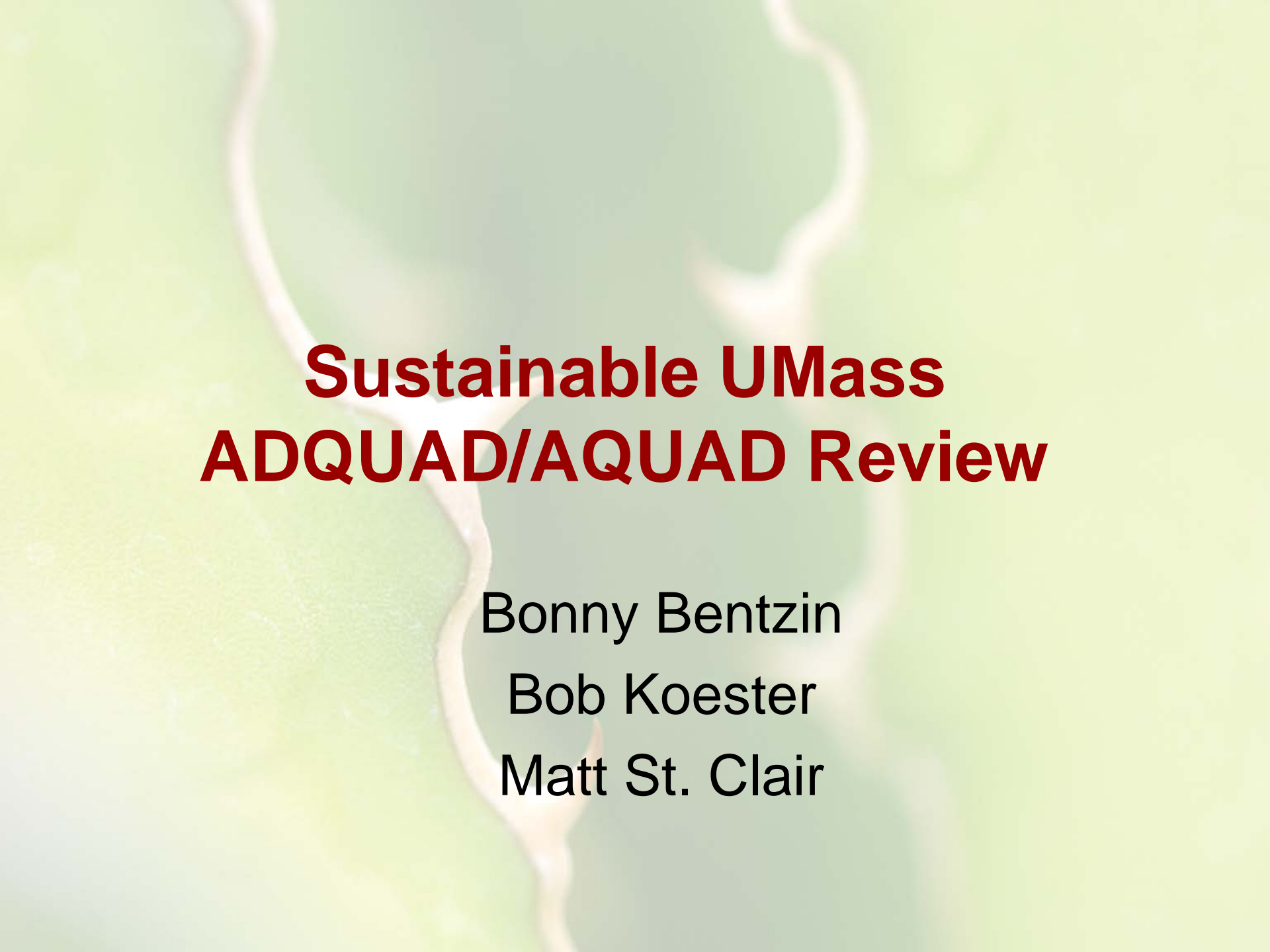




University of  
Massachusetts  
Amherst

## Sustainable UMass ADQUAD External Review Final Presentation

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# **Sustainable UMass ADQUAD/AQUAD Review**

Bonny Bentzin

Bob Koester

Matt St. Clair

# Agenda

- Findings Presentation: 20 minutes
- Clarification Questions: 10 minutes
- Group Discussion: 30 minutes
- Next Steps: 20 minutes

# Current Successes

- Early leadership from pioneers across a broad departmental spectrum.
- Investment in strengthening core campus facilities.
- Extensive student and cross-departmental involvement.
- A campus culture which values experiential learning.
- Flagship undergraduate sustainability programs, and interdepartmental sustainability graduate program.
- Leading nationally:
  - Eco-Rep program
  - Library services
  - Food systems research, permaculture, dining

# Key Observations

- The current standing of Sustainable UMass as a national leader in sustainability is in jeopardy.
  - No unified institution-wide vision for sustainability.
  - Limited administrative structure to oversee and implement a sustainability action plan.
  - Limited investments in administrative and program staff, as well as vehicles for convening.
  - Not resourced for developing and managing foundational, long-term programs.

# Key Observations

- Team shows fatigue from holding together a broad cross-campus coalition in the absence of adequate formal organizational structures.
- Many staff are waiting for a signal from senior leadership to engage more fully.
- Senior campus leaders are supportive but not actively engaged in driving goal setting.

# Key Observations

- Significant gaps in present operational practices:
  - Renewable energy
  - Solid waste
  - Procurement
  - Integrated building design process
- Academic gaps: Ph.D.-level research degree program, and broader integration across the colleges.

# Recommendations

- Sustainable UMass needs a central organizing platform – *Institute for Sustainability Integration*
  - Reports to Chancellor, Deputy Chancellor or Provost.
  - Coordinates the interaction and advancement of the academic and operational sustainability programs.
  - 3-5 year campus-wide action plan for sustainability.
- Comprehensively integrate sustainability more thoroughly into current strategic planning work.
- Establish a set of sustainability metrics to help drive resource allocation.

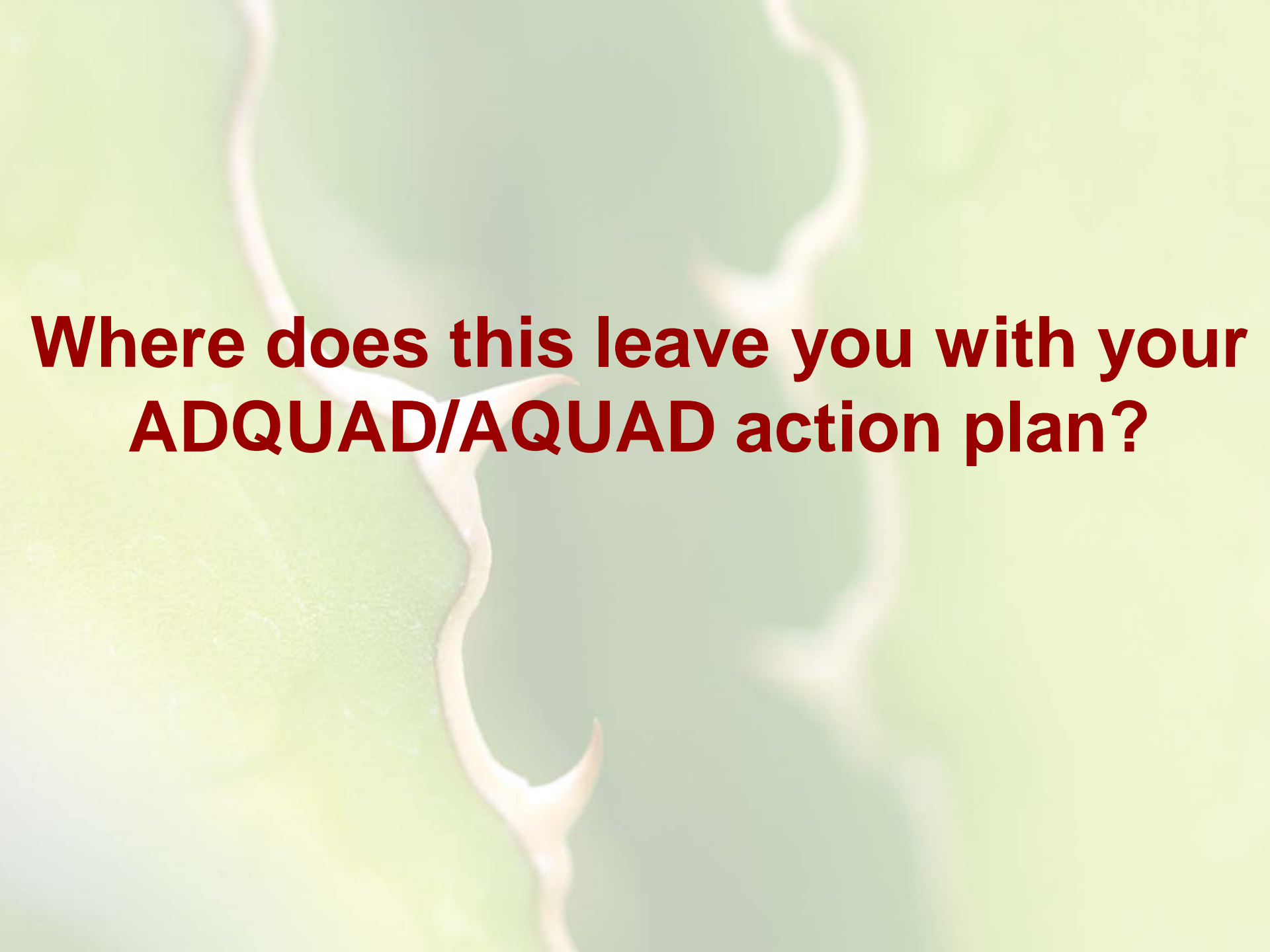


# Recommendations

- Adopt bold near-term GHG reduction targets, take a comprehensive approach to energy and solid waste management.
- Integrate sustainability-related responsibilities into all job descriptions and/or personnel evaluations; beginning at the senior level.
- Showcase the existing suite of strong academic offerings.
- Invest in new programs to maintain leadership in the national academic sustainability conversation.



# **Questions and Clarifications**



**Where does this leave you with your  
ADQUAD/AQUAD action plan?**



**What are your next steps?**