# NMU SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Sustainability Advisory Council brings together representatives from across campus to share observations, insights, experience, and expertise related to sustainability. Through the work of the committees, council members can bring recommendations to SHINE to improve sustainability on campus. Recommendations will be shared with the University's leadership team (e.g., AVP for sustainability, VP for People, Culture & Wellbeing, President's Executive Council, and the University President). The structure and function of the Council are designed to ensure that NMU effectively communicates and coordinates sustainability initiatives and programs across campus and in the community. Council meetings are open to the public; visitors are always welcome to attend.

## COUNCIL CHARGE

The Sustainability Advisory Council's charge is **to provide input on sustainability at NMU and in our community.** Members are expected to share expertise on sustainability-related projects and propose sustainability initiatives to help advance the University's *Our Compass* strategic plan and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The Sustainability Advisory Council is also responsible for reviewing and ranking the student-proposed Green Fund projects. The Sustainability Advisory Council provides recommendations for SHINE to implement on campus. Currently, the Council has five sub-committees, and additional committees can be proposed and created by the members of the Sustainability Advisory Council as needed. Committee members can develop the workplan, agenda and timeline for their work. Committee leaders are expected to share a committee update at each regular Council meeting. Full descriptions of each committee and their membership is on the Council's website.

## COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES

**Strategy 1.4 Team**

- Manages the action plan for Strategy 1.4 in the University's strategic plan, *Our Compass*.

**Green Fund Review & Implementation**

- Reviews and ranks student proposed Green Fund projects in November of each year and helps to assess the feasibility and guide implementation of those projects in the winter and summer semesters.

**Outreach Committee**

- Organizes the annual Sustainability Summit and assists with Earth Week and other campus-wide and community sustainability events.

**Bee Campus Committee**

- Organizes information and initiatives to improve pollinator habitat on campus.

**Research Committee*** *(proposed summer 2025)*

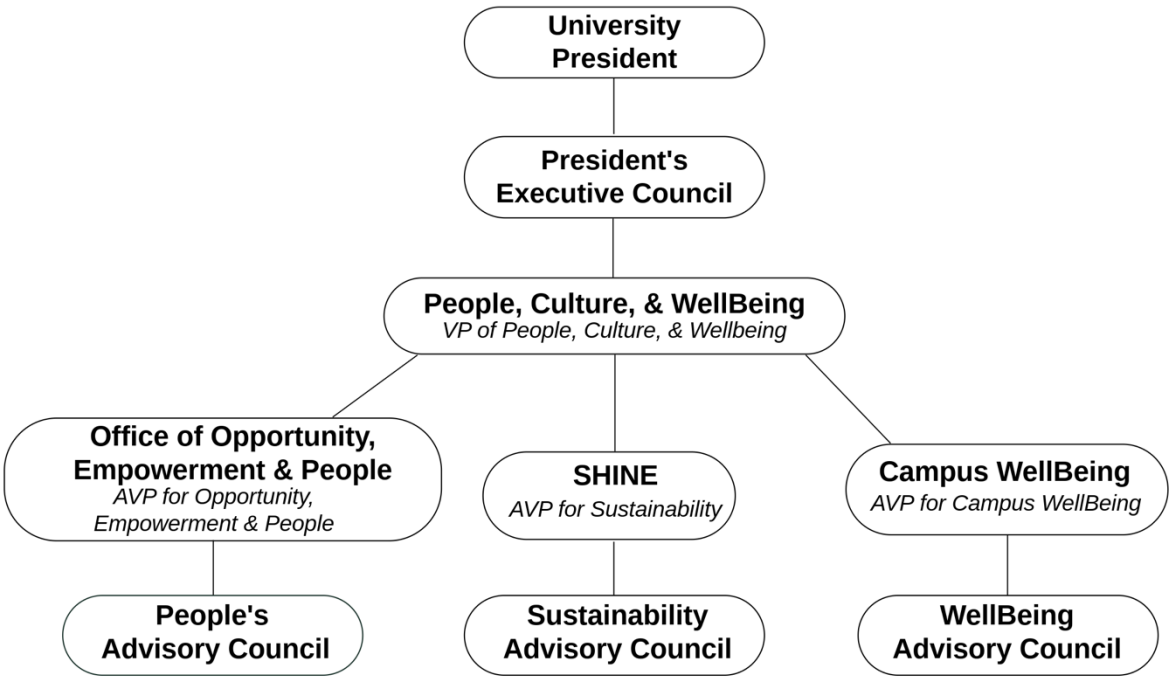
- Gathers and organizes information about current sustainability-related research on campus; identifies sustainability-related research needs, funding and collaboration opportunities.

## SHINE'S ROLE

SHINE is NMU's Sustainability Hub for Innovation & Environment; it is a non-academic department in the People, Culture and Wellbeing pillar. SHINE exists to foster a culture of collaborative sustainability at NMU and in our community. The SHINE team (AVP for sustainability, staff, interns, volunteers, etc.) help to coordinate and communicate sustainability-related projects and initiatives related to (1) curriculum and research, (2) campus operations, and (3) community engagement.

The Sustainability Advisory Council serves as an advisory board for SHINE. The Council functions similarly to the People's Advisory Council and the WellBeing Advisory Council within the People, Culture and WellBeing pillar, as illustrated in the organizational flow chart. Similar to the other councils, NMU's President and Vice President for People, Culture and Wellbeing will provide guidance to the AVP for Sustainability each academic year regarding priority topics, issues and projects for which the University seeks assistance and expertise from the Sustainability Advisory Council. Additionally, the AVP for Sustainability serves on the President's Executive Council and serves as a conduit of information from the executive leadership team to the Sustainability Advisory Council and vice versa. The AVP for Sustainability will provide a leadership update at each regular Council meeting.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



In the spirit of NMU's commitment to the Okanagan Charter, the Sustainability Advisory Council will use the Charter's 8 Key Principles for Action to guide our work. These principles provide guidance as the Council navigates differences and works to collaboratively enhance sustainability at our institution:

1. Use settings and whole system approaches
2. Ensure comprehensive and campus-wide approaches
3. Use participatory approaches and engage the voices of students and others
4. Develop transdisciplinary collaborations and cross-sector partnerships
5. Promote research, innovation, and evidence-informed action
6. Build on strengths
7. Value local and Indigenous communities' contexts and priorities
8. Act on an existing universal responsibility

## MEETING FREQUENCY

- Entire Council - meet at least twice per semester; a minimum of four meetings per academic year.
- Subcommittees - meet at least twice per semester; a minimum of four meetings per academic year (in addition to the meeting of the entire council).

## COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

**Regular Members (ongoing without terms)**

Assistant VP for Sustainability (ex-officio; non-voting)
Associate VP for Engineering & Planning / Facilities (ex-officio; non-voting)
Associate Director - Facilities, Building Services & Sustainability
Director, Center for Native American Studies
Department Head, Earth Environment and Geographical Sciences
Department Head, Center for Native American Studies
EcoReps Faculty Advisor
SHINE staff and interns

**Students (one-year term, renewable for 3 years)**

EcoReps Executive Director or designee
ASNMU President or designee
NMU Hoop House
Student Athletic Council / Green Athletics Working Group Chair or designee
Environmental Sustainability Student Org Leaders (Conservation Crew, GTU, etc.)
Diversity Student Org Leaders (BSU, NASA, ASU, Q&A, Feminism for All, etc.)
SHINE Interns (as available)
Graduate students

**NMU Faculty and Staff**

Designees from NMU's union groups
College deans and/or department heads
Non-academic department representatives (e.g., facilities, grounds, housing, dining, student services, admissions, etc.)

**Community Members**

Regional Tribal Representatives
Marquette Climate Adaptation Task Force
Environmental NGO representatives (e.g., Superior Watershed Partnership, Michigan Environmental Council, UPLC, etc.)
City and County municipal government representatives

**Regular Invited Members (non-voting Council members)**

Vice President, People, Culture and WellBeing
AVP for Diversity & Inclusion (or designee)
AVP for Wellbeing (or designee)
Chief Marketing Officer (or designee)

**Leadership:** The Council shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair by simple majority vote via electronic ballot before the end of the academic year. The officers will assume their duties on July 1. NMU's President and VP for People, Culture & WellBeing will work with the AVP for Sustainability to set the Council's priorities and action items for the academic year. The elected chair and vice-chair will assist in organizing the Council's agendas (e.g., lining up good of the order, committee, student, and leadership reports, etc.), and managing how the meetings will address University priorities. The meeting agenda will be emailed to all members (and attached to a calendar invite) one week in advance of the Council's scheduled meeting.

- Chair responsibilities include planning for monthly meetings; sending reminders and updates to the Council; and facilitating the Sustainability Advisory Council meetings.
- The Vice Chair shall assume the Chair's duties when the Chair is not available to attend or participate in the planning and facilitating of the Council meetings.

**Voting:** Subcommittees may prepare recommendations for institutional action; these recommendations should be presented and discussed during a regularly scheduled Council meeting. If the recommendation requires a vote, the voting should be done via electronic ballot in the following week. Results of the vote should be shared with the full membership via email when the formal recommendation is forwarded to the AVP for Sustainability and/or the University's leadership team.

**Terms of Appointment**: Faculty/staff members appointed in the first year will have randomly staggered terms from 1-3 years. However, once first-year membership is established, non-student members will be eligible for an additional three-year term. Student members are appointed for one year with renewal possible for up to 3 years.

# 2025-2026 SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

| Name & Department / Affiliation | | Term |
|---|---|---|
| Jelili Adebiyi | Asst. Prof., Earth/Environment/Geological Sciences | 2024-2026 |
| Ashlyn Albert | Student, SHINE Native Plants Intern | 2025-2026 |
| Taryn Andersen | Student, EcoReps Director | 2025-2026 |
| Joanne Arbic | Student, Green Athletics | 2025-2026 |
| Alex Berrones | Student, MoveNMU | Fall 2025 |
| Sarah Bixby | Lincoln Community Gardens (Community Member) | 2024-2027 |
| Shawnrece Butler | Asst. VP for Opportunity, Empowerment & People | Regular Invited |
| Avery Case | Student, SHINE Carbon Neutrality Intern | 2025-2026 |
| Chelsey Cebulski | Executive Administrative Specialist for People, Culture and Wellbeing | 2024-2027 |
| Taimur Cleary | Assoc. Prof., Art + Design | Chair 2024-2026 |
| Leah Cody | Student, EcoReps | 2025-2026 |
| Kash Dhanapal | Director, Business Operations – Housing | 2025-2027 |
| Tyler Dettloff | Director, Center for Native American Studies | Ongoing, Vice Chair |
| Rhea Dever | Vice President, People, Culture and WellBeing | Regular Invited |
| Dani Fegan | Community Member | January 2025 - January 2027 |
| Delany Frank | Student, SHINE Sustainability Audit Intern | 2024-2026 |
| Grace Freed | Student, SHINE Native Plants Intern | 2024-2026 |
| Cassidy Gibson | Student, ASNMU President 2025-2026 | 2025-2026 |
| Derek Hall | Chief Marketing Officer (or designee) | Regular Invited |
| Janelle Harris | Student, SHINE Communication & Outreach Intern | 2025-2026 |
| Ian Hogan | Supervisor, Building Services | 2025-2028 |
| Taylor Kenyon | Student, NMU Conservation Crew | 2025-2026 |
| Randy Klitzke | Assoc. Prof., Tech & Occupational Sciences | 2024-2027 |
| Emily Leach | Executive Director, Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy | 2025-2028 |
| April Lindala | Department Head, Center for Native American Studies | Ongoing |

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| Emily Meier | Director, Care Management Services NMU Wellbeing | 2025-2026 |
| Sarah Mittlefehldt | Prof., Earth/Environment/Geological Sciences | 2024-2027 |
| Mattea Muscat | Student, EcoReps | 2025-2026 |
| Dave Nyberg | Executive Director, Business Engagement & Economic Development | 2025-2028 |
| Lehren Olk-Szost | Asst. Prof., Indoor and Controlled Environment Agriculture | 2024-2026 |
| Abby Owen | Student, NMU Hoop House | 2025-2026 |
| Heejung Park | Asst. Prof., College of Business | 2024-2026 |
| Brett Peterson | Registered Dietitian & Operations Manager, Dining Services | Jan. 2025 - Dec. 2027 |
| Lucy Planica | Student, SLFP Community Engagement Intern | 2025-2026 |
| Tod Poirier | TV Program & Traffic Manager, Broadcast & AV Services | 2024-2027 |
| Tom Rapp | Student, Rotaract | 2025-2026 |
| Chloe Ravenscraft | Student, SHINE Climate Education Intern | 2025-2026 |
| Kathy Richards | Associate VP Engineering/Planning/Facilities | Ex Officio |
| Brandon Sager | Associate Dir. Facilities/Building Services/ Sustainability | Ongoing |
| Tesse Sayen | Director, Research Development and Sponsored Programs | 2024-2026 |
| Jason Schneider | Assoc. Prof., Art + Design | EcoReps Advisor |
| Liz Schneider | Graduate Student, Political Science & Public Administration | 2024-2026 |
| Anna Solberg | SHINE Staff, Sustainability Program Coordinator | Ongoing |
| Ryan Stock | Asst. Prof., Earth/Environment/Geological Sciences | 2025-2028 |
| Jes Thompson | Asst. VP Sustainability | Ex Officio |
| Rich VanderVeen | Community Member | 2024-2027 |
| Bryant Varney | Instructional Technology, Broadcast & AV Services | 2024-2026 |
| Heather Vivian | Community Member | 2024-2027 |
| Tracy Wascom | Prof., Art + Design | 2025-2028 |