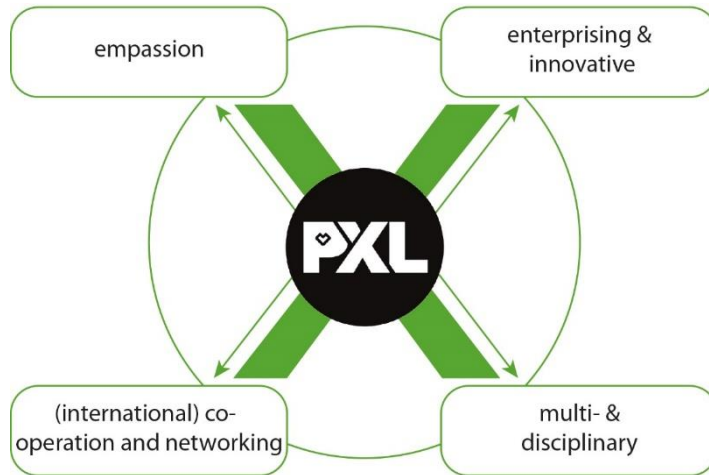


# Sustainability Vision of the PXL-Tech Department

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## 1. The vision of PXL University College (Belgium)



## 2. The vision of PXL University College

In the vision of our institute, sustainability is not yet included (for this period). The PXL-Tech department however has integrated sustainability in its vision. Agro- and biotechnology is an educational program within this department.



## 2.1 Why choose for a sustainable department

1. For many complex social challenges, innovative answers are necessary. Social issues such as spatial planning, energy, agriculture, nutrition, social inequality and health care require a new approach.

As technology plays an important role, sustainable action for a technology department is an important core value;

2. Sustainability is included as a policy theme in the institutional review in Flanders

3. Graduates are more broadly educated and get more opportunities in the labour market (green economy);

4. A growing group of students also expects a university college to include sustainability in its policies;

5. Plus point to the outside world (to make a sustainability report annually ...);

Internationalization and sustainability are linked. Through internationalization projects, students become familiar with other cultures, other ways of life, ... which will address them in a way that deals with sustainability issues.

## 2.2. Five key competencies for sustainability

1. **System thinking:** the competence of system thinking is the ability to analyze systems in different domains (society, environment, economy, etc.) and at different levels.

Analyzing these complex systems involves understanding the whole, empirical research, decomposing their structure, the main components and dynamics.

2. **Normative competence:** the normative competence is about trying to collectively identify, apply, reconcile, but often negotiate sustainable goals, values and principles. What is a sustainable city, a sustainable economy, a sustainable energy supply or sustainable mobility? It is about shaping an image of the future to be pursued and at the same time making choices on a daily basis.

3. **Anticipatory competence:** preventing and avoiding harmful, unintended consequences of our present way of life, for generations after us. It is about anticipating the future and intervening in our current way of living, working, living, etc.

4. **Strategic competence:** collective design and implementation of interventions, transitions and administrative change strategies towards sustainability.

5. **Interpersonal competence:** understanding, comparing and critically evaluating different positions, perspectives and preferences

The extent to which the current competences of the programs include the above competencies is examined. If this is not the case, it is important to integrate them into the competences of the courses.

The competences mentioned above also have interfaces with research competences, entrepreneurial competences, international and intercultural competences.

## 2.3 Goals

Within the PXL-Tech department, sustainability is one of the core values we want to develop in our students / staff.

Our strategic objective is :

***Within the PXL-Tech department, students and staff work in a sustainable way in all their processes and within a sustainable campus.***

The operational objectives linked with this vision are:

1. Within each program there is a learning path 'sustainability' = **learning about sustainability**
2. **Sustainable learning** (system approach) gets an important place in the curricula and in the working methods.
3. Within the department, students and staff are made aware of sustainable behaviour = **learning for sustainability**
4. On our campus, future investments will be made for sustainable solutions. Communication to students and staff is a priority= **sustainable campus**