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Hanley Sustainability Institute Newsletter

Hanley Sustainability Institute

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Fall 2021

## Sustainability Spotlight

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### *HSI strategic plan rollout special edition*

## **Hanley Sustainability Institute to hire 4 leaders, focus on 10 goals set in HSI's new strategic plan**

The Hanley Sustainability Institute will hire four part-time University of Dayton directors to oversee four strategic areas and help implement 10 goals named in [HSI's strategic planning initiative](#) to confront today's urgent global challenges.

Cincinnati-based non-profit Design Impact collaborated with HSI to gather input from a diverse group of more than 250 people. The initiative reflects the perspectives of students, faculty and staff at the University of Dayton and local partners in the greater Dayton region.

The strategic planning process took place from 2019-2021 and was prolonged but also influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan outlines four key strategic priorities to inspire and guide bold action. While HSI's commitment to this work isn't new (see HSI's [2018-2020 impact report](#)), this plan captures the renewed commitment and clarity for HSI's future.

"This plan builds upon the work of generations of UD students before and after the founding of the Hanley Sustainability Institute," said HSI Executive Director Ben McCall. "The exciting next step was to formulate a forward-looking plan, add directors to coordinate efforts and put the strategy into real action to meet these goals."

The four priority areas identified during the planning process are: Developing Leaders for a Just Future; Facilitating Impactful Research; Catalyzing Institutional Transformation; and Engaging Communities Beyond Campus.

The four directors, [to be selected from current faculty and staff](#), will devote their HSI work time to planning and implementing their respective strategic areas. The institute also is announcing a call for expressions of interest from interested parties.

The four strategic areas are listed below:

**Developing Leaders for a Just Future:** Inspire, prepare and equip students to leave campus aware of their role and confident in the tools they have to be transformative leaders for a better, more just, and sustainable future; **Strategic goals:** **1** - Strengthen and Expand Sustainability Education to the Entire Student Body; **2** - foster Student Leadership and Advocacy; **3** - Integrate Sustainability into the UD Student Life Experience

**Facilitating Impactful Research:** Catalyze and support transdisciplinary and community-based research that addresses root causes and drives action on sustainability challenges, globally and locally; **Strategic goals:** **1** - Catalyze Meaningful Research Partnerships; **2** - Support and Promote Sustainability Research

**Catalyzing Institutional Transformation:** The University can model and create a more sustainable future by transforming its policies and practices with the engagement of leadership, staff, faculty, and students; **Strategic goals:** **1** - Co-Facilitate Campus Sustainability Planning and Coordination; **2** - Inspire and Enable Sustainability Efforts Across Campus

**Engaging Communities Beyond Campus:** Advance sustainability, resilience and integral ecology beyond UD by creating deep and mutually beneficial relationships with community partners; **Strategic goals:** **1** - Support Sustainability Planning and Tracking Beyond UD; **2** - Become a Resource and Hub for Sustainability Education Beyond UD; **3** - Facilitate Campus-Community Climate Resilience Efforts

HSI, which was founded in 2014 with a major gift from George '77 and Amanda Hanley, has strived to build on decades of student, faculty and staff efforts to become a leader in sustainability.

"The HSI's strategic plan has been crafted through a highly inclusive, consultative process," said University of Dayton Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs Paul Benson. "The resulting plan is well conceived and powerful. It will provide valuable focus for the next exciting phase of the Institute's high-impact work across the plan's four themes." [HSI Strategic Planning history](#).

As part of the strategic plan and inspired by Pope Francis's call to integral ecology in [On Care for Our Common Home](#) (Laudato Si'), HSI also developed the following vision and mission statements:

**Vision statement:** Cultivating a just transition to a sustainable future that protects and preserves humanity and the planet.

**Mission statement:** HSI's mission is to be a dynamic learning community that advances sustainability by educating and mentoring transformational leaders, facilitating impactful and transdisciplinary research, catalyzing sustainable practices within our institution, and building caring relationships with communities beyond campus.

For more sustainability news and information, visit [HSI's news blog](#), the [Hanley Sustainability Institute website](#) and the [sustainability program website](#). To sign up for HSI's Sustainability Spotlight newsletter, [register here](#).

## **HSI calls for UD faculty and staff to submit letters of expressions of interest for director positions**

The Hanley Sustainability Institute is looking to expand its leadership team through the appointment of four part-time directors and encourages interested faculty and staff to consider these positions. Each director will work with the rest of the HSI team and the broader campus community to provide leadership in one of the strategic priority areas in [HSI's strategic plan](#). These areas are entitled “Developing Leaders for a Just Future,” “Facilitating Impactful Research,” “Catalyzing Institutional Transformation,” and “Engaging Communities Beyond Campus.”

In Fall 2021, the directors will co-lead the development of an implementation plan to pursue the goals identified in the strategic plan, and in Spring 2022 they will begin leading programmatic activities in support of those goals. Subject to mutual agreement, the directors will continue in the 2022-2023 academic year to continue executing the implementation plan. The positions will be structured as one academic year renewable appointments; in most cases, we anticipate that directors would not serve more than three consecutive one-year terms.

The directors will work closely with HSI’s staff, faculty and graduate fellows to develop and implement programs in their strategic priority areas. Each director will also develop a budget to support their programs; HSI has allocated significant funding for new programming to be led by the four directors.

For Fall 2021, these appointments will be on an additional service basis, with an anticipated time commitment of ~10% and a stipend. Starting in Spring 2022, the appointments will be structured to allow the directors to devote approximately 25% of their time to HSI work. For faculty members serving as directors, this would include workload adjustments (in many cases, one course release per semester) and an appropriate amount of summer salary. For staff members serving as directors, arrangements would need to be made to free up sufficient time for the HSI work without unduly burdening their home units (this could include a partial buyout from the home units).

The appointments will be made by the executive director after an open and consultative search process that will involve consultation with current HSI staff and faculty, other faculty and staff who work closely with HSI, and administrative leaders.

The ideal candidates will be passionate about sustainability, effective in communicating and collaborating with faculty, staff, and students from a variety of backgrounds, and able to formulate a vision for what their role might look like. Prior administrative experience is beneficial but not necessary. Current or past engagement with HSI is also desirable and preferred, but not required. Candidates are expected to hold full-time UD faculty appointments (whether tenure-track or non-tenure-track) or full-time exempt staff appointments, although in exceptional cases we would consider part-time faculty members.

Potential candidates are encouraged to reach out to HSI Executive Director Ben McCall ([bjmccall@udayton.edu](mailto:bjmccall@udayton.edu)) to schedule an informal discussion to explore the possibilities. Potential candidates are also encouraged to consult with their supervisors or department chairs before submitting an expression of interest.

Expressions of interest should include a CV/resume and a 1-2 page letter that outlines the candidate’s interest in a particular strategic priority area.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to [bjmccall@udayton.edu](mailto:bjmccall@udayton.edu) by Sept. 21, 2021 for full consideration.

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#### LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH OTHER SUSTAINABILITY-MINDED PROS?

Help build the wider community of professionals working in sustainability or those planning such a career. Consider joining HSI's LinkedIn page to keep up with news, share ideas or make that next contact for a project, internship or initiative.

[Request to join.](#)

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## Upcoming events

- **Sept. 10: BioBlitz:** Join Five Rivers MetroParks, Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC) and the UD community to collect data on campus wildlife, learn wildlife ID, and contribute to citizen science. [Click here](#) to register and read the schedule.
- **Sept. 21-23, 27: Women in Clean Energy Conference** hosted by the University of Dayton. [Click here](#) for the conference homepage.
- **Oct. 12-14: GCSHE conference:** As a host, UD gets **free unlimited registrations**. [Click here](#) for the link how to register.
- **Oct. 21: PIVOT conference:** Co-hosted by HSI, HEAPY and Dayton Regional Green, this year's event is at Sinclair Community College. [Click here](#) for details and to register.
- **Tell us about your event:** If you have a sustainability-related event, please email details to [hsi@udayton.edu](mailto:hsi@udayton.edu).

## Sustainability Program

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