

21 – IT Sustainability

Action Item Template Response

General Action Item Information

Lead Division/Office: Special Assistant to the VP

Action Item Number: 21

Action Item Short Name: IT Sustainability

Dependencies with other EP Action Items:

Implementation leader (name & email):

I. DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS ACTION.

Information Technology plays an important role in reducing the environmental impact of Indiana University. The important role of IT in improving sustainability is a theme that has been repeated in several areas this past year. The role of IT in sustainability can be categorized in four areas:

1. Data Center and leverage services. This is one of the most widely discussed areas across the country. IU must leverage its extensive investments in data center and virtualization to ensure the vast majority of servers at IU are part of the data centers designed to deliver efficiencies and ensuring that these data centers continue to improve its power utilization.
2. Personal computing uses. Use of thin clients, energy star components, powering off unused equipment, and efficient use of printing are just a few of the ways that personal computing are examples of steps to lower the environmental impact .
3. e-waste. Maximize lifecycles to reduce the amount of waste generated by equipment and packaging in combination with solid programs to recycle and reuse computer equipment.
4. IT as an enabler - Information Technology enables stewardship of natural resources by creating environments that reduce travel for remote collaboration and distance learning, allow telecommuting, reduce paper and improve environmental research.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New in 2012

- UITS partnered with the IU Office of Sustainability to provide direction and oversight on sustainable computing, phased out printed phone directories, significantly reduced the carbon footprint for enterprise services in the data center, hosted two annual e-waste days, and hired an IT Sustainability coordinator.

- The IU Go-Green service has had many improvements to meet the edge requirements and is slated for re-release the end of Jan.
- The GoGreen power savings and wake-up service is in production and is being used on 1,842 departmental desktop computers.

Spring 2011

Campus Technology magazine in April 2011 hailed IU as one of higher ed's "sustainability stars" for IU's E-waste Collection Days, which netted more than 650,000 pounds of e-waste in 2010. <http://campustechnology.com/Articles/2011/04/01/Lean-Green-Machines.aspx?Page=4> UITS partnered with the IU Office of Sustainability to provide direction and oversight on sustainable computing, phased out printed phone directories, significantly reduced carbon footprint for enterprise services in the Data Center, hosted two annual e-Waste days, and hired IT sustainability coordinator. The IU Go-Green service has undergone many improvements to meet the edge requirements, and is slated for re-release in early 2011.

II. WHAT ARE THE POLICY AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR PLANS?

The need to establish and track key metrics for sustainability and report those as part of ABC process.

III. IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS.