 ZERO HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Want to get involved with AASHE?

- ✓ Subscribe to the AASHE Bulletin
- ✓ Check out the Campus Sustainability Hub
- ✓ Attend a workshop with at our Centers for Sustainability Across the Curriculum
- ✓ Learn more about our Awards program
- ✓ Attend the annual AASHE Conference & Expo

