



Greetings:

We wish to invite you to participate in this research project on creating a sustainable university at Delta State. This research project is part of a sociology and community development course called Environment and Society (SOC 422/522 and COD 522), offered in the Division of Social Sciences at DSU. The instructor of this course is Dr. Alan Barton, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Community Development. The students conducting this research are undergraduate and graduate students registered in this course.

Your contributions will assist us in developing a better understanding of the attitudes and perceptions of DSU faculty, staff, administrators and students towards sustainability on campus. We anticipate this interview will last about ____ minutes, during which we will ask you questions pertaining to specific aspects of university operations.

We wish to assure you that your participation in this research is entirely voluntary, and you can choose to discontinue your participation at any time. You are not required to answer any of the questions if you do not wish to. Information that you provide will be used to develop a class paper, and will then be compiled into an overall proposed plan of action to create a sustainable university. Generally, the topics covered will be public in nature; however, if confidentiality is guaranteed by the interviewer, any responses you provide will be kept in strict confidence by everyone involved in this research project. We will not divulge your identity nor will we link any information you provide to your identity in any reports that are produced from this research. You should be aware, however, that we cannot guarantee confidentiality from others not attached to this course who are present at the interview (e.g. your staff; other participants in a focus group), as they are not bound by this confidentiality agreement.

If you have any questions about this project or would like to know more about your rights as a participant in this study, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Course Instructor:

Dr. Alan Barton
Division of Social Sciences
DSU Box 3264
Delta State University
Cleveland, MS 38733
(662) 846-4097

Institutional Review Board Chair:

Mr. Brad Teague
Athletic Department
DSU Box 3372
Delta State University
Cleveland, MS 38733
(662) 846-4300

For more information, see: <http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/514.asp>

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this focus group.

Sincerely,



INFORMED CONSENT FORM

SOC 422/522 COD 522 Environment and Society

Please read and sign below:

I agree that my participation in this research project on a sustainable university at Delta State is voluntary, and that I have read and agree to the statement of informed consent.

Signature

Date

Printed Name