

Minutes

January 11, 2016, 10:30 – 12:00
Administrative Services Building III, Room 301

Attendees

Brian Iezzi, Lindsay Batchelor, Paul McConocha, Amelia Fujikawa, Cynelsa Broderick, Jessica Thomas, Traci Rose Rider, Meghan Lobsinger, Tracy Dixon, Carla Davis, Jack Colby, Debbie Currie, Dick Bernhard, Liz Bowen, Mark Michaelson, Jeff Hightower, Keith Smith, Charles Bowen, Lisa Maune, Ashley Smith, Analis Fulghum, Jeanette Powell

10:30 Welcome – Jack Colby

10:35 STARS submission results – Lindsay Batchelor & Ashley Smith (see presentation)

NC State recently completed this international rating system for sustainability in higher education. The last time NC State completed the rating was in 2012, but we did not pursue a score/rating. In January 2016, after 10 months of data collection and more than 50 campus contributors, NC State submitted STARS and received a Gold rating. Only four of our peer institutions have submitted and received ratings (two received gold, one received silver, and one received platinum). We are ahead of our peers in research, public engagement, air and climate, dining, energy, grounds, water, diversity and affordability and coordinator/planning/governance. We have additional opportunity compared to our peers in curriculum, campus engagement, buildings, purchasing, transportation, waste, health/wellbeing and work, and investment. There is only one platinum level institution in the STARS program. See presentation for additional details, as well as NC State's STARS [submission](#). Special thanks to the entire campus sustainability movement at NC State for contributing to this accomplishment.

11:10 Sustainability Council update - Jack Colby (see presentation)

CEST was created in the mid-2000s and had a number of accomplishments. The creation of the Sustainability Council will allow NC State to take sustainability to the next level. All the steering committee positions have been filled (see presentation for the complete list of chairs and co-chairs). Working groups exist in Academics, Community and Culture, Communications, Student Leadership and Operations/Planning/Design. Opportunities are available for anyone from the campus community or Raleigh-area community to participate in working groups. A Jan. 20 town hall meeting will generate sustainability ideas and feedback, as will an online survey to be launched following the Jan. 20 meetings. Working groups will strategize in spring, write goals/strategies in summer, receive input on draft of plan, and submit the Sustainability Strategic Plan for university adoption in spring 2017. The Jan. 20 meeting is crucial; CEST members are invited to attend and bring three friends. Data from this town hall will be provided to each working group as they begin their goal planning work. CEST members are invited to join a working group; you can [opt in online](#) or you may receive an invitation from a working group chair.

11:25 Waste Characterization Results – Analis Fulghum (see presentation, handout and full report)

Analis Fulghum, manager of Waste Reduction and Recycling Office, discussed the results of a spring 2015 waste composition study conducted on campus. The university goal is 65 percent waste diversion by 2015, and NC State is currently tracking at 50-60 percent (depending on what materials are included). The study helped highlight areas for improvement. The April 2015 study included 33 campus buildings (10 academic buildings, 10 residence halls, 4 dining halls, 2 libraries, 3 mixed use facilities, 4 research and medical buildings) over 2 weeks. Each sample

represented 24 hours of waste, and 47 types of materials were tracked. Results indicated 38% of waste is compostable, 13% of waste was recycled paper, 7% was recyclable containers, 5% potential recyclables, and 30% was waste. See presentation for additional detail, recommendations, etc. Overall opportunities: food waste accounts for 27 percent of waste on campus (composting would alleviate this), continued efforts to pair recycling/landfill containers throughout campus, improved signage for buildings in the study, expand composting education and many others. Since the study, the following were launched: football stadium composting, increased expansion of pizza box composting project, development of training videos for Dining employees, partnership with Rhonda Sherman on an campus composting demonstration site, compost and mini-bin pilot at Administrative Services III building, implementation of compost feasibility study. Another study is anticipated in 3 – 5 years to evaluate success of programs. The whole report can be accessed [online](#).

12:00 Adjourn

Information Items

- Join us for the Sustainability Town Hall on Jan. 20, from 9-11, to generate ideas for NC State's next Sustainability Strategic Plan (should have received a calendar invitation).
- NC State was awarded a Gold from Best Workplaces
- University Housekeeping was selected as the Silver Award winner for Higher Education in the 2015 Green Cleaning Awards by American School & University
- A team is planning an end-of-year CEST celebration. Please forward any input to the planning committee of Lindsay Batchelor, Meghan Lobsinger, Lisa Maune or Keith Smith.
- All sustainability-related events can be found here: <http://sustainability.ncsu.edu/get-involved/events/>

Next meeting: Feb. 15, 2016

(Standing meetings are 3rd Monday of the month from 10:30-12:00)