

Director of Sustainability Position Description

Position Overview

As a key member of the Executive Vice President and Treasurer's (EVPT) Senior Management Team, the Director of Sustainability will strive to integrate sustainability into all aspects of the Institute and work to deepen MIT's position as a recognized leader for sustainability in higher education. The Director will be responsible for developing a coherent, campus-wide sustainability program by leading, coordinating and communicating sustainability efforts across campus, guiding sustainability policy, and mitigating the Institute's environmental impact. This is a unique opportunity for the Director to interact with faculty and students involved in research and education through the world renowned MIT Energy Initiative (<http://mitei.mit.edu/>), and the vision of converting the MIT Campus into a true laboratory. He/she will provide outreach to faculty, students and staff to foster a culture of sustainability and social entrepreneurship on campus, and incorporate sustainability efforts into learning and research activities as opportunities arise. He/she will act as liaison to Cambridge municipal and non-governmental communities around sustainability issues, develop corporate partnerships, and act as a spokesperson for sustainability efforts at the Institute. The Director will insure the integration of sustainable practices in capital planning and construction projects, and throughout the Institute's accelerated capital renewal program. The Director of Sustainability will report to the Executive Vice President and Treasurer.

Principal Activities

- Steward sustainability initiatives on behalf of the Institute and act as a resource for administrative areas, academic departments, and research laboratories and centers wishing to pursue sustainability initiatives that maximize environmental performance.
- Interact with faculty and students involved in research and education through the MIT Energy Initiative, and work to realize the vision of the Campus Energy Task Force of the campus as a laboratory.
- Work closely with the Directors of Facilities, Planning, Utilities to insure sustainable practices and principles are integrated into new construction, renovations, standards, plans and studies; and to integrate sustainability into energy management, operations, maintenance, grounds keeping, solid waste removal, and cleaning practices. Work directly with staff across these areas to help coordinate efforts.
- Work with the Director of Environmental Health and Safety on matters related to environmental stewardship and pollution prevention.
- Develop and maintain tools, metrics, and indicators for assessing progress towards sustainability goals.
- Assist with the development of policies related to sustainability, and serve on standing and ad hoc committees on issues of sustainability.
- Work with the EVPT Executive Director to establish and maintain an effective communications strategy, with the objective of raising internal and external awareness

of and support for campus sustainability efforts and related activities.

- Keep abreast of best practices in sustainability, particularly at other institutions of higher education, and effectively communicate MIT's sustainability efforts.
- Interact with faculty and students involved in research and education through MIT's Energy Initiative and other related centers.
- Support and act as a resource for students, faculty, and staff interested in doing projects with a focus on campus sustainability issues or that use the campus as a laboratory for learning about sustainability.
- Develop expanded opportunities for community engagement.
- Develop a comprehensive sustainability data collection and analysis systems
- Work closely with the cities of Cambridge and Boston to ensure the development of city wide sustainability solutions.

REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelor's degree in environmental science, policy, or engineering, sustainable development, architecture, institutional planning or related field required, with advanced degree preferred. A minimum of ten years experience implementing sustainability programs, or programs in a related field such as planning, environmental or resource management, with substantial relevant leadership expertise required. Understanding of sustainability theories and local, national, and global sustainability initiatives and best practices required. Proven ability to develop and execute new programs within an academic setting, skill at problem solving and thinking analytically, excellent oral and written communication skills, comfort with public speaking, and ability to foster collaboration across diverse constituencies essential. Ability to craft and execute strategy to achieve organizational goals.