

UNE Environmental Council Bylaws
May 24, 2006

Amended March 10, 2009

I. Mission of the Environmental Council

The mission of the Environmental Council (EC) is to serve in an advisory and advocacy role to assist the University in acting as responsible stewards of the environment.

The specific charges to the EC are to:

1. Foster a heightened awareness on the part of students, administrators, faculty, and staff of the environmental impact of the university community;
2. Recommend environmental/sustainability policies for the University, including setting general goals and recommendations for environmental stewardship;
3. Develop the process for soliciting, evaluating and prioritizing environmentally related proposals from the university community that the council will then work on;
4. Review new academic and administrative proposals, activities, and projects to make recommendations that would allow for the lowest feasible environment impact;
5. Review current operations that have a direct effect on the environment including solid and hazardous waste management, water and air quality, and energy use to make recommendations that would decrease their environmental impact;
6. Assist in communicating the proposal process and decisions to the University community in order to increase awareness of environmental actions at the University.

The Environmental Council will report to the President at least once each year, or as often as is requested by the President.

II. Membership

A. Composition

The membership of the EC shall consist of a maximum of fifteen individuals. The EC aims to maintain equal representation of student, staff, and faculty members from the University Campus and Westbrook College Campus. The Chair or Co-Chairs may be student, faculty, or staff members with the aim of having leadership from both campuses. The EC should also make it a priority to include student representation from the various UNE student government bodies.

B. Appointments

In accordance with the aforementioned EC composition, the President shall make appointments to the EC. Once the EC has been formed, the Chair or Co-Chairs have the authority to make changes or replacements to EC membership as deemed appropriate.

C. Non-voting participants

The work of the Council benefits from input from the University community. Thus, members of the UNE community are welcome and encouraged to participate in Environmental Council activities.

D. Term and Appointment of Chair or Co-chairs

The term of the Chair or each Co-chair shall run for three academic years. By July 15 of the academic year of completion of a Chair or Co-chairs' term, the President shall appoint a new Chair or Co-chairs in consultation with the sitting Chair or Co-chairs of the EC.

III. Meetings

A. Regular Meetings

1. Regular meetings shall occur at least once a month during the academic year.
2. All meetings are open to members of the University community. However, as needed, the EC may elect to have a meeting of Council members only.
3. Any member of the EC may make recommendations or motions, which will be voted on by EC members. The minutes of the meeting shall show the numerical result of the vote. However, as much as possible, the EC will operate on the basis of consensus.

B. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the EC may be called as needed by the Chair/Co-Chairs, President or Provost. The Chair/Co-Chairs shall notify members of the special meeting and provide an agenda.

C. Executive Session

During a regular or special meeting, the EC's voting members, the Co-chairs/Chair, or the President or the President's designee, as an ex officio EC member, may exercise the option of going into executive session to maintain confidentiality, while remaining in accordance with the University's philosophy of openness. The President or President's designee shall be informed prior to entering into executive session.