ASU Charter

ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves.

Eight design aspirations guide ASU’s ongoing evolution as a New American University. ASU integrates these institutional objectives in innovative ways to demonstrate excellence, access and impact.

- **Leverage Our Place**
  ASU embraces its cultural, socioeconomic and physical setting.

- **Enable Student Success**
  ASU is committed to the success of each unique student.

- **Transform Society**
  ASU catalyzes social change by being connected to social needs.

- **Fuse Intellectual Disciplines**
  ASU creates knowledge by transcending academic disciplines.

- **Value Entrepreneurship**
  ASU uses its knowledge and encourages innovation.

- **Be Socially Embedded**
  ASU connects with communities through mutually beneficial partnerships.

- **Conduct Use-Inspired Research**
  ASU research has purpose and impact.

- **Engage Globally**
  ASU engages with people and issues locally, nationally and internationally.

See more: schoolofsustainability.asu.edu
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School of Sustainability

Toward 2025 and Beyond
Arizona State University (ASU) has become the foundational model for the New American University, a new paradigm for the public research university that transforms higher education. ASU is committed to excellence, access and impact in everything that it does.

In 2006, ASU founded the nation’s first School of Sustainability, now recognized globally as the leading program of its kind.

Mission & Goals / 2015-2025

Develop scalable solutions to sustainability challenges through world-leading education, research and partnership programs

Demonstrate leadership in academic excellence and accessibility

- Maintain the highest freshman persistence rates (90-95%) of any college
- Improve 4-year graduate rate to 80% and 6-year graduation rate to 85%
- Double the headcount (to 4,000) in sustainability programs
- Match school’s student population to Arizona’s socioeconomic diversity
- Double the enrollment and graduation of students from Title I schools
- Develop articulation programs with community colleges in California, Hawai’i and other western states to increase production of baccalaureate degrees in sustainability

Establish national standing in academic quality and impact in sustainability

- Maintain national standing as the #1 program in sustainability for academic quality
- Triple the current number of high-achieving faculty of national and international distinction (e.g. members of the National Academies, AAAS Fellows, Nobel Laureates) in sustainability programs
- Achieve highest points nationally for academic quality in AASHE STARS rating system
- Place 75% of graduates in sustainability-related careers (triple the major-to-career-match national average)

Establish SOS as a leading global center for interdisciplinary research, discovery and development in sustainability by 2025

- Create and enroll students in seamless undergraduate and master’s sustainability degree programs with the PLoS Alliance
- Through the Global Consortium for Sustainability Outcomes, lead 60 universities and research centers from 4 continents in designing and implementing scalable sustainability solutions
- Enhance global competitiveness to more than $140 million in annual research expenditures
- Engage 50 Fortune 100 companies in sustainability research and implementation partnerships

Enhance the local impact and social embeddedness of SOS

- Offer introductory sustainability classes in all high schools and middle schools in Maricopa County
- Assist the City of Phoenix in reaching its goal of 40% waste diversion by 2020
- Work with Maricopa County to eliminate non-attainment days for criteria air pollutants
- Work with US and Mexican partners to maintain an assured 100-year water supply in the Colorado River Basin
- Achieve the 2025 renewable energy standards by 2020 in partnership with the State of Arizona, counties, cities, tribal governments, and the private and non-profit sectors
- Eliminate heat-related emergency room visits through reduced UHI and better emergency management for vulnerable populations
- Reduce by half the amount of food waste in Maricopa County through education, management and partnerships (e.g. food banks, composting companies)
- Double the number of green jobs in Maricopa County

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