

NMSU World Café Event, 2009
Conversations for Creating a Sustainable Community
Hosted by OASIS and the President's Office

QuickTime™ and a
decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Talloires Declaration (TD): Signed by NMSU Interim President Waded Cruzado-Salas, January 31, 2009.

- This document is not the same as the American College and University President's Climate Commitment (signed by then President Michael Martin) which focuses mostly on carbon emissions and energy.
- However, the TD is complementary in its vision. It focuses more on outreach, with an additional emphasis on the economic and social sides of sustainability.
- **History:** 1990 Jean Mayer, president of Tufts University (Medford, Massachusetts) united 22 university presidents and chancellors in Talloires, France. Now over 350 universities, nationally and internationally, have signed the TD (including peer institutions Colorado State University, Clemson and University of Tennessee).
- The TD indicates **institutional support** for a vision of sustainability, but has no measurable goals.
- **Ten Point Action Plan** from the Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (ULSF):
 - Increase awareness of environmentally sustainable development
 - Create an institutional culture of sustainability
 - Educate for environmentally responsible citizenship
 - Foster environmental literacy for all
 - Practice institutional ecology
 - Involve all stakeholders
 - Collaborate for interdisciplinary approaches
 - Enhance capacity of primary and secondary schools
 - Broaden service and outreach nationally and internationally
 - **Maintain the movement (start the movement with World Café)**

Convocation Announcement: 2009 as the Year of Sustainability at NMSU

At NMSU's spring convocation, Interim President Cruzado announced that 2009 will mark the Year of Sustainability at New Mexico State University.

"We at New Mexico State University affirm our commitment to protect and enhance the environment through fostering a sense of stewardship among students, faculty, staff, alumni, and our constituents. As part of our commitment, by the end of 2009, New Mexico State University will complete the following tasks:"

1. Establish a Sustainability Council to advise on matters of sustainability and to facilitate activities during the Year of Sustainability.
2. **Encourage each college, community college, and unit to develop and implement a sustainability plan and at least one public event related to sustainability.**
3. Develop a portal that provides a point of entry to all sustainability-related activities on and off campus.
4. Generate an inventory of courses that have an emphasis on sustainability and the environment.
5. Promote existing and new research and development opportunities that deal with problems in natural resources.
6. Initiate the development of a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality.
7. Complete a comprehensive inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions at all of New Mexico State University's facilities.
8. Take actions necessary to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the academic curriculum.
9. Create a mechanism for tracking progress in the action items and goals throughout the NMSU system.
10. Establish policies that will adopt the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standards or equivalent.
11. **Engage student groups in the process.**
12. Create an inventory of NMSU experts and guest lecturers.

Higher education will be the primary source of expertise to tackle these concerns and I believe we must work together to address common issues. Specifically, I challenge all of us to become involved and consider the following:

Short-term: Can you or your organization change your activities to curtail or more efficiently use resources?

Long-term: What should be the fundamental role of a land-grant university? Will it change? How should NMSU function to fulfill its mission in a sustainability-driven environment?