

Policy and Procedures for Green Building at Northland College

(Approved by the Board of Trustees on May 6, 2000)

Recognizing Northland College's goal to be the nation's leading environmental liberal arts college, this policy and procedure on green building has been developed by the Environmental Council, recommended by the Campus Facilities Master Planning Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Green building is "the application of ecological thinking to the business of creating places for people to live and work." It draws upon the best thinking that results in sustainable design and construction which generally proves to be economically feasible and which will illustrate Northland College's commitment to sustainable building practices.

The Northland College Strategic Plan and the Northland College Sustainability Charter support this approach. The college also recognizes that student participation in major campus building projects provides important educational opportunities as well as sound design for those who use the facility most.

The Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide (www.sustainabledesignguide.umn.edu) will be used to rate the contributions of the college's major construction projects according to the following procedures.

Process:

1. The college's interest in and commitment to green building will be communicated to all design professionals invited to submit proposals for college projects costing more than \$250,000. Proposals will be expected to address green building practices.
2. Design teams selected for a project will be expected to inform themselves about the Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide process.
3. Early in the design process the architects will provide an opportunity for campus wide input to the plans. One component of this public forum will be how the Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide criteria will be addressed.
4. As part of the schematic design proposals the design team will address options for meeting Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide criteria. Targets will be selected in consultation with the Campus Facilities Master Planning Committee.

5. As the designers develop the final construction documents, they will include specifications for the selected green building options. They will provide a written summary of the final green components of the project and its informal rating in the Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide process. This information will be communicated with the campus community.
6. General contractors selected to build projects will be made aware of the commitment to green building, of the green specifications within the construction plans, and of the expectation that they and their subcontractors adhere to the spirit as well as the letter of the green specifications. Where applicable the general contractor will be required to verify compliance.
7. The process as well as the final functioning of each building will be evaluated so the learning can inform the next project.