

Executive Summary

Blueprint for Academic Excellence Green Quad AY2021-2022

Highlights

Mission Statement

Vision Statement

Values Statement

Table Of Content

Executive Summary	1
Highlights	1
Mission Statement	1
Vision Statement	1
Values Statement	1
Goals - Looking Back	3
Goals - Real Time	4
Goals - Looking Ahead	9
Programs or Initiatives	13
Effective Programs or Initiatives	13
Program Launches	13
Program Terminations	13
Program Rankings	14
Initiatives and Fees	15
Initiatives	15
Fees	15
Community Engagement	16
Community Perceptions	16
Collaborations	17
Internal Collaborations	17
External Collaborations	17
Campus Climate and Inclusion	18
Campus Climate and Inclusion	18
Concluding Remarks	19
Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement	19
Key Issues	19
Quantitative Outcomes	19
Cool Stuff	20

Goals - Looking Back

No goals have been entered for this section.

Goals - Real Time

Goals for the current Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Promote Sustainability Knowledge and Habits

Goal Statement	Provide opportunities, utilizing academic and student affairs partnerships, to advance students' knowledge and habits as it relates to sustainability.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	
Achievements	<p>-Sustainabilitea is a discussion group that provides a space for educated and informal dialogue about different social justice issues related to sustainability. In total, we have hosted 4 sessions that had 41 students attend. -Trained 6 Green Quad Peer Leaders that are Green Quad Alum to facilitate events and programming. Their events included sustainability-themed service-learning opportunities (8 service opportunities, 90% of students who participated in service-learning felt they gained a better understanding of Sustainability).</p> <p>-Green Scholars is a program has grown from 16 students in the Spring of 2020 to 32 students this fall.</p> <p>-Created and facilitated an in-house sustainability conference that was offered to the UofSC community. (60 students attended)</p> <p>-Integrated sustainability education into 3 GQ University 101 classes (56 students). -Manage CSAP Mentor Program: This mentorship program connects first-year students with trained Green Quad alumni and Sustainable Carolina interns to connect them to sustainability opportunities (28 students).- 3 social distance river clean-ups this semester. (25 students attended)</p>
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	

Goals - Real Time

Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Real Time

Goal 2 - Encourage Interaction between Students and Faculty Principal

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principal.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	
Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FP host 1:1's and out to lunch opportunities for students (conversations focus on research, academics, and goal setting). • FP host multiple events throughout the year to connect with students (70 students have attended this fall). • FP taught U101 for GQ students (19 students) in Fall 2019 and taught sustainability focused lessons for the Green Scholars (36 students) in the Spring semester. • FP guest taught a lesson on marine science for fall 2019 Retreat (24 students). • FB host test reviews for marine science students (25 students). • FP has an outstanding presence in the GQ Living Learning Community and is available and present for students 5 days a week; this accessibility is unique and appreciated by students.
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Real Time

Goal 3 - Promote Academics Through Supportive Living and Learning Environment

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	
Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer 3 sections of GQ University 101 (56 students); giving students access to GQ faculty and staff as consistent support systems in their academics. • Provide weekly tutoring opportunities in the GQ Learning Center for high-fail classes. • FP offers test review sessions to students taking marine science (25 students). • Initiated a monthly Green Quad Leadership Team meetings to address how we can best support any students that we have an academic concern about. • Green Quad houses students that participate in the GeoScholar Program which provides financial and academic support for underrepresented students who have demonstrated financial need and are pursuing undergraduate degrees in the geosciences (21 students in total). • Offer Educational Grants, a scholarship to pay for expenses related to their academic experiences such as classes, conferences, study abroad and certificate programs (\$4,380 awarded last spring). • Invite outside guest speakers and professors in the field of sustainability to present and connect with students. (81 students for Fall 2019)
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Real Time

Goal 4 - Retain Students by Connecting Them to USC Opportunities

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to USC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging to the University.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	
Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During our two signature fall events (Welcome Home Dinner and Fall Equinox) we have a table fair that connects students to organizations and programs on campus (142 attendees). • Green Quad Peer leaders (6 trained Green Quad alum) offer guided on campus service-learning opportunities to GQ residents. (8 offered in fall 2019). • Hosted 3 sections of GQ U101 (56 students) which introduced students to a variety of involvement opportunities. • Green Networking Breakfast and Green Career Fair hosted and introduced to a multitude of opportunities on an off-campus (over 150 attendees). • C.S.A.P program (14 students) connects first-year Green Quad students with a trained Green Quad alum to focus on sustainability. Through intentional programming and relationship building, this program connects students to sustainability opportunities on campus and helps build a sense of belonging at the University of South Carolina.
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goals for the next Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Promote Academics Through Supportive Living and Learning Environment

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Extended to following Academic Year
Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House students from the School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment together in one building: support study groups, tutoring, etc. • Offer more sections (6) of University 101 for GQ students, taught by GQ staff in the Fall of 2020. • Continue to house and support GeoScholars Program (NSF grant-funded partnership). • Host visiting scholars; facilitate student-faculty connections. • Host in-house sustainability conference for GQ students. This offers an accessible way for our students to gain more knowledge in the field of sustainability.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 2 - Retain Students by Connecting Them to USC Opportunities

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to USC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging to the University.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work more closely with the Resident Mentors to engage students within the community. • Co-host Green Networking Breakfast, and Green Career Fair - providing opportunities for students to connect with experiences on and off-campus. • Provide Sustainable Magellan and Experiential Education Scholarships to help students afford opportunities in research, study abroad and more. • Continue the C.S.A.P. mentor program to help first-year students to connect with sustainability opportunities on campus. • Maximize on GQ U101 and Green Scholars to connect students.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 3 - Promote Sustainability Knowledge and Habits

Goal Statement	Provide opportunities, utilizing academic and student affairs partnerships, to advance students' knowledge and habits as it relates to sustainability.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to integrate sustainability knowledge to students in GQ U101 classes. • Increase the number of GQ U101 classes offered from 3 sections to 6 sections. • Continue sustainability education through Green Scholars Program. • Continue to provide educational scholarships to students. • Continue to transition students from our program into the Sustainable Carolina Leadership Program. • Host an in-house sustainability conference facilitated by experts in the field.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 4 - Encourage Interaction between Students and Faculty Principal

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principal.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide 1:1 opportunities for students to interact with FP • Continue to refer students to FP to discuss academics, research, and general goals. • FP will be teaching University 101 course in the Fall. • FP will be co-teaching a sustainability seminar in Spring 2019. • FP will serve as the trip leader for the Green Quad study abroad trip. • Continue Adventures with Joe and Cup of Joe; continue to develop creative ways to connect students to Joe.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	
Goal Upcoming Plans	
Resources Needed	
Goal Notes	

Programs or Initiatives

Effective Programs or Initiatives

List your most effective programs/initiatives toward fulfillment of mission.

- C.S.A.P.(cultivating student advocates program is a mentorship program) is a mentorship program for first-year Green Quad students that are eager to learn about sustainability while navigating their first semester of college. The goal is to support students' endeavors to pursue sustainability, encourage them to find a sense of belonging on campus, and inspire Green Quad students to continue to pursue their passion for sustainability. This semester we teamed up with the Office of Sustainability and recruited mentors from the Sustainable Carolina Internship program. In doing this our hopes are that students would be more interested in joining Sustainable Carolina after they leave Green Quad their freshmen year. This program was first offered in fall 2018 and we had 14 students. This semester our size doubled and we have 28 students. We collected data from the students involved last year and included more community building and networking events per request.

-Our Green Scholars program was revamped this year. Previously we recruited students during the fall semester and would have them become Green Scholars for the spring semester. This year we recruited students over the summer and expanded the program to be one year (Fall 2020 and Spring 2021). New programming for Green Scholars include taking a University 101 twith either our Faculty Principal or Assistant Principal in the fall, attend monthly events (Rocky Branch River Clean Up, Cup of Joe, SustainabilaTEA, participate in individual advising sessions with Green Quad staff, and take a sustainability seminar together in Spring 2021.

-Cup of Joe : Once or twice a month our Faculty Principal host Cup of Joe. This is an opportunity for our residents to connect with their Faculty Principal on a variety of topics. This semester it has been themed around research and career opportunities in sustainability. Attendances and engagement has increased this semester.

Program Launches

List any programs/initiatives that were newly launched during the Academic Year or any programs/initiatives you would like to launch in the coming year(s). Describe the program/initiatives, provide financial requirements (including additional staff), and academic year in which you would launch. What key performance indicators are you utilizing to track the success of this program?

-Sustainabilatea event series was launched this year. It is a space for educated and informal dialogue about different social justice issues related to sustainability that is facilitated by the Assistant Principal of Green Quad. A week prior to the event students will be sent a brief reading or video on the topic. Past discussions have included water access, indigenous rights, the Green New Deal, building inclusive outdoor community.

-Green Quad staff took students to LUMCON, the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium. Students had the opportunity to meet with faculty and scientists. Engage in research, lab work, and field sampling. They also learned about REU (research experiences for undergraduates). Each student that completed the survey highly recommended this experience to other students.

Program Terminations

Programs or Initiatives

List any programs that were newly terminated or discontinued during the Academic Year.

Provide justification as to why the program was discontinued.

-GeoScholars : This semester we accepted 4 new geoscholars. But this will be the last group of Geoscholars because of the NSF grant that financial support this program has ended.

Programs temporarily termination due to COVID : Fall Retreat, Welcome Home event, Fall Equinox, Adventures w/ Joe, Peer Leaders, Green Quad Maymester Study Abroad.

Program Rankings

List any nationally ranked or external recognition during the Academic Year. For each, provide the formal name of the program followed by the name of the organization that issued the ranking, the date of notification, effective date range, and any other relevant information.

Initiatives and Fees

Initiatives

Describe any new initiatives your unit will need for the coming year.

Fees

List any new or changed fees that your unit has implemented or had to take on in the last academic year.

Community Engagement

Community Perceptions

Describe how your unit assesses community perceptions of your engagement, and how the unit assesses the impact of community engagement on students, faculty, community and the institution. Provide specific findings.

Collaborations

Internal Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant internal collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are internal to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

External Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant external collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are external to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Activities the unit conducted that were designed to improve Campus, Climate, and Inclusion.

Concluding Remarks

Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement

What is your unit struggling with? What plans do you have to overcome the weakness that you have faced in the next academic year.

Engaging students virtually can be a challenge especially when many of their courses are also online. We do have some in-person events to try and mitigate this issue.

Spring semester continues to see a drop in attendance - though we have seen great success in focusing in on our engaged Green Scholar population.

The size of our community, as well as the lack of interest, can often be difficult to navigate: a vast majority of our students only live here because they like the apartment-style or its location on campus. Additionally, because of how the current roommate matching process (roommate preference is first), we ultimately end up with students in Green Quad who did not apply to live here.

Another difficulty has been competing with not only other events occurring on campus but also events within our own residential community. We are working with our Area Coordinator to see more ways we can collaborate on events. It would be helpful if the curriculum that resident life h

Key Issues

Identify key issues or potential challenges your unit will encounter this coming year and the steps you plan on initiating.

Lack of attachment to the theme: Many of our residents are choosing to live here because of the apartment-style, location on campus and/or their preferred roommate wanted to live in Green Quad. Due to these factors, we have many students who do not value sustainability. Although this presents challenges, it does give us an opportunity to create awareness about sustainability to students who may not have been exposed otherwise.
Competing events occurring on campus and within our own residential hall.

Lack of engagement in the spring continues to be a problem; we have found that enrolling students in a specific program at the end of fall helps (i.e. Green Scholars Program), but this still is a key issue for us.

Quantitative Outcomes

Explain any surprises regarding data provided in the quantitative outcomes modules throughout this report.

- 8 service opportunities with 90% of students who participated in service-learning felt they gained a better understanding of Sustainability.
- 14 students engaged in the mentorship program (C.S.A.P.).
- 142 attendees to 2 Fall signature events (Welcome Home Dinner and Fall Equinox).
- 36 students participate in Green Scholars.

Concluding Remarks

- Offered 3 Green Quad U101 courses, 56 students engaged.
- Over 100 attendees at Green Networking and Green Career Fair.
- 15 Faculty Principal events hosted throughout the year.
- 36 students participated in Green Scholars.
- 56 students engaged in GQ University 101 section.
- 128 attendees at Green Networking and Green Career Fair.

Cool Stuff

Describe innovations, happy accidents, good news, etc. that occurred within your unit not noted elsewhere in your reporting.

This fall Green Quad hosted Buzz Scott, an expert in the field of Marine Science for a 3-day visit. During this time he visited multiple classes and clubs advised by GQ staff. Additionally, we had students sign up to have 1:1 meetings and/or share a meal with him to network and learn about opportunities in the field. During his time at Green Quad, he met with 81 students. Multiple Green Quad students have begun the process of applying to work with him this summer at OceansWide, an education and research program for ocean exploration and awareness. Due to the high level of engagement and excitement from our students, we would like to host more opportunities and bring in sustainability experts from other fields of work.