

*Position Paper February 2021*

## **Sustainability**

### **Situation sketch**

TU Delft has expressed the ambition to be CO2 neutral by 2030. The campus in its current form contributes significantly to air pollution in the Haaglanden region. The 2030 target will largely solve this problem. The university is therefore working hard to implement this ambition on the campus. With the new energy-neutral building Pulse and the future energy-producing building Echo, some steps have already been taken. The university is even working on a geothermal heat project that could make it a national figurehead for the next green energy generation. Our university is also experimenting with new building styles such as green walls at the P-sports car park and the new Echo building.

ORAS hasn't been idle in recent years either. Initiatives such as climate-neutral printing and the recycling of coffee cups have already made the campus more sustainable. ORAS is also looking to the future with several ambitious initiatives, such as basing energy use of a room on its occupancy, collecting deposit cans/bottles on the campus for financial compensation, more (water-saving) vegan options in coffee machines and a 'Sustainability fund' with which sustainable initiatives at the university can be subsidised.

### **ORAS's Vision**

These initiatives are mainly focused on making the campus more sustainable. Sustainability in education has also been mentioned; the view is that sustainability in education is the responsibility of the qualified teachers, who know more about current developments in their field. Forcing teachers to include sustainability in their teaching objectives may therefore be inappropriate, ORAS believes. ORAS believes sustainability is important. However, sustainability is not a file, because it recurs in all pillars/portfolios:

#### **Education**

"TU Delft must educate the student in disciplines that are important for an engineer now and in the future".

Society is becoming more sustainable, so TU Delft should also teach students sustainable knowledge. Lecturers are best informed of current developments in their field and therefore know better which subjects are appropriate for incorporating sustainability. ORAS wants the TU Delft to monitor closely and stimulate lecturers to stay up to date.

#### **Facilities**

"The campus must be a lively, safe, accessible and inspiring environment.

When the campus becomes more sustainable, it also inspires students to be more aware of their sustainable behaviour. ORAS believes that setting a good example contributes to the more sustainable student culture.

ORAS wants to motivate students to come to campus. On-campus, students meet each other which benefits their performance. ORAS is therefore committed to a lively and sustainable campus.

## **Personal development**

"TU Delft should stimulate every student to develop themselves both within and outside their study programme.

ORAS believes that the university should actively stimulate students to undertake extra-curricular activities and develop themselves outside their studies. This also includes sustainable initiatives/projects/boards/committees etc.