YOU WOULD NOT BE A GOOD STEWARD RIGHT NOW IF YOU DID NOT MEET THE STANDARD REQUIREMENTS. YOU'VE GOT TO DO BETTER THAN THAT IN TODAY'S WORLD." — Jim Opydhouse, Project Manager

"Baruch College Striving to Become the Greenest Campus in the Nation over the Next 5-10 Years" — Richard M. Baruch College

Richard M. Baruch College has a long tradition of being on the forefront of change, as a constituent college of the City University of New York, it is part of the country’s first free public institutions for higher learning. "Today, Baruch is continuing to push for progress as it seeks to become the nation’s greenest campus. As the vice president of campus operations Jim Lloyd is helping to spearhead the improvements the college will make to arrive at this goal. "There are great opportunities at Baruch to become a green college. We’re in the city, we’re vertical, and we have no parking spaces," he says. Lloyd came to Baruch College after working as the associate residence vice president of Oregon State University (OSU), where he gained a reputation for his progressive approach to campus sustainability. "When I took the position at OSU in 2001, I started looking for ways to make the campus more sustainable. For example, at a kick-off meeting for a new engineering building, Lloyd proposed to OSU a LED Silver rating. "People got upset and said, ‘That’s going to be too much money.’ The building’s size charged from 145,000 to 125,000 square feet fits the pricing. The design fees had to go up, but the general contractor noticed that we’re using natural lighting and ventilation. The architects redesigned the building at 153,000 square feet for the same budget, and the building won LEED Gold certification. The school later did a LEED Silver renovation in a dormitory and replaced the old-fashioned water system that had historically heated the campus with a cogeneration plant.

Since Lloyd joined Baruch College’s staff in 2006, the school has been hard at work designing and implementing green plans of its own. Baruch College is currently..."
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
LOCATION: Middlebury, VT
ENROLLMENT: 2,300+

With a sustainability program implemented in the fall of 2008, Middlebury is on track to be carbon neutral by 2016.

Energy:
A biomass gasification plant that reduces Middlebury’s emissions by 40%, solar arrays, and a demonstration wind turbine are all adding to the soon-to-be-reached neutrality of Middlebury.

Food:
Food composting diverts 20% of Middlebury’s waste stream. It is also one of 11 American universities and colleges that is a part of the Terra Madre University Network, an international network that unites its members by a common goal of global sustainability in food.

Construction:
Opened in June 2007, the Franklin Environmental Center is the hub for Middlebury’s environmental initiatives. It is LEED Platinum certified and is the first building in Vermont to achieve the Platinum level of certification.

Recycling:
The college diverts approximately 60% of waste via its own recycling center.

Transportation:
Middlebury strives to minimize its carbon footprint by offering Zipcars, a bike-repair shop, an evening transportation program, and ride-share board.

The automatic green ceiling in the Pergolis Classroom, Baruch’s first sustainable classroom on campus.

“THERE ARE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES AT BARUCH TO BECOME A GREEN UNIVERSITY. WE’RE IN THE CITY, WE’RE VERTICAL, AND WE HAVE NO PARKING SPACES.”
Jim Lloyd, Assistant Vice President of Campus Operations

As far as the LEED certification,” Lloyd says, “we’ve just started the design. We’ve just awarded a contract to a sustainable cafeteria vendor. We’ve converted to green cleaning chemicals, and we have intensified our recycling program.

Baruch College is making other improvements as well. The school is also considering growing its own produce for campus cafeterias in a greenhouse on the buildings’ rooftop terraces (a practice that is becoming increasingly common in New York City). Additionally, the school is looking at adding LED-based exterior lighting to its north campus.

The school is bringing sustainability into the classroom as well. In the last year, Baruch has begun to offer students a minor in sustainability through the college’s Zicklin School of Business and the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences.

While they are planning for their own futures, Baruch students also have the opportunity to become involved in the present and have an impact on the lives of students who will attend the college in years to come. Many of the proposed changes, such as new escalators that require only half the electricity of standard escalators, will not only meet LEED standards but will improve campus life as well.

“There is a committee with faculty, staff, and students giving input on the design of the building. We involve all three in the decision and recommendation process,” Lloyd says. “It’s a way to help them see what the problems and challenges are—to involve them in the decision process. They can be part of the solution.” — JAMIE LUDWIG