



The Alvord Center Strategic Plan for Loomis: 2020–2025

THE MISSION

The Mission of the Alvord Center is to develop global and environmentally engaged citizens through programming focused on enhanced understanding and action-oriented skills.

THE VISION

The Alvord Center for Global & Environmental Studies is vital to advancing the mission of the school by providing students with opportunities to become engaged citizens. Through traditional and experiential learning, curricular-based travel, and student-driven research and action, our students and faculty develop important global and environmental competencies that enable them to empathize with others; to better understand local and global trends and issues; and to develop innovative and collaborative solutions for the common good.

OVERARCHING GOALS

- Incorporate “engaged citizenship” opportunities and learning outcomes in all Alvord Center programming to support the mission of the school and of the Alvord Center.
- Enhance collaborative initiatives with Centers, Academic Departments, Director of International Students, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and local and global partners.
- Enhance community awareness of Alvord Center offerings, programs, and learning outcomes.
- Remain on the forefront of environmental sustainability and global education curriculum and initiatives amongst peer schools.

SPECIFIC GOALS

1. Offerings and Programs for Students

- Enhance the GESC curriculum to strengthen focus on both global and environmental content
- Restructure the GESC Senior Seminar Series to incorporate experiential education practices, reflection assignments, and a culminating Capstone Project.
- Pilot a student leadership position focused on global initiatives.
- Develop new coursework that includes:
 - Embedded travel opportunities
 - Alvord Center seminar (completed in-person or online)
 - An online pre-departure course for IEPs.
- Explore virtual exchange opportunities as an alternative to traditional travel and for GESC curricular use.

2. Offerings and Programs for Faculty and Staff

- Collaborate with the Dean of Faculty Office to identify, recruit, and train GESC faculty and IEP leaders.
- Develop and facilitate an annual professional development program for GESC teachers and IEP leaders focused on:
 - Curricular development
 - Risk management protocols
- Host events to engage faculty in connecting current global and environmental issues to the Island
- Promote existing environmental sustainability opportunities to increase faculty engagement
- Explore the viability of a Sustainability Committee and Global Programming Task Force

3. Framework and Processes

- Embed learning outcomes in all Alvord Center programs and GESC curricular offerings.
- Build effective assessment systems for both student and faculty programming
- Restructure Office of Sustainability programming to incorporate Land Use initiatives and align with overarching Center objectives
- Utilize environmental sustainability best practices and enhance collaboration with the Physical Plant.

4. Community Engagement Initiatives

- Establish annual events promoting and celebrating Alvord Center programming (e.g. Emerging Travellers Exhibit and EarthWeek)
- Generate guest speaker opportunities/programs focused on major global and environmental trends/current issues
- Engage deliberately in the all school theme
- Develop programming for Alvord Center 10 year anniversary
- Explore the viability of Loomis attaining carbon neutrality by 2030 through initiatives, such as:
 - IEP carbon offset
 - Pre and post consumer composting program
- Host peer school workshops to position Loomis as a thought leader in global and environmental education
- Revise website layout and graphics and enhance social media presence