

Tri-C® Faculty Leadership in Sustainability Award, 2021

The *Faculty Leadership in Sustainability Award* recognizes Tri-C faculty (full time or part time) who have incorporated sustainability in their curriculum and helped Tri-C move toward achieving the College's long-term academic and workforce training goals.



*2021 Faculty Leadership in Sustainability Award winner
Derrick L. Williams, Ph.D.,
Professor of Communication Studies
at Metropolitan Campus.*

The 2021 winner of the *Faculty Leadership in Sustainability Award* was Derrick L. Williams, PhD, Professor of Communication Studies at Metropolitan Campus. Dr. Williams developed and implemented a class project for spring 2021 focused on public speaking and the legacy of Carl B. Stokes' environmental, social, and economic policies as mayor of Cleveland in the late 1960's. In addition to research on the history, students listened to speeches to better understand how Mayor Stokes' rhetorical talent allowed him to connect with people. The project was a learning experience covering the history of environmental and socio-economic issues within Cleveland and culminated in students participating in a virtual presentation sharing what they'd learned with the community.

A prerecorded program was featured during Metro's Earth Week, and the students got another opportunity to showcase their research during a live virtual presentation for South Puget Sound Community College during their 2021 Earth Week. One of Dr. Williams' students shared "I can say that this has been an amazing experience for me. I never thought that I would be chosen to speak in a powerful presentation such as this...I just really want to thank Professor Williams for giving me the opportunity to speak and to help push the vision for environmental justice out to the world."

