

# Executive Summary

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## Blueprint for Academic Excellence Green Quad AY2022-2023

### Highlights

This academic year brought some big successes as well as some great challenges that impacted both our campus and world. We have all learned first hand the impacts of the global pandemic. During this time our team was both flexible and resourceful to meet the needs of our students. We understood that health and safety is our top priority and therefore adjusted our programming to incorporate social distancing and virtual options as well. This past year we were able to expand and grow our mentorship program and our Green Scholars program.

### Mission Statement

Green Quad is a sustainable living-learning community that seeks to connect and develop students while building a rich community in which students incorporate sustainability into their daily knowledge and habits. Green Quad students will leave with the confidence and know-how to influence their peers and impact their world.

Sustainable: meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Our Common Future, 1987).

Updated: 02/13/2018

### Vision Statement

Through rich partnerships across all divisions of the University and throughout our community, Green Quad strives to be a national model for sustainable living-learning programs from which students undoubtedly leave with the knowledge and confidence to make a lasting impact on their world.

### Values Statement

Updated: 02/13/2018

# Table Of Content

<b>Executive Summary</b>	1
Highlights	1
Mission Statement	1
Vision Statement	1
Values Statement	1
<b>Goals - Looking Back</b>	3
<b>Goals - Real Time</b>	4
<b>Goals - Looking Ahead</b>	8
<b>Programs or Initiatives</b>	12
Effective Programs or Initiatives	12
Program Launches	12
Program Terminations	13
Program Rankings	13
<b>Initiatives and Fees</b>	14
Initiatives	14
Fees	14
<b>Community Engagement</b>	15
Community Perceptions	15
<b>Collaborations</b>	16
Internal Collaborations	16
External Collaborations	16
<b>Campus Climate and Inclusion</b>	17
Campus Climate and Inclusion	17
<b>Concluding Remarks</b>	18
Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement	18
Key Issues	18
Quantitative Outcomes	18
Cool Stuff	18

## **Goals - Looking Back**

**No goals have been entered for this section.**

# Goals - Real Time

Goals for the current Academic Year.

## Goal 1 - Support for academic attainment

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	
<b>Achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer 3 sections of GQ University 101 (57 students); giving students access to GQ faculty and staff as consistent support systems in their academics.</li> <li>• House students from the School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment together in one building: support study groups, tutoring.</li> <li>• Offer Educational Grants, a scholarship to pay for expenses related to their academic experiences such as classes, conferences, study abroad and certificate programs.</li> <li>• Invite outside guest speakers and professors in the field of sustainability to present and connect with students.</li> <li>• Hosted advising sessions with students to discuss their academics and career pursuits. (120 advising session).</li> </ul>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 2 - Connecting students to UofSC

<b>Goal Statement</b>	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.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	
<b>Achievements</b>	<p>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted 3 sections of GQ U101 (56 students) which introduced students to a variety of involvement opportunities.</li> <li>• Green Networking Breakfast and Green Career Fair hosted and introduced to a multitude of opportunities on an off-campus (over 150 attendees).</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 3 - Connections to Faculty Principal

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with the Faculty Principal.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	
<b>Achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FP host monthly events throughout the year to connect with students. (Cup of Joe and Ask Joe Anything).</li> <li>• FP taught U101 for GQ students (19 students).</li> <li>• FP co instructed one section of U290, a sustainability seminar for our residents.</li> <li>• FP co advises the Green Scholars program and provides mentorship and advising for our student leaders (30 students).</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 4 - Promote Sustainability Knowledge and Habits

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Provide opportunities, utilizing academic and student affairs partnerships, to advance students' knowledge and habits as it relates to sustainability.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	
<b>Achievements</b>	<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, 102 students have attended this past year.</p> <p>-Facilitate the Green Scholars program, a year long sustainability leadership program in Green Quad. This year we hosted 30 Green Scholars.</p> <p>-Offered monthly Rocky Branch River Clean Up.</p> <p>-Integrated sustainability education into 3 GQ University 101 classes (57 students).</p> <p>-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 (29 students).</p> <p>- Offered two U290 Sustainability Seminars sections to Green Quad residents (30 students).</p>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

Goals for the next Academic Year.

## Goal 1 - Support for academic attainment

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Provide supportive living and learning environments and encourage engagement and high impact practices that promote academic attainment of resident students.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Extended to following Academic Year
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue advising sessions.</li> <li>• Continue housing SEOE students on the same floor.</li> <li>• Offer tutoring in the Learning Center (due to COVID we had to cancel the tutoring)</li> <li>• Continue to provide Sustainable Magellan and Experiential Education Scholarships to help students afford opportunities in research, study abroad and more.</li> <li>• Offer more sections of University 101 for GQ students, taught by GQ staff in the Fall of 2022.</li> <li>• Host visiting scholars; facilitate student-faculty connections.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	



# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 2 - Diverse connections to UofSC

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Ensure that students from all groups are connected to UofSC and that all students are exposed to diversity and develop an attitude of inclusiveness and understanding of equity.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to center sustainability in environmental justice. This is a critical aspects of bringing all students into the conversation of sustainability.</li> <li>• Continue hosting DIY Natural Hair Series.</li> <li>• Continue to have gender inclusive housing at Green Quad.</li> <li>• Work more closely with the Resident Mentors to host conversations about DEI.</li> <li>• Work with housing to create gender inclusive bathrooms in the learning center.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 3 - Encourage Interaction between Students and Faculty Principal

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principal.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to provide 1:1 opportunities for students to interact with FP.</li> <li>• Continue to refer students to FP to discuss academics, research, and general goals.</li> <li>• FP will be co-teaching a sustainability seminar in Spring 2021.</li> <li>• Have our FP serve as the trip leader for a Green Quad study abroad trip.</li> <li>• Continue Adventures with Joe and Cup of Joe; continue to develop creative ways to connect students to Joe.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 4 - Promote Sustainability Knowledge and Habits

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Provide opportunities, utilizing academic and student affairs partnerships, to advance students' knowledge and habits as it relates to sustainability.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Aligns with mission, vision, and values.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to integrate sustainability knowledge to students in GQ U101 classes.</li> <li>• Increase the number of GQ U101 classes offered from 2 sections to 4 sections.</li> <li>• Continue sustainability education through Green Scholars Program.</li> <li>• Continue to provide educational scholarships to students.</li> <li>• Continue to transition students from our program into the Sustainable Carolina Leadership Program.</li> <li>• Host an in-house sustainability conference facilitated by experts in the field.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Programs or Initiatives

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## 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 is offered once or twice a month by our Faculty Principal. 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?*

-DIY Event Series: "Do It Yourself" is an event series that was created to show students how to sustainability make their own products. Students were able to learn about some of the harmful products they use each day and discuss better solutions.

-Rocky Branch River Clean Up: In the past we have offered this opportunity sporadically. This year we created a more consistent schedule for rocky branch and invest in supplies to support students in cleaning up the river. This event series was a great success and was very engaging for our students.

-AJA (Ask Joe Anything): This is a series where students have the opportunity to gain knowledge and information from their Faculty Principal,. Topics ranged from excel, connecting with faculty, and money management. Want to pick Joe's brain on using Excel,asking a faculty member for help

# Programs or Initiatives

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## **Program Terminations**

*List any programs that were newly terminated or discontinued during the Academic Year. Provide justification as to why the program was discontinued.*

## **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

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## **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

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## 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.*

Throughout the semester our office integrates assessment into our programming. In some of our programs including Green Scholars and CSAP we do pre and post assessment to see if students knowledge and understanding of sustainability has grown. Additionally we ask students who have attended our events to participate in assessment. This helps us understand the effectiveness of our programs and how we can continue to grow. Additionally at the end of the academic year we have sent out an assessment survey to the entire green quad community.

# Collaborations

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## 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.*

- Office of Sustainability
- School of Earth, Ocean and Environment
- Office of Undergraduate Research
- Other Faculty-Led Living Learning Communities
- Aramark

## 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.*

- Due to COVID we had limited interactions with external collaborations. This is something we usually strive to do in other years.



# Campus Climate and Inclusion

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## Campus Climate and Inclusion

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

- Hosted SustainabilityTEA discussion series themed around social and environmental justice. Interested students were sent a reading and or video around our designated themed prior to our discussion. Topics included indigenous land rights, sustainability in politics, gentrification etc.
- Supported and housed GeoScholars.
- Ensure that conversations around sustainability are rooted in equity and justice. Often we find that we need to challenge our students to view sustainability holistically and push the conversation outside just the environment. We strive for our students to understand that social issues that impact people need to be included in their definition of sustainability.

# Concluding Remarks

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## 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.*

Historically it has been difficult to compete with not only other events occurring on campus but also events within our own residential community. We would like to see more collaboration between LLC's and Housing staff in Green Quad.

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: some of our students only live here because they like the apartment-style or its location on campus.

## Key Issues

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

Building relationship with Housing Staff so we are able to work as a full unit.

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, 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.*

- 63 students attended a Rocky Branch River Clean Up
- 102 students attended Sustainabilitea.
- 29 students engaged in the mentorship program (C.S.A.P.).
- 120 advising sessions hosted.
- 30 students participate in Green Scholars.
- Offered 3 Green Quad U101 courses, 56 students engaged.
- 12 Faculty Principal events hosted throughout the year.

## Cool Stuff

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

This spring the students in our U290 class (sustainability seminar) were split into groups and worked on a semester long project. They were tasked to create a vision of a "Sustainable University of South Carolina". Each group was assigned to a specific focus area of sustainability on a college campus. Students were provided with contact information for faculty and staff that worked in their focus area at the University of South Carolina and other campuses. At our final class of the semester the students presented their research and

# Concluding Remarks

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created a proposal.

This fall we hired a student worker. He is a previous resident of Green Quad and a former Green Scholar. He has been working to support our current group of Green Scholars, manages our social media, and supports in planning events for our students. His perspective in the office has been extremely helpful!