

TU's First Annual Environmental Conference
April 7, 2009

What We Learned/Final Thoughts
from Wrap-Up Session

Suggestions/Thoughts for TU:

- Turn off computers at night
- Turn off lights at night
- Investigate rain water collection capabilities
- Look into solar panels at TU
- Use geothermal patches on campus to produce energy
- Get students involved on campus first, then involved in “going green”
- The campus can look at sustainability initiatives as a way to *connect with* the local community. The campus should serve as a model and help the local community live more sustainably.
- People who have been raised in different geographical areas- i.e. urban, suburban, rural- have different views of the environment and *state colleges* are a great avenue through which to educate students from all areas about the environment and reconcile views about its importance and what needs to be done to protect it.
- To move beyond green “fads”, we need to educate for understanding i.e., really integrate sustainability into the educational curriculum

What we learned/general thoughts:

- There are multiple green initiatives underway in Baltimore City
- We really need to educate people about the importance of protecting the environment- otherwise how can people be motivated to change behaviors?
- Restaurants import a lot of food- they should look at using more local food
- Simple fixes- better insulation, keeping temperatures constant in buildings and switching to fluorescent lights- can go a long way towards making substantial differences
- The various initiatives in Maryland focused on saving the bay should collaborate better
- More education about *why* the environment is important is needed
- Utilize ride sharing
- Embrace all go green supporters!