

2023-2024 Planetary Health Report Card for Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine at the University of Utah



AUTHORS

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Abbreviations

PHRC: Planetary Health Report Card

SFESOM: Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine at the University of Utah

EHSL: Eccles Health Sciences Library

PH: Planetary Health

PHRC BACKGROUND



- “A metric-based tool for evaluating and improving planetary health content in health professional schools”
- Developed in 2019 by medical students at UCSF
- Now 17 countries, >126 medical schools participating
- Expansion to Nursing, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy, and Physiotherapy
- University of Utah has participated since 2020-21. We have published 4 report cards.

Advocacy

- We aim to use the PHRC as a tool to advocate for changes in our school's curriculum
- Changes made so far:
 - Implementing PH learning objectives into Problem Based Learning (PBL)
 - Provisional *sustainability council* in the works

METRICS

- Planetary Health Curriculum
- Interdisciplinary Research in Health and the Environment
- University Support for Student-Led Planetary Health Initiatives
- Community Outreach and Advocacy in Environment and Health
- Campus Sustainability

PLANETARY HEALTH CURRICULUM

Weight: 30%

Strengths

- Legacy Curriculum
 - Pulmonology, Infectious Disease, Nutrition
 - Layers of Medicine (LOM)
- Elective Courses
 - MDID 6004: Sustainability, Medicine & Health
 - MDID 6500: Intro to Global Health
- New Curriculum - Mission-Driven Core Curriculum
 - High potential for implementing change

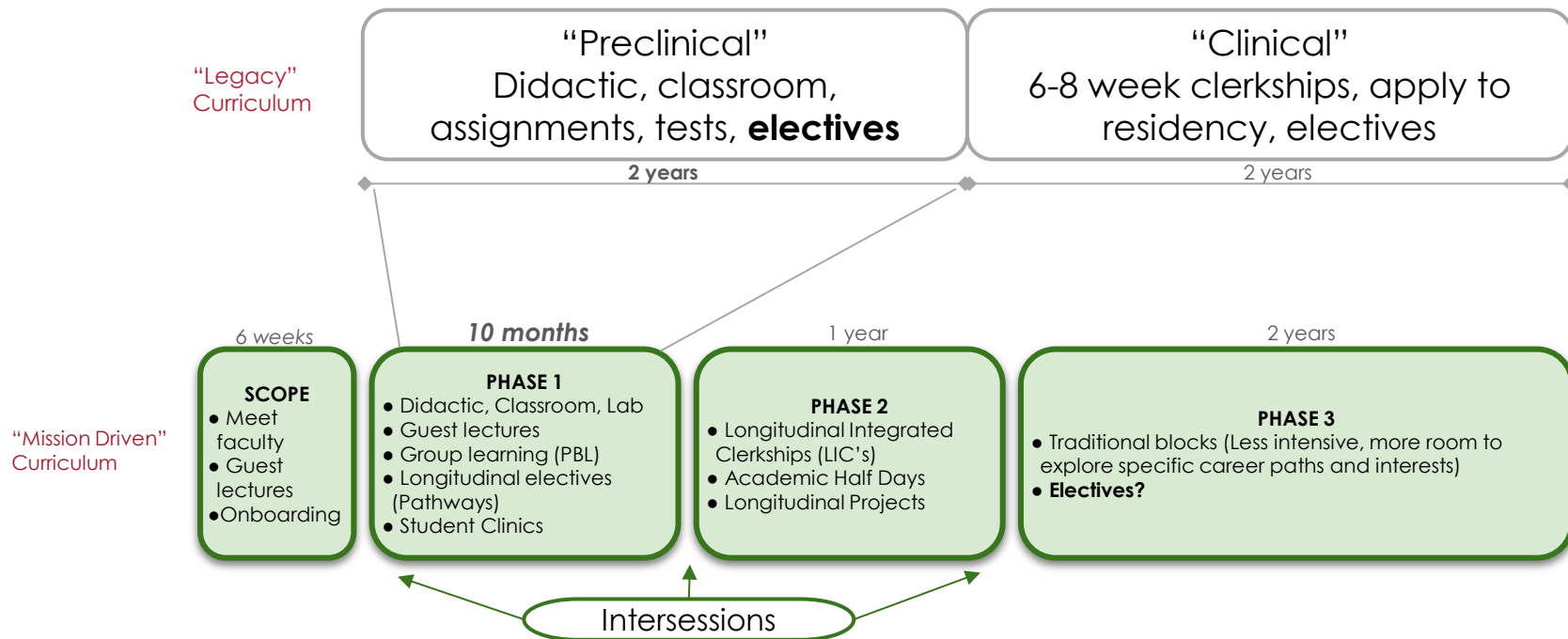
PLANETARY HEALTH CURRICULUM

Opportunities for improvement

1. Planetary health content in the **core curriculum**
2. **Sustainability-focused faculty integration** in new curriculum
3. Education on **sustainable clinical practices** and **waste management**
4. What about the new curriculum?



SFESOM's New Mission-Driven Core Curriculum



Identifying Areas of Improvement

Quantifying PH in
the new curriculum



Future Curriculum
Scores may be Worse

- **Current PHRC relies on legacy curriculum, and electives**
- New curriculum does not address PH in the same capacity
- Electives such as *Sustainability, Medicine, and Health* have not been integrated

How YOU can get
involved!

- **Mentor Connect**
 - Currently only 3 faculty that list sustainability as a professional interest
- **Sustainability Council**
 - Help re-introduce pre-clinical electives
 - Be a part of clinical planetary health education! (Coming soon)

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Weight: 17.5%

Strengths

- Global Change and Sustainability Center Symposium
 - Institution's planetary health research department
 - Many active, independent faculty researchers - including medical sciences
- Institutional research seminars / symposiums:
 - Environment and Sustainability Research Symposium
 - Climate Changes Health and Health Equity Series
 - Global Change Seminar Series
 - Wallace Stegner Center

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Opportunities for improvement

1. **Dedicated SFESOM department** to facilitate research and connections
2. Website with current and past **projects** related to planetary health **within medical sciences**
3. **Medical campus** planetary health research symposium



SUPPORT FOR STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES

Weight: 17.5%

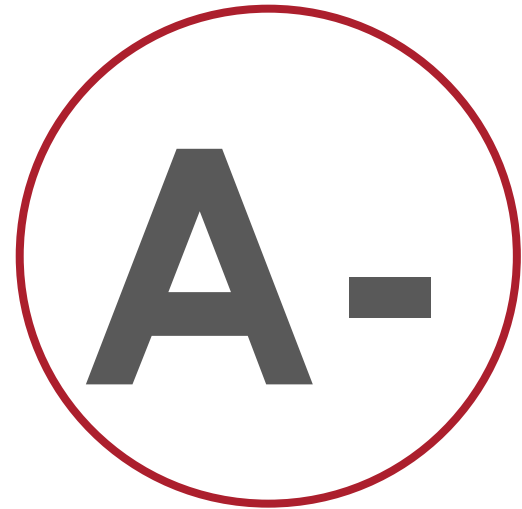
Strengths

- SFESOM is supportive of student efforts, instituted specific grants and hired dedicated faculty
- Sustainable Campus Initiative Fund (SCIF) grants
- Research programs and pathways
- Sustainability in Medicine IG
- Hospital Green Team with student representation

SUPPORT FOR STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES

Opportunities for improvement

1. Appoint **sustainability-focused administrative liaison** to advertise and support student initiatives
2. Offer **database** of planetary health resources to find events, volunteer opportunities, panels, research projects, and mentors



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

Weight: 17.5%

Strengths

- Student-driven initiative within weekly newsletter
- University Hospital partnerships with community organizations
 - Utah Clean Air (UCAIR)
 - Utah Climate Action Network (UCAN)
- EHSI Climate Changes Health and Health Equity series, offering CME

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

Opportunities for improvement

1. University of Utah Graduate Medical Education (**GME**) courses
2. **Accessible patient education** regarding human and planetary health
3. **SFESOM partnerships with community organizations** such as Wasatch Coop, Tracy Aviary, etc.



CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

Weight: 17.5%

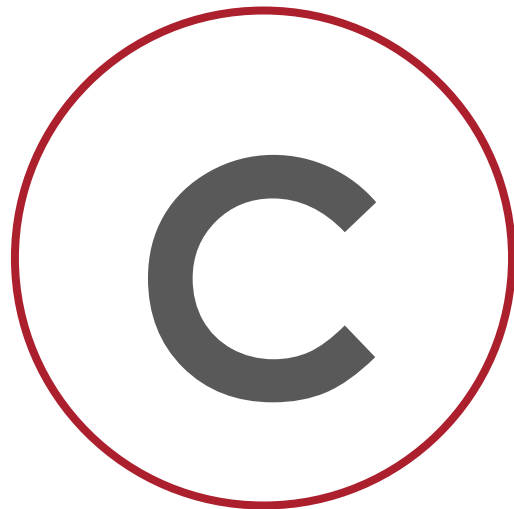
Strengths

- University of Utah Global Change and Sustainability Center
- U of U Health Green Team
- 71% of the University of Utah's electric usage set to be sourced from renewable sources by 2024
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification

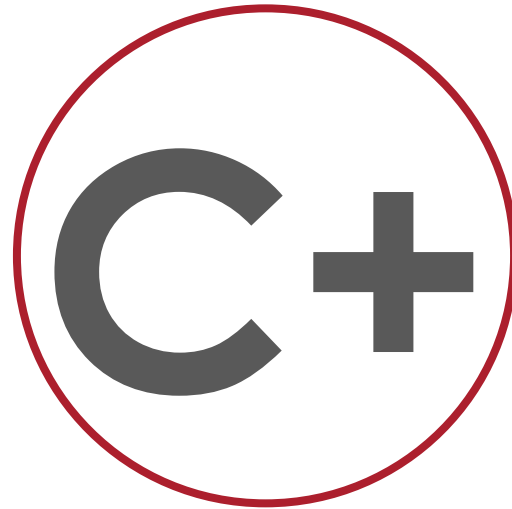
CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

Opportunities for Improvement

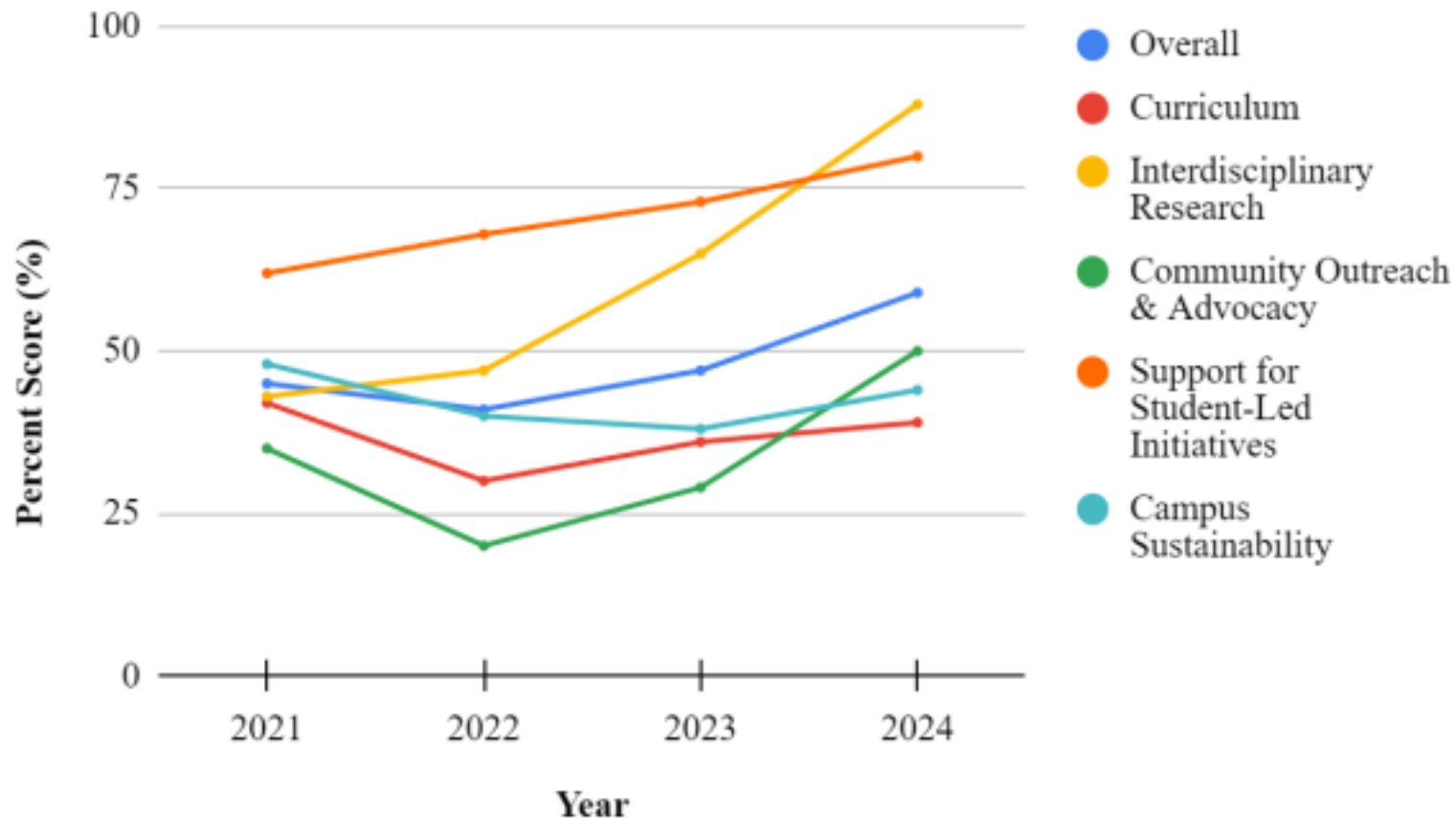
1. Development of **SFESOM plan for carbon neutrality** by 2040
2. Environmentally-friendly **transportation**
3. **Composting** options on campus
4. Sustainable **food** and beverage
5. SFESOM-specific guidelines for sustainable supply **procurement**
6. Sustainability requirements for SFESOM **events**
7. **Lab** sustainability efforts/changes
8. **Divestment** from fossil-fuel companies



OVERALL SCORE



Planetary Health Report Card Trends for The Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine



WHERE WE STAND



2024 PHRC RESULTS MEDICINE

UNITED STATES

(Click the school name to read their full report)

		Overall	Planetary Health Curriculum	Interdisciplinary Research	Community Outreach & Advocacy	Support for Student-led Initiatives	Campus Sustainability
1.	Emory University School of Medicine	A	A+	A+	A	A	B-
2.	UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program	A-	B	A+	A	A-	B+
22.	Oregon Health and Science University	C+	A-	C	C-	B-	C
22.	University of Utah School of Medicine	C+	D+	A	C	A-	C
24.	University of Vermont	C+	C	B	C+	C	B

The Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine ranked **22** out of **53** participating US schools

LOOKING AHEAD

Adapting to changes in curriculum

- Provisional Sustainability Council
 - Core curriculum and learning objectives
 - Planetary health in clinical skills: health waste, billing, patient education, and sustainable interventions
- Mentor Connect: Students want to learn about what you do!
- 2024-25 Planetary Health Report Card!

Thank you!

Questions?



Link to 2024 Report Card