The committee is charged to develop a set of recommendations to guide senior administrators in setting appropriate goals, year-to-year action steps, and strategies to bring the WHSC into the forefront nationwide in enacting sustainability principles throughout our operations.

Specifically, the taskforce will be asked to address the following:

- Recommend steps to assess resource use and possible savings throughout Emory Healthcare, focusing particularly on energy and paper use. (Emory’s goal is to reduce average campus energy use by 25% per square foot by 2015.)

- Assess the current status of understanding about and commitment to sustainability goals, and recommend next steps for culture change and appropriate education at all levels.

- Recommend steps to expand the recycling program and integrate it more strongly with the university program. (Emory’s goal is 65% overall waste diversion by 2015 and 100% electronic and 95% food waste diversion.)

- Recommend next steps for increased engagement with Emory’s Sustainable Food Initiative. (Emory’s goal is 75% of hospital and cafeteria food either locally grown or sustainably grown by 2015.)

- Assess the adequacy of current research on sustainable healthcare issues; consider establishment of a research collaborative to provide evidence and justification for green building and other health-related sustainability practices.

- Monitor inclusion of sustainability-related design recommendations for new hospital and clinic buildings.

- Assess whether healthcare purchasing guidelines are in line with sustainability goals.

- Recommend improved transportation policies to reduce the greenhouse gas impact of healthcare activities.

- Assess the adequacy of healing spaces as part of Emory’s greenspace programs and make recommendations for further additions.

- Assess Emory Healthcare’s overall progress on meeting the Sustainability Vision for Emory, adopted by the President’s Cabinet in 2006, and make recommendations for next priorities. (http://www.finadmin.emory.edu/policies/SustyReportFinal.pdf)