

XI. SUSTAINABILITY

California State University, Chico is, fundamentally, a place of public purpose and service. We fulfill our responsibilities through the high aspirations we set for ourselves and the values that inform and govern our endeavors. We aim to be a leader in American higher education by building on our core commitments, connecting to our region and helping to create a more just and vibrant democratic society. Among the choices we've made to prepare our students for the challenges they will face are cultivating respect for the planet and championing sustainable development.

The term "sustainable development" assumes that the people of the world have a common future and that they can and must work together to protect it. Our job, as members of a university community, is to help students see the relationship among environmental, social, and economic issues. Because we want sustainability to be infused across the curriculum we adopted a plank in our Strategic Plan that affirms our belief that each generation owes something to those who follow and that we will create environmentally literate citizens who embrace sustainability as a way of living.

Embracing this core value of the University requires us to act on it. As you become more familiar with the campus culture, you will see that faculty, staff, students, and other members of the Chico State family are acting to make a sustainable future a reality. They are helping to implement the University's vision and values and they are making a commitment to create a vital community of public purpose and service. We hope you will recognize the importance of this effort and that you will join us in it.

For more information on sustainable practices, visit The Institute for Sustainable Development online at <http://www.csuchico.edu/sustainablefuture/>.