

Exploring Positive Growth

The Sustainability Initiative at Ithaca College

Welcome to Ithaca College.

Sustainability is not a product but rather an ongoing process with no endpoint.



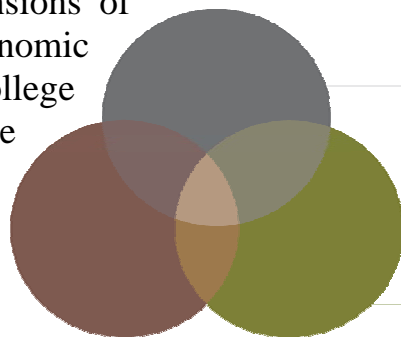
Colleges and universities have a crucial role to play in the effort to move toward sustainable development. It is a pleasure to have you join us on this journey of exploration. This introduction to the sustainability initiative at Ithaca College will help you learn more about sustainability and its individual and collective applications.

In his seminal essay, “Education for Sustainability: The University as a Model of Sustainability,” Dr. Anthony Cortese speaks to the reasons why Ithaca College is developing a living laboratory for our students, faculty and staff, one that models sustainable decision-making in its activities, policies and procedures:

If we are to achieve a sustainable future, institutions of higher education must provide the awareness, knowledge, skills and values that equip individuals to pursue life goals in a manner that sustains human and non-human well-being for all current and future generations.

“Living what you learn” reinforces for our students the whole-systems thinking we are integrating into our courses and other on-going educational programs that seek to raise the consciousness the campus community and engage it in the process of transformation. The following pages outline the key elements of this ambitious undertaking.

At Ithaca College, we are striving to balance the three dimensions of sustainability: environmental stewardship, social justice, and economic growth and development. As a new member of the Ithaca College community, you will be able to observe firsthand some of the innovations we are implementing as we move toward sustainability. Even more important, I hope you will take an active role in helping to advance the Ithaca College community a little farther down the path toward sustainability.



Cordially,

Peter W. Bardaglio
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs