

Environmental Affairs Committee

Last year, the Environmental Affairs Committee (EAC) worked on encouraging faculty to "green" their curriculum by including a module on climate change and how it related to their discipline. Faculty were encouraged to show students solutions and how their discipline was combating climate change to avoid eco-depression. Committee chair & vice chair presented this information to the Communication & Media Studies department and facilitated a workshop during spring 2026 FLEX day (You Don't Need to Be a Scientist to 'Climatize your Curriculum').

The committee worked on the SMC Climate Action Plan and provided suggestions for language to include in the job advertisements for key senior staff and administrators who will be leading the college into the future.

The EAC discussed the lack of affordable and diverse food options on campus for students and staff and investigated the challenges that create the problem. The committee supported the Associated students and A.S. Sustainability Director to bring plant-based meal samples to campus during Earth week. Surveys from that activity provided valuable feedback for the vendor and demonstrated that plant-based meals were well received by the students.

For the 2026-27 year, the committee will continue its work on climatizing the curriculum with an equity and environmental justice lens. The committee will continue to work with campus stakeholders to investigate opportunities for increasing food options across campus. The committee plans on surveying departments and programs across campus to create an inventory of sustainable/ equitable practices at SMC (e.g. DSLR cameras loaned to students in Photography courses; Lab coats, goggles, and calculators available for loan in the STEM program).

The EAC needs one faculty member to join the committee! We meet on the 1st & 3rd Thurs of the month from 2-3pm, come join us!