

Sustainable Spaces On Campus: Kottman Reading Room & EnCORE Solar Decathlon House

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INTRODUCTION

- Encourage the expansion of **sustainable student spaces on Ohio State's campus** through two sub-projects
- (1) Develop a **sustainability-based reading room** on the 3rd of Kottman hall
- A hub for SENR students, the building director is looking to expand student spaces in Kottman
- (2) Reinstate the use of the 2011 **Solar Decathlon EnCORE** house on Ohio West Campus
- Our group is tasked with researching best uses for these spaces and creating **recommendations for how to move forward** in their advancement

KOTTMAN 333A READING ROOM

Research Objectives:

Understand how other universities set up and manage similar rooms

Gain understanding of benefits of similar spaces to students

Determine successful marketing strategies

Key Informant Interviews:

Informant	Result
OSU CFAES Library Florian Diekmann	Recommendations for book sourcing and what materials to include in the room
OSU Kottman Hall Coordinator Meredith Luikart	Contacts necessary to progress in the project and recommendations for room design and furniture sourcing
ERG Partner Kristi Leikies	Sparked the initial idea, provided necessary contacts and gave recommendations
OSU Project Coordinator Brian Smith	Information regarding permits, how to develop the room, and an estimated budget for renovations

Case Studies:

Durland Alternatives Library: Cornell Reading Room



Provided inspiration for design and materials to add

Highbanks Metropark Nature Center



Potential nature/sustainability-based resources to include

Current Space: Pictures taken of the space as it is now vs. design vision



Inspiration:



Recommendations:

- Book donation drive
- Market the room to students
- Renovate the room

ENCORE HOUSE



Research Objectives:

Learn how other universities have used Solar Decathlon Houses

Understand EnCORE and the history of its use

Develop recommendation for best future use of the home

Case Studies:

Missouri University of Science and Technology "Solar Village"



Village of multiple solar decathlon houses created by students that are used for research and housing for student researchers

Middlebury College "Self-Reliance"



On Campus student houses, residents plan and host community outreach projects surrounding sustainability and environmental issues

Key Informant Meetings: Dr. Lingying Zhao

EnCORE previously:

- Had paid student workers for tours and maintenance
 - Hosted open houses once each month
 - Used frequently for research and workshops
- Programs fizzled out and lost funding since COVID

Discussion:

Discussion of research findings

Other successful Solar Decathlon houses prove to be sites of sustainability-focused education and living

Past uses of EnCORE house can be rekindled and redeveloped

Found need for development of future programs such as obtaining living permits, applying for research funding, and up-keep

Determined interns could help carry out future programs to ensure long-term sustained use

Recommendations:

Establish an internship program with the intention to:

- Make EnCORE House livable, promoting sustainable living at OSU
- Host educational events/tours, building awareness of EnCORE
- Promote participation in future Solar Decathlon competitions, to work towards building solar village

CONCLUSION

- Goal: to **expand the availability of sustainable spots** on campus for students
- Key emphasis placed on **long term management/organization** to ensure these spaces remain available for future students
- We hope the development of these projects will **inspire more sustainable places** on our campus and at other universities

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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