

Senate Environment Committee Priorities 2009-2010

Natural Area Preservation

1. (a) Request that President Stanley endorse former President Kenny's support for permanent protection of the Ashley Schiff Park Preserve. (b) Work with him to support the SEC and the Friends of Ashley Schiff Park Preserve in getting the support of the Chancellor and the SUNY Council in supporting State Assembly Bill 8740, submitted by Legislator Steven Englebright.
2. Designate and prepare Lake Briana (East Recharge) to serve as a living laboratory for academic ecological studies, while maintaining its functions as a recharge and protected wetland.
3. (a) Discuss and comment on proposed hotel plan; (b) advise on construction and remediation.
4. Participate in Main campus environmental master planning.
5. Work with campus planners to develop a preservation/sustainable development plan for west campus, south woods (a.k.a. Clara's woods).

Innovation

1. Reconvene SBU Energy Task Force and develop specific energy conservation initiatives.
2. Study parking issues, especially alternatives to new parking space creation.
3. Rethink campus landscape in the following ways: (a) restoring to forest or low-maintenance native vegetation non-functional grass-covered and derelict areas, (b) develop a plan for control of invasive flora and fauna while maintaining a healthy forest understory, (c) create water gardens and other ecologically functional ornamental areas. The goal will be to improve campus aesthetics, provide habitat, offset and reduce run-off from impermeable surfaces (including parking lots and grass areas), and reduce carbon-intensive landscape maintenance practices.

Quality of Life

1. Assess effectiveness of smoke-free campus regulation changes.