

Advancing Campus Sustainability: Initiatives, Efficiency, and Funding Workshop

Panel 1: University and Sustainability Initiatives

Meghna Tare

Chief Sustainability and Economic Development Officer
University of Texas at Arlington



As UT Arlington's Chief Sustainability and Economic Development Officer, Meghna supports the operations and strategic planning for the university-wide sustainability practices programs and policies in collaboration with university operations units, academic and research units, student organizations, and external partners. She also leads strategic initiatives to foster economic growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship within the campus and North Texas Community. She has expertise in UN SDGs, energy transition, public policy, climate change, equitable food systems, transportation, economic development, and innovation.

Meghna serves on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability, and on the Board of Directors for ICLEI USA (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives).

Meghna is also the Founder and Director of Regional Center of Expertise for Education in Sustainable Development (RCE North Texas), a program of the United Nations University. She was awarded the 2022 United Nations Association Global Leadership Award.

She graduated with an MBA in Sustainable Management, MS in Environmental Science, and MS in Chemistry.



Heidi Rae Cooley, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
University of Texas at Dallas

Heidi Rae Cooley, PhD, is an associate professor of Arts, Technology and Emerging Communication in the Bass School of Arts, Humanities and Technology at the University of Texas at Dallas, where she also serves as the Chair of the Committee on Sustainability. Her book *Finding Augusta: Habits of Mobility and Governance in the Digital Era* (2014) and its interactive mobile application, Augusta App, received the Society for Cinema and Media Studies 2015 Anne Friedberg Innovative Scholarship Award. She is currently working on a manuscript, "Making Sense of Collaboration." The project is informed by work on an interactive, site specific AR application that features Koi fish avatars that encourage participants to curate and care for a healthy on-campus ecosystem at UT Dallas.

Danielle Dunn

Sustainability Coordinator
University of Texas at Dallas

As Sustainability Coordinator at the UT Dallas Office of Sustainability, Danielle leads operational and student engagement programs including Luna Farm, Comet Composting, Earth Week, Campus Sustainability Month, pollinator and habitat restoration, and the Eco Rep program. She oversees communications and sustainability reporting including AASHE STARS, Bee Campus USA, Tree Campus USA, and Bicycle Friendly University applications. Danielle also is a PhD student in Political Science at UT Dallas, focusing on environmental policy, with a Master's in Environmental Sustainability and a Bachelor's in Plant and Soil Science from Texas Tech University.



Dorothee Honhon

Associate Dean for Sustainability and Societal Impact
University of Texas at Dallas

Dorothee Honhon is a Professor of Operations Management at the Jindal School of Management of the University of Texas at Dallas and Associate Dean for Sustainability & Societal Impact. Dorothee received her Ph.D. in Operations Management from New York University. She was the Chair of the sustainability committee 2020-2024. She is the President-Elect of the MSOM society and DE for Outreach at the M&SOM journal. Her research interests include retail operations and sustainability, in particular, food waste minimization.

Lori Lewis

Manager of Sustainability
Tarrant County College District

Lori Lewis has been involved in environmental and sustainability fields for more than 25 years. Her career spans municipal solid waste & waste reduction, municipal communications & marketing, sustainability grants & education, sustainability in higher education and adjunct teaching in sustainability and WebGIS.

She holds an MA in Sustainability and Development from SMU and recently completed the coursework toward a PhD in Urban Planning & Public Policy at UTA and is drafting her dissertation proposal on New York's response to socially-vulnerable populations in Manhattan and Coney Island after Superstorm Sandy.

Lori has earned a Recycling Systems Manager certification from the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and is a Master Composter and Master Composter Trainer. She also earned accreditation through the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

She is a social and environmental justice warrior, news junkie and map nerd.





Amie Lund, Ph.D.

Director of Advanced Environmental Research Institute (AERI)
University of North Texas

Amie K. Lund, Ph.D. is the Director of the Advanced Environmental Research Institute (AERI) and an Associate Professor at the University of North Texas in the Department of Biological Sciences, where her environmental toxicology laboratory researches the effects of environmental air pollutants on human health and disease. Dr. Lund received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from the University of New Mexico in 2005. Dr. Lund completed her post-doctoral training at Lovelace Biomedical Research Institute in the Toxicology program, where she was awarded a prestigious National Institute of Health K99/R00 Pathway to Independence fellowship. In addition to her teaching, mentoring, and research activities, Dr. Lund currently participates on grant review panels for the National Institute of Health and the American Heart Association, serves as an Editor for the Toxicological Sciences, Cardiovascular Toxicology, and Pharmacological Research journals, and is a reviewer more than 25 environmental and toxicology journals.

Panel 2: University Recommissioning

Shaun Auckland, M.S.I.S., LEED Green Associate

Senior Manager, Government and Community Engagement
SPEER

Shaun as Senior Manager of Government and Community Engagement at SPEER, she supports energy efficiency initiatives for local governments, fostering collaboration and impactful change. In her role she manages programs like the Community Energy Leadership Coalition (CELC) and the Texas Energy Advocates University Program (TEA-UP), focusing on supporting local governments, educational institutions, and community organizations in adopting energy-efficient practices. Through CELC, Shaun helps members navigate challenges, build partnerships, and implement practical solutions that benefit both their communities and the environment.



Shaun has over 15 years of experience in sustainability, environmental management, and government engagement. Previously, she led innovative programs at Travis County, driving greenhouse gas data analysis, recycling initiatives, and conservation efforts, achieving notable budget increases and diversion goals. At the City of Austin, Shaun advanced hazardous waste management and non-toxic resource programs, while building strong community partnerships and advocating for legislative progress. With expertise in compliance coordination, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning, Shaun is dedicated to creating sustainable solutions, enhancing community impact, and leading environmental innovation.



Walter H. Williams III, P.E.
Director of Facilities Engineering
Tarrant County College District

Walter H. Williams III, PE is a seasoned professional with 39 years of experience in facility engineering, including design, energy analysis, commissioning, and facilities management. Since 2012, he has served as Director of Facilities Engineering at Tarrant County College District, overseeing MEP and fire protection systems across all facilities. Previously, he led 2W3 Consulting Engineers as President (1995–2003), served as Director of Physical Plant at Texas Woman’s University (2003–2007) and HHS Associates as a Principal (2009–

2012). His engineering experience includes roles at firms like Yandell and Hiller, Huitt-Zollars, and LAN, as well as manufacturers Texas Instruments and AT&T Network Systems.

Daniel Helm
District Utility and Energy Manager
Tarrant County College District

As District Utility and Energy Manager for Real Estate and Facilities at Tarrant County College District, Danny oversees strategic energy conservation and sustainability efforts across campuses. Previously, he enhanced energy efficiency as Energy Manager at Arlington Independent School District. A former President of TEMA (Texas Energy Managers Association), Danny holds certifications as a Master Texas Energy Manager, Accredited Texas Energy Manager, and TASBO Certified Texas School Business Official. With a Class A HVAC license, he brings technical expertise to optimizing energy systems. Danny also shares his knowledge as an adjunct HVAC instructor at Tarrant County College, shaping future energy professionals. His dedication to sustainability continues to leave a lasting impact on education and the environment.



Garrett Rosser
Senior Director, Energy Management and Sustainability
Dallas College

Garrett serves as the Senior Director of Energy Management and Sustainability for Dallas College, and has worked in energy efficiency and management since 2011. His current role is managing utility use and expenditures, the Dallas College Sustainability program and staff, as well as Building Automation Controls team. Prior to Dallas College, his work focused on saving energy and reducing costs for non-profit organizations, including churches and other

Christian ministries, K-12 school districts, and institutions of higher education. He is a Certified Energy Manager (CEM), Certified Energy Auditor (CEA), and Certified Energy Procurement Professional (CEP) through the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), and holds a B.S. in Biomedical Science from Tarleton State University.