



# Greening a College:

Institutional Commitments  
and Campus Culture

Cabrini College  
Radnor, PA

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# Overview

- **Introduction**

  - Ray Ward, Wolfington Center

- **Case Study 1: Recycling Redux**

  - Carrie Nielsen, Science Department

- **Case Study 2: Green Power Outage**

  - Eric Malm, Business Department

- **Analysis and Discussion**

  - Tom Southard, Wolfington Center

  - Todd Matthews, Leadership and Organizational Development

# Introduction

- Problem: Sustainable change on campus
- Cabrini College background information
- Case-based discussion
  - Recycling Redux:  
Changing campus culture
    - *“Difficult but cheap”*
  - Green Power Outage:  
Changing Institutional Commitments
    - *“Easy but expensive”*
- Workshop Collaboration

# Case 1: Recycling Redux

- Ongoing difficulties in encouraging recycling on campus
  - Lack of cultural buy-in
  - Misunderstanding and misinformation
- Patchwork strategies:
  - Providing recycling bags in dorm rooms
  - Labelling recycling containers
  - Investigating housekeeping and recycling contractor practices
- Need for institutional and cultural change



## Case 2: Green Power Outage

- Cost saving decision made to buy power from conventional sources
- Decision came to light, and concerns were raised by faculty and staff
- Purchasing policy is currently under review for alignment with college mission
- Hope to have this question revisited by year end, but no outcome yet

# Analysis and Discussion

- Campus Culture:  
College Climate Change
  - Community engagement
  - Buy-in at all levels
  - Coalition-building
- Institutional Commitments:  
Sustaining Sustainability
  - Buy-in at the Highest Levels
  - Promotion and Monitoring Mechanisms
  - Tie Changes to Social Justice.



# Thank you!

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