

C4E Draft (12-22-2011) Vision Statement

Question: What do we want a center for the environment to do at Purdue?

1. Promote long-term collaborations among faculty addressing some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges. **Position Purdue to make more important contributions toward solving several of these environmental challenges in the coming decades.**
2. Position Purdue to assume global leadership in environmental issues that represent areas of strength among faculty at Purdue.
3. Work with faculty to identify, support, and build research communities in key areas of strength on campus for the long haul. **Help Purdue identify new and emerging environmental challenges to be ready for funding opportunities and create them rather than waiting for or reacting to RFPs.** Help coordinate new hiring initiatives across departments, and help in recruiting new, interdisciplinary environmental faculty and graduate students.
4. **Increase visibility** of Purdue's environmental research and teaching both internally and externally including actively maintaining a presence with funding agencies and program managers.
5. Help connect faculty and center expertise, including **helping to create and support new centers** of environmental interdisciplinary research.
6. Promote **and facilitate the development of new and existing interdisciplinary, environmental education programs for graduate and undergraduate students.** For graduate programs this could include support for and integration with the ESE IGP, as well as a prominent role in new proposals for graduate environmental policy certificate program linked to GPRI, special graduate fellowships or post docs for students focused on cross-cutting environmental research issues. For undergraduate programs this could include support, promotion, and expansion of existing undergraduate programs such as the pre-ES, NRES, and EEE programs, and facilitation of marketable undergraduate majors or minors related to environment studies associated with science and policy, and sustainability.
7. Work closely with administration and other stakeholders on **implementing the campus sustainability strategic plan.** Promote and facilitate the idea of Purdue's campus as a "living laboratory" for sustainability issues.
8. Help **environmental faculty and students interact** and meet in a variety of settings, both more formal and more informal, to build relationships across areas of interest and departments.
9. Work closely and proactively with other stakeholders, such as the VP for Engagement and GPRI, to **increase impact** of environmental research at Purdue on both public and private sectors.