

# RESOLUTION

## *Council of Graduate Students – University of Minnesota*

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**Topic:** Creation of a Graduate Student Sustainability Committee

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**WHEREAS** environmental sustainability is a crucial global goal reflected by various practices, pursuits, and studies for both faculty and students at the University of Minnesota;

**WHEREAS** University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks has, as of January 22<sup>nd</sup> of this year, signed a landmark University Presidents Climate Commitment to minimize negative environmental impact<sup>1</sup> and bestowed upon VP for University Services Kathleen O'Brien an official capacity to oversee the University's sustainability efforts, further evidencing the University's timely integration of sustainability into its short- and long-term goals<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS** such responsibilities for ensuring sustainability rest not only on the shoulders of University administration but also on the very students in whom the future and reputation of the University is invested;

**WHEREAS** the Council of Graduate Students, its program representatives, and graduate students in general at the University of Minnesota are uniquely positioned to work with faculty and administration on ensuring such positive sustainable practices are employed and/or considered in terms of curricula ranging from the sciences to humanities, academic policy, academic development, physical material and waste disposal, career development, land development, etc.;

**BE IT SO RESOLVED** that the Council of Graduate Students will form a new Committee for the Promotion of Sustainability, which will work with University Services, CFANS' Institute for Social, Economic, and Ecological Sustainability (ISEES), various environmental student and local organizations (e.g., MPIRG, EcoWatch, Applied Environmental Solutions), faculty, and other students to help facilitate the integration of sustainable practices and philosophies into aforementioned aspects of University development.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mndaily.com/articles/2008/01/22/72165064>

<sup>2</sup> Previewed at <http://www.uservices.umn.edu/sustainableU/future.html>