

Minutes

Mon. Oct. 19 3:00 – 4:30 PM
Administrative Building III, Room 301

Minutes recorded by Mande Swisher

Members Present: Tracy Dixon, Jack Colby, Bill Winner, David Dean, Lindsay Batchelor, Nessa Stone, Paul McConocha, Brian O'Sullivan, Allison Carpenter, Blain Woods, Mike Harwood, Barry Olson, Emily Dell, Lisa Johnson, Tom Skolnicki

Began at 3:08 pm

Jack – welcome, want to spend time talking about work going on in working groups, and exchange of ideas.

Introductions –Jack

Welcomed Lisa Johnson, interim university architect and new Land Use chair

Agenda overview - Jack

Updates, talk about plan to engage campus community and get feedback from campus, what's going on in the different working groups, interaction about the process, and prepare for November meeting.

Additional items to agenda? None

Updates – Jack

Bill and Jack presentation to Dean's Council - updated on energy and environment and how we are doing with sustainability on campus, brought them up to speed, what we have accomplished to date, the carbon inventory, formation of CEST. Let deans know how we utilize the CEST structure, will develop and vet strategies for campus sustainability, develop strategic plan and climate action plan for sustainability

Bill asked for support of program, populating the working groups and getting the word out. Provided deans with contact points and encouraged them to get the word out about the activities and hope that faculty members choose to participate. Positive feedback from the dean's, good level of support from the dean's council. Positive. Wanted to inform deans of what's going on so they are aware before it gets too big. Gave them until last Friday to give us names of people who would be involved.

Question (Lisa): Have we gotten many students involved with CEST working groups?

Bill- yes with WESA and other student groups (David D.)

Tracy - David conducted a campus wide blast asking for participation and we have gotten interest. The Sustainability Office is asking people to get involved following each presentation the do.

Jack – Campus Sustainability Day – Wednesday 22nd from 10-2 on the brickyard, Tire Pressure Demonstration, and the release of the 08-09 Sustainability Annual Report

Last Thursday and Friday – APPA – working with them on a thought leader series, the 4th event they have held to bring leaders from across the country, to think about driving forces impact universities. Sustainability, the environment and climate change were big topics.

The types of things that will be impacting sustainability in higher education. How are we going to shape our campuses to respond to these issues. Great 2 days of discussion. Output – monograph that is on APPA website, asking questions about how they approach energy and climate control on their campus, what is the business case for sustainability. How to support the program and ingrain this into the campus culture. When available we will bring to the group so we can see how we can utilize items at our university. Recognition that we have a number of institutions that have been at this for a number of years, they are available for our use and to bounce ideas off of.

Board of Governors has now approved the UNCGA Sustainability Policy, it is very much in alignment with the direction we have already set, the next steps are to take the broad framework and focus it to the specific universities. We can share our information with the schools just starting out to help them along.

STARS – program offered by AASHE, is now up and running. Provide a way to rate schools on how well they are doing in sustainability. Mentioned myriad of scorecards asked to fill out the need for one recognized assessment across schools. Mentioned previous issues with the Endowment Survey in that we asked not to participate but they pulled together information we hadn't approved and gave us a D. This year Lindsay gave the information and we got a B. Tracy will be recommending our role in STARS.

Check out the CEST website to see the minutes and agenda and the working group meetings. Let us know if you have a meeting coming up so we can post it and get more interest.

Sustainability Annual Report released Wednesday, October 19, 2009.

Plan to Engage the Campus - Jack

Open, inclusive working groups – we understand there may be a core group that is more stable; think about meeting locations (close to wolfline, time of day, possibly staggering the meetings, ask the students when and where would be good for them), post draft plan on sustainability site, opportunities for email, phone and web comments (plenty of options for comments, engage as many people as possible), open town hall meetings (different campuses, want feedback, the more the better), informal meet and greet (won't be able to reach everyone with the town halls, so this is to get to more people), presentation to major groups. We want wide visibility. We want to have a lot of time to be able to respond to the people around campus.

Questions (Brian) - any hints on how to frame the range of issues of what you want to focus on?

Jack: As we approach this, there is a risk that we go in with too much pre-conceived notion of how this will turn out, we don't want to fit strategies into a mold, you know the major transportation issues that would be present concerning sustainability.

Emily suggested engaging activities to get more people excited about the working groups, idea for more involvement

Updates from working groups

Academics/Research (Bill)– has not come together yet, waiting until after the dean’s council meeting and now we have some names and are beginning the process to pull together the group and start meeting. Very broad class content and research subjects/locations. Any names with research academics get names to Tracy, expect membership to grow as we go. Hope to deliver something in draft form fairly short time. Hopefully identify the new leader of academics/research soon.

Materials & Purchasing (Blain)– Working on trying to find a time when the meeting can happen. About 10 people working toward the meeting, Meeting this Wednesday 3:30 room Admin III room 124 and Oct. 27th 10:30-12 admin III room 124A. See Website for meeting times. Open to more members. Use what is already available and add to it. Includes one student participant.

Transportation (Brian)– got people and commitments, low on students. Have not had the first meeting.

Energy and Water (Paul) – staff heavy , some faculty, a couple students. Unique problem. Meshing an already developed energy strategic plan to the new plans we are working to develop. Did a SWOT analysis for the group and it worked very well to break it down to its small components

Land Use (Lisa Johnson)– looking forward to working with the group working with Tom S.

WRR (Nessa)– met last Wednesday, rainy day so not too many people present, Housing & Dining and Rhonda Sherman, the interest is there, focused on the history of WRR on campus and how to measure the office’s success and history of the program. What’s been going on in the past, wanted to get away from we need more recycling bins, coming prepared for SWOT analysis next meeting. Barry – appreciated the history of the group, helped set the context

Buildings (Tracy standing in for Carole) – met about 2 weeks ago and established a schedule. Talked through a couple of commitments they are already under. Talking about vision and creating draft strategies. understanding the regulations and policies that are already out there.

Discussion about what working well - Bill

SWOT. Having the team members develop the rules for engagement -sets the tone. Overview of history and commitments. Looking up other schools plans - not re-creating the wheel. Propose realistic strategic goals.

Question for thought by the group (Bill) - Does the format for reporting seem appropriate?

November Expectations (see slide)

Presentations by WRR, Transportation, Energy & Water, and Materials & Purchasing

We Appreciate You!