

The Analysis about Green Campus Characteristics of the University of Melbourne through Abroad Field Survey

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Extended Abstract

The purpose of this study was to identify and analyse the characteristics of an advanced case's green campus promotion. It is intended that this study serves as a foundational material for the green campus promotion in other universities or countries, principally in early stages of its development.

For this study, a field survey was conducted at The University of Melbourne as an advanced case. We selected The University of Melbourne as a research subject because they operate the homepage for sustainability that has rich and multi-directional data including sustainability reports and contents about their green campus efforts. From the 16th to 23rd of August 2017, a field survey was conducted to observe, record, and photograph the elements of green campus promotion. Guided tours were also provided by the university, which provided opportunities to hear more about the details regarding their sustainable facilities, including gaining access to some restricted areas. Furthermore, the research team participated in a related forum and various events, accompanied by staff members and managers. A full-day meeting was also organized with the university's sustainability team on 22nd of August for further discussion on their green campus efforts.

Melbourne University released its 'Sustainability Charter' in 2016. And they are currently promoting green campus on the basis of their 'Sustainability Plan 2017-2020'. This survey revealed that the green campus plans for the university has been fulfilled in 14 multilateral categories: Governance; Energy & Emissions; Water; Waste & Recycling; Travel & Transport; Biodiversity; Sustainable Buildings & Communities; Climate Adaptation & Resilience; Goods & Services; Research; Teaching & Learning; Engagement; Investments; and Reporting & Networking commitments. Among them, Melbourne University was pursuing a green campus focused on categories of Biodiversity and Teaching & Learning. It corresponds to Australia's national sustainability efforts with its particular emphasis on nature preservation policies and sustainability education from a sustainable perspective [1]. For Biodiversity, The University of Melbourne published a university-wide Biodiversity Management Plan in 2017 that aligned with the national and local government policy frameworks, and has been implementing the following programs: building an inventory of flora and fauna on campus, integrating biodiversity considerations in campus planning and design, construction and maintenance of the System Garden and Herbarium, Burnley Green Roofs project, Beekeeping, managing gardens with minimal chemical usage, Sustainability tour and Biodiversity tour. In category of Teaching & Learning, 'Sustainability Education Project' make all undergraduate be able to understand and apply knowledge and values on sustainability by 2020. Over the past five years, the university has established more than 800(14 % of all subjects) graduate and undergraduate subjects covering sustainability and environmental aspects.[2][3] The analysis about green campus characteristics of The University of Melbourne will be a reference on how to proceed the green campus to aligns with each national and university's context.

References

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