**Academics and Research Working Group Minutes**

**November 5, 2009, 8:00 AM**

**Overview:**

The CEST Working Group for Academic & Research Programs met Thursday at 8 am at Mission Valley Shopping Center. A brief summary of the meeting follows. If you have questions about the work, or ideas about strategic planning for sustainability as pertaining to academic and research activities, your thoughts, and those from colleagues, are always welcome.

Please participate in the scheduling of the next meeting. Thanks for your help with this important project.

**Meeting Summary:**

Participants of the first meeting of the CEST Working Group include:

Laura Taylor, CALS, Director of the Center for Environmental and Resource Economics Policy

Tom Wentworth, CALS, Ecology

Joe DeCarolis, Engineering, Energy and Climate

Frank Buckless, College of Management, Head Accounting Department

Tracy Dixon, Director, NCSU Office of Sustainability

Bill Winner, CNR & Provost Office, Co-Chair CEST

The overview is that high costs of utilities and other resources, existing and expected federal and state policies, UNC-GA guidelines, and compliance with the Presidents Climate Commitment obligate NCSU to advance sustainability practices. To advance sustainability, the CEST is forming a community of faculty members, staff members, and students to help guide planning. The CEST plan for identifying Working Groups is recognized and endorsed by Executive Officers, Deans, and other administrators on campus. The CEST Working Groups include Transportation, Energy and Water, Land Use, Buildings, Purchasing, Waste Reduction and Recycling, and Academic & Research Programs. Each CEST Working Group will provide contributions to a Five-Year Strategic Plan for Advancing Sustainability at NCSU. The submission for the Academic & Research Working Group is due Dec. 9, 2009.

Specific obligations include for NCSU include:

Presidents Climate Commitment

 Complete a Greenhouse Gas Inventory

 Complete a Climate Action Plan to achieve climate neutrality

 New Buildings are LEED Silver

 Comply with Energy Star Purchasing policies

Senate Bill 668 for all state buildings including NCSU

 Energy consumption per gross ft2 reduced 20% from 2003-4 values by 2010

 Energy consumption reduced 30% by 2015