

De Anza College Educational Master Plan
Sustainability Section: Final Draft to EMP Committee
JKC rev. 2/25/2010

The Foothill-De Anza Community College District 2005-2015 Educational Master Plan includes “promoting environmental sustainability” as a core value. We know studies link a healthy environment to improved student learning and our actions impact this outcome, from facilities operations to student services to educational instruction.

Historically, De Anza College educators have inspired a rich legacy of environmental activism and community and civic engagement among students, faculty, staff, college and district leadership, and community partners. Founded in 1992, the College Environmental Advisory Group (CEAG) helped to set policy. The milestone 2005 opening of the Kirsch Center for Environmental Studies – the first demonstration building for energy innovation and sustainability in the California Community College system – served to further sustainability efforts on the De Anza campus.

As an educational entity, De Anza College embraces and fosters sustainability as a core value. For the College, sustainability encompasses making provision and taking responsibility for ensuring that every college action and decision embodies and institutionalizes **environmental stewardship, social equity and citizenship, and financial responsibility** as represented in our [sustainability policy](#). The College will achieve these sustainability goals through implementation and continual improvement of the College [Sustainability Management Plan](#) (SMP), adopted by all levels of campus governance in fall 2007. The SMP provides the means for the College to involve all members of the college community in a consensus-based model of shared governance to achieve the highest possible sustainability performance. This approach includes education, operations and planning, administration and engagement, with a focus on the following:

1. Identifying and cataloging the environmental risks and opportunities (not just those regulated by law),
2. Setting a framework for prioritizing those risks and opportunities, and
3. Systematically applying greater management to the risks and impacts deemed most important, with the goal of reducing these risks to the minimum extent practical.

Consequently, we fully embrace the inclusion of sustainability within the De Anza College Educational Master Plan, which adds strength to our commitment to ensure that each member of our college community becomes an active agent in making choices and taking action for a healthy and sustainable future — for our students, the college and the broader community.