

**Indiana University South Bend**  
**Sustainability Resolution**  
18 April 2008

It is widely acknowledged that ongoing changes to the global environment form the primary challenge to human societies in the 21st century. Through its commitment to excellence in education, social engagement, a global perspective, and economic development within the Michiana community, Indiana University South Bend has an obligation to contribute to solutions to this challenge.

As a first step, IU South Bend recognizes the need to develop a comprehensive program in sustainability, which we define as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."<sup>1</sup> The Talloires Declaration<sup>2</sup>, the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment<sup>3</sup>, and the recently completed IU Bloomington Campus Sustainability Report can serve as guiding documents in the development of this program, but the unique position of IU South Bend within the Michiana community requires that we develop our own set of principles and practices.

IU South Bend seeks to engage the entire university community—including students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the greater Michiana community—in developing solutions to global, regional, and local challenges to maintaining a healthy, vibrant, diverse, and sustainable society. Be it therefore

**Resolved** that we, the Academic Senate of IU South Bend, dedicate ourselves to making our practices as sustainable as possible. Areas of focus should include, but are not limited to, energy and resource use, the built environment, land use, transportation, and food. In so doing, the campus will become an example of environmental responsibility for our students, for our employees, and for the wider Michiana community. And be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Senate of IU South Bend will strive, through its academic, co-curricular, and community-wide programs, to increase awareness of sustainability issues among its students, employees, and the general public. And be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Senate of IU South Bend will commit to forming and fostering relationships with community organizations and schools, with local governments and businesses, and with national and international groups, in order to support teaching, learning, and research about sustainability. And be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Senate of IU South Bend will strive to support and fund research and academic inquiry into the development of solutions to issues surrounding sustainability on our campus and in our community. And be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Senate of IU South Bend will dedicate itself to creating a plan for campus and community-wide sustainability, that we will review and reflect on the steps we have taken towards greater sustainability, and that we will revise those steps in accordance with progress that has been made, taking into account new technologies, new economic realities, and new campus initiatives.

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<sup>1</sup> World Commission on Environment & Development in *Our Common Future* (Oxford University Press, 1987, p.8).

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.ulsf.org/programs\\_talloires.html](http://www.ulsf.org/programs_talloires.html)

<sup>3</sup><http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/>