



Resolution: Addition of Director of Sustainability to Graduate Student Government Executive Board

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WHEREAS, anthropogenic climate change is one of the most pressing global problems facing our society today¹,

WHEREAS, the United Nations 2019 Global Outlook Report² assesses that “climate change...needs an urgent response from all segments of society,”

WHEREAS, the USC Sustainability 2020 Plan³ states that “the implementation of sustainable practices is of even greater relevance as California experiences a historic drought affecting both infrastructure and food security. Meanwhile, energy and waste disposal costs rise and create financial strains. To preserve the viability of our common future, modifications to culture and behavior are necessary. As USC rises to meet the formidable challenges of the 21st century, environmental sustainability must take priority in our teaching, research, operations, and facilities,”

WHEREAS, most administrative and governing bodies at the University of Southern California have dedicated sustainability officers, directors, or committees such as those listed below:

Undergraduate Student Government (Director of Sustainability Affairs, Environmental Student Assembly, USC Environmental Core)
Academic Senate (Sustainability Committee of 24 members)

¹ <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/>

² https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/climate_change/ndc-global-outlook-report-2019.html

³ USC Sustainability 2020 Plan, https://green.usc.edu/files/2019/08/Sustainability2020_Update_082619.pdf

Staff Assembly (Environment and Safety Committee of 13 members)
Administrative Operations (Associate Director within the Office of Sustainability)

WHEREAS, USC failed to complete most of the Board of Trustees 2010 Sustainability Resolution⁴, missed several targets⁵ of the USC 2020 Sustainability Plan, and is poised to re-evaluate goals for the 2028 Sustainability Plan,

BE IT RESOLVED that the USC Graduate Student Government Senate approve the addition of the position of Director of Sustainability to the Graduate Student Government Executive Board starting in the 2020-2021 school year in order to address sustainability shortcomings on campus and to make greater commitments towards mitigating/eliminating USC's environmental footprint.

Director of Sustainability Job Description:

1. Analyzes the current practices of the GSG organization and identifies points where environmental sustainability could be improved.
2. Serves as an active member of university committees relevant to issues of sustainability, such as the USC Sustainability Steering Committee.
3. Serves as liaison to the USC Office of Sustainability, USG Environmental Student Assembly (ESA), and other USC sustainability organizations or committees.
4. Plans and coordinates ongoing GSG sustainability student advocacy initiatives and events.

⁴ <https://green.usc.edu/2020-plan/campus-sustainability-resolutions/>

⁵ <http://dailytrojan.com/2019/09/16/usc-releases-august-report-on-sustainability-new-initiatives/>