Sustainability and Climate Resolution

Approved by the Faculty, February 17, 2020

Rationale for putting forward the resolution

1. Whereas the Paris Agreement on climate change (2015); the International Panel on Climate Change Report (2018); and the Fourth National Climate Assessment Report by the US Global Change Research Program (2018) have all warned of the catastrophic dangers to humans and the earth if climate change is not addressed;
2. Whereas Indiana and other Midwest legislators are leading and participating in the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucuses in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House;
3. Whereas IU is internationally recognized as an Innovative University in *Reuters' Top 100: The World's Most Innovative Universities*;
4. Whereas Core Value 7 of the IU Bicentennial Strategic Plan commits to "Sustainability, stewardship, and accountability for the natural, human, and economic resources and relationships entrusted to IU";
5. Whereas Action Items of the Strategic Plan include the goal "to solidify IU's focus on efficient and environmentally conscious campus design and operation";
6. Whereas IU Kokomo General Education Diversity Learning Outcomes emphasize social sustainability by requiring graduates "*Demonstrate the impact (such as economic, educational, health) of power differentials as they relate to individual or group characteristics, such as race, ethnicity, class, age, disability, sexuality, gender, religion, nationality, and/or language."*
7. Whereas IU Kokomo General Education Ethically Responsible Citizenship Learning Outcomes emphasize global citizenship by requiring graduates "*Evaluate the various ethical dimensions" and "Analyze and assess possible solutions to one or more social or civic problems in local, national, or global communities."*
8. Whereas IU Kokomo serves to prepare students for a 21st century global economy by delivering innovative and relevant academic programs and recognizes that current and future university students have made climate concerns and sustainable practices a high priority.

Now, therefore be it resolved that

IU Kokomo, through collaborations of its constituent groups in administration, faculty, staff, and students, will work cooperatively to

1. prioritize sustainability and a climate action-plan as major, long-term goals of the campus, in all areas of strategic planning;
2. actively support and promote the work of the Office of Sustainability and academic programs in sustainability, such as the Collaborative B.A. in Sustainability Studies, the B.S. in Biological and Physical Sciences Earth and Sustainability Sciences track, and the Minor in Sustainability;
3. create effective communication and collaboration between administration, faculty, staff, and students as we implement and model sustainable best-practices and use of renewable resources to the IU Kokomo campus, student body, and wider community, for the *next* 50 years and beyond;
4. anticipate the post-carbon, sustainable economic era and preserve fiscal responsibility while actively pursuing the goal of carbon neutrality; and
5. collaborate with the greater Indiana University System to achieve the goal of carbon neutral by 2040, ahead of what is advocated by the International Panel on Climate Change Report.