

# WORKING TOWARD a SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY | LIVE GREEN!



**Abby Bergstron**  
Co-Director of Sustainability  
ISU Student Government

## **What is your year and area(s) of study?**

I am a sophomore majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in Biology.

## **What are some of your main responsibilities as Student Government Director of Sustainability?**

As a Co-Director of Sustainability for the Student Government, a few of my responsibilities include leading a committee of At-larges and Senators, pushing through Green Initiatives Fund Applications, and trying my best to integrate more sustainable practices around campus. A few ways that I assist in this process is through offering support for committee members, keeping the Student Government involved in the projects we are working on, and constantly looking for more ways to increase sustainability on campus.

## **Why were you interested in this position?**

I served as an at-large on the Sustainability Committee my freshman year and loved learning what impact I could have in relation to sustainability and protecting the environment. I felt I was ready to take on a larger responsibility, especially with the support of a Co-director. Aside from that, I was excited to be a part of the student government and see the community it brings to Iowa State.

## **What do you wish students knew about sustainability?**

More than anything, I wish students knew that everything is a continuum. Sustainability is not “all or nothing,” so everything that we do helps. I think we all like to blame the big corporations and industries, but if we all just make small changes, a large impact can occur.

## **What resources (especially at the Student Government-level) are available to students looking to be more sustainable in their everyday lives?**

The Green Initiatives Fund is a great resource for those on campus who already have an idea for sustainability and are looking to fund a particular project. These can be done through the Sustainability Committee, and we are always available to help. For those looking for a bit more general information, we are working to create an online resource about sustainability as one of our projects this year, but are always open to answering specific questions or hearing about potential ideas.

## **Anything else you'd like me to know?**

Kit and I are very excited to serve as Co-Directors of Sustainability of Student Government for the 2024-25 school year and cannot wait to get everything moving. We hope that by having two directors we can offer extra support for the committee and get things done!



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**Kit O'Driscoll**  
Co-Director of Sustainability  
ISU Student Government

## **What is your year and area(s) of study?**

I am a junior majoring in environmental science with minors in Biology and GIS.

## **What are some of your main responsibilities as Student Government Director of Sustainability?**

As director we manage the Green Initiatives Fund which gives money to those in our community who are creating ways to be more sustainable. We also have our own committee at Iowa State in which we have several projects going specifically aimed at spreading awareness and implementing sustainable practices at the university.

## **Why were you interested in this position?**

Abby came up to me one day and asked if I wanted to be her co-director. The idea behind this was that we have so many different projects going on that having two directors would increase our effectiveness. Personally, I loved being part of sustainability committee last year and wanted to be able to carry on our past director, Olivia Miller's progress.

## **What do you wish students knew about sustainability?**

I wish that students knew sustainability was not just about the environment. Sustainability is a three tiered beast of yes, environmental, but also economic and social sustainability. It is important to have projects that help us with all three aspects and we need a diverse set of students with diverse majors to included their ideas. Although we do tend to focus on the environmental aspect, it is that diversity of minds that truly allows us to make the progress we make.

## **What resources (especially at the Student Government-level) are available to students looking to be more sustainable in their everyday lives?**

One of our goals this year is to create a website specifically dedicated to all things sustainability specific to Iowa state so make sure to be on the look out for that! We are also in the process of redoing the student government website as a whole. In the meantime, the Live Green! website has a plethora of wonderful resources for Iowa state students.

## **Anything else you'd like me to know?**

I am so incredibly excited to be co-directors with Abby and I know we are going to make great change this year. If there are people who would like to join the sustainability committee, we will be sending out the application within the next couple of weeks!!

