

## Minutes

May 1, 10:30 – 12:00  
Administrative Services Complex III, Room 301

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### Attendees

Attending: Rebekah Dunstan, Tracy Dixon, Bill Winner, Walt Robinson, Cynelsa Broderick, Robert Davis, Tom Karches, Sarah Ketchem, Sean Fokes, Rahul Kathard, Michael Hardwood, Lisa Maune, Nate Pedder, Lisa Johnson, Dick Bernhard, Liz Bowen, Jeff Hightower, Sharon Loosman, Claudia Powell, Jeannette Powell, Keith Smith, Chris Dunham, Brian Jones, Carla Davis

### 10:30 Welcome - Bill Winner

### 10:35 Meet an NC State Steward – Rahul Kathard

- Joined Stewards to make a difference about how students approach sustainability
- Stewards focus on peer-to-peer education as well as sustainability initiatives
- Great relationship with Sustainability Office
- Students set up projects but have support from Sustainability Office as a resource for support and guidance
- Enjoyed the plant walk project because got to learn about trees and plants that he didn't know about before.

### 10:40 Earth Month Highlights – Robert Davis

- Photos shown during Robert's report
- Spectacular event this year
- Attracted a large and diverse crowd
- Lots of positive feedback
- 34 unique events. New events: Faith and Sustainability. New partnerships: Place at the Table, History Department
- Bill - Robert deserves a huge round of applause for his leadership to Earth Month. Walt also should be recognized for outstanding Green Brick Award ceremony. Thank you Sustainability Office for their support in all of these efforts.

### 10:50 Summer building energy setbacks– Carla Davis

- Collaboration between Energy Management, Building Maintenance and Operation, Registrar's Office and Sustainability Office
- Looking at class schedules, events and buildings during summer
- Adjust building HVAC schedules to save energy in buildings. Saved \$2,500 last summer in pilot program where did not move classes, only turned back buildings when no classes or events were scheduled
- This year, worked with Registrar's office to proactively keep some buildings set back after 5 pm for energy savings. Also consolidating classes and events into predetermined buildings.
- Could possibly save several thousand dollars by next summer.
- Iowa University has been able to save approximately \$10,000 but is hard to predict exactly what our cost savings will be.
- Other benefits include campus safety and house keeping savings

- Occupants will be notified about the setbacks.

### **11:00 Timeline for year end tactic reporting – Tracy Dixon**

- Gathering Annual Sustainability Report information, including tactic updates over summer
- Be on the look out this summer for asks for information for the Annual report and STARS
- Asking for STARS narrative data now and fiscal year data later
- Will be coupling remaining STARS data collection with Annual Reporting ask

### **11:10 Sustainability Planning Discussion Continued – Tracy Dixon**

- Full notes at the end of the minutes
- Question discussed: If one of the goals of the next SSP is to provide a holistic approach to sustainability and support a culture of sustainability for our students, what are the specific ideas that provide needed student resources?
- Lisa J.: Should celebrate sustainability successes more across campus
- Sharon: Collaboration with auxiliaries is going really well.
- Walt: Track downstream impact of sustainability involvement at NCSU and how that translates into lifestyle and career choices.
- Robert: Confront conflicts between sustainability culture and commercial marketing
- Keith: Helping Agroecology Education farm grow and gets students involved. Highlight professors and extension impacting local food. Year round production about to start with hoop houses.
- Bill: Brought Farmers Market to campus
- Robert: The fact we've been doing the Alternative Vehicle Showcase on campus has been great. A lot of students are engaged in this activity.
- Nate: Awards funds for Sustainability Fund this cycle. Opportunity to tie into research.
- Michael: Adding Hunt Library and housing on Centennial cCmpus makes it a more sustainable living environment. Solar flora/tree installation on Centennial Campus. Solar panels on Partners building. SOUL Garden has grown. Bike paths through campus as well.
- Lisa J.: Planning cogeneration plant for centennial campus
- Michael: partnership for Pullen connection between North Campus and Centennial Campus. Great for alternative transportation and save bus routes.
- Keith: Dining invested in hiring more chefs to enable cooking with fresh food which enables fresh and local meals to campus.
- Bill: Came here 8 years ago and there was no Sustainability Office. It has been an impressive change.

### **11:40 Announcements – Bill Winner**

- NC State will be hosting the annual meeting of the Southeast Sustainability Network this June
- Sustainability Fund awardees will be notified today.
  - Nate: Received 28 applications for a total of \$478,000. Funded 10 projects: 7 Big Belly solar compactors, SOUL Garden, Bioblitz, Aquaponics, Campus farmers market, Solar Pavilion, Compost training facility, Great animal orchestra, Agroecology Education Farm
- Sustainability accolades:
  - Listed in the Princeton Review Guide to 353 Green Colleges for 6<sup>th</sup> year
  - Won 5 City of Raleigh Environmental Award categories:

- Institutional Innovation: LEED Lab class, accepted by Dr. Traci Rose Rider and Liz Bowen
  - Green Building Design: NC Cooperative Extension Residential Energy Efficiency Program, accepted by Laura Langham
  - Environmental Awareness: EcoVillage Sustainable Planning and Urban Sightseers (SPUDS) trip, accepted by Meghan Lobsinger and Bryan Botts
  - Youth Award: Eric Rizzo
  - 2nd place PSA accepted by Carson Nguyen
- The Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling won the Outstanding College or University Program Award By The Carolina Recycling Association
- The PCOM audit course presented their Annual Sustainability Report findings to the Chancellor, Dean Weiss and department head Frank Buckless on April 23.
  - [Link](http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/pdfplus/10.1089/SUS.2015.0019#utm_source=ETOC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sus) to Winner, Showalter and Dickey article,
- Michael: Ground breaking last week for hotel conference center on Centennial. LEED Silver developer being utilized.
- Sharon: Working on online process to eliminate paper
- Chris: Working at removing single use plastics in C-stores
- Nate: Student Body President will have 2 sustainability co directors
- Robert: Working with A Place at the Table, Nile project
- Liz: Installed solar array donated by Stratus Solar on Partners I.
- Dick: Been on CEST for a long time. When asked, “what is the most useful thing you’ve done this year,” his answer is that he’s picked up 5000 pieces of litter to be put in trash or recycled. Rides the Go Raleigh bus around town. What about the people over 40? Rarely hear about sustainability for people over 40. We do need to be conscious about what degree sustainability initiatives are reaching staff/faculty. They are around campus for a long time. Engage the other population on campus like staff, faculty and graduate students. We are missing those populations.
- Cynelsa: AmeriCorps Volunteer with the Sustainability Office. Researching the interconnectedness of diversity and sustainability. 10-month term. Will be meeting with different departments and groups across campus.
- Bill: Last CEST meeting for academic year. We will not be meeting over the summer. Appalachian Energy Summit is taking place in mid July.
- Rebekah: Big thanks to call of our campus partners that have worked with Stewards - Sean Fokes with the energy and water audits which saved around \$9,000 this year. Staff Senate for supporting the Stewards Reduce the Use Campaign. Dining (Chris and Keith) for helping support the Stewards plastic bag phase out plan. Architects Office (Tom and Dave) helping with the Stewards Solar Pavilion proposal. Waste Reduction and Recycling for providing bins and paint for the Plastic Bag recycling campaign.
- Brian: Solar Tree coming to Centennial Campus. 8 buildings receiving LED upfits. LED are now less expensive than fluorescence lights in the market place. 2 new spaces that are coming online this month - Research IV (suite 1800) and Research II (1<sup>st</sup> floor).
- Sarah: Compost feasibility project underway. Hosting conference this summer while highlighting master plan, experiential education and storm water management. Working with students on using compost tea on playing fields. Looking for more student participation. Looking to designate a site near their office as a wildlife habitat. Dr. Warner in horticulture to plant milkweed to attract monarchs.
- Lisa Maune: Sustainability is having an impact on staff decisions including personal purchases.

**Next meeting:** Fall 2015

## Sustainability Planning Discussion full notes

Question discussed: If one of the goals of the next SSP is to provide a holistic approach to sustainability and support a culture of sustainability for our students, what are the specific ideas that provide needed student resources?

What excelled in the <u>current SSP</u> ?	What should receive additional focus in the <u>future SSP</u> ?
<p>Stewards program                      EcoVillage (maintain participation with students who are no longer in program)                      Alternative Service Break (Costa Rica, other sustainability themes)                      Partnerships between student projects and Facilities                      Volunteer opportunities                      LEED Lab class (pre and post survey that covered sustainability knowledge and career goals)\                      Pointing out sustainability features in buildings                      Partnerships with auxiliaries                      Dining partnership with Agroecology (grow food on campus for campus)                      Dining sustainability initiatives that interface with students                      Farmers Market                      Alternative Vehicle Showcase                      Sustainability fund – game changer for providing seed funding for projects that impact students                      Housing on Centennial Campus, including market rate, where students and employees live on campus                      Solar at Centennial (solar on Partners, solar tree) toward longer term smart grid                      SOUL garden                      Planning for cogeneration on Centennial                      Dining hired more chefs to be able to cook more fresh food</p>	<p>Grow Sustainability Fund (a lot of overlap with many of these ideas)                      Ask SGA president                      Volunteer opportunities                      One stop shop                      Easy access to information                      Utilizing information and data available for research, teaching and business purposes – what’s available and how use it?                      Scholarships, GTAs and GRAs, \$ for travel                      Research opportunities                      Virtual hub                      Experiential education                      Sustainability into coursework                      Funding for research                      Funds for student clubs                      Integrate campus life with academic content                      More living lab courses                      Confront conflicts between sustainability culture and commercial marketing (e.g. vending) – more opportunities to do this (lunch and learns, SG, Stewards, etc.)                      More living and learning groups                      Push ASB to be “highly suggested”                      Freshman orientation include recycling programs                      How track downstream impact of sustainability involvement at NCSU and how translates into lifestyle and career choice                      More celebrating successes</p>

### Unedited comments from March 6 meeting (underline reflects how captured in table above)

- Grow the Think Outside the Brick and Sustainability Fund
- Ask SGA president
- Volunteer opportunities
- One stop shop for information and resources that points to all of NC State’s efforts
- Students need more information and easy access to information about sustainability, e.g., dashboards
- Scholarships in sustainability for undergraduates. GTAs and GRAs for graduate students. Money for supporting student travel to events and academic programs
- Research opportunities
- A virtual hub where students can see in one place all the academic, research, experiential, career and other opportunities
- Create an opportunity for every student to be exposed to sustainability through experiential education and/or service learning

- Incorporate sustainability issues and participation into environmental course work
- Funding for research and innovative ideas (new technology)
- Funds to support activities of student organizations and clubs
- Integrate campus life with academic content
- Encourage more living lab courses
- Confront conflicts between culture of sustainability and campus commercial marketing to students (e.g. vending)
- More living and learning groups
- Push alternate spring break into the “highly suggested” category for students (undergraduates)
- Freshman orientation week should have programs on recycling that will make engagement expected and fun