Environmental Committee Meeting  
Thursday May 27, 2010  
CSU 202

Present: Kim Rademaker, Mary Nere, Denise Billington-Just, Phil Novak, Dale Plemmons Ryan Ihrke

Sub-committee Review:

Green Fund: Mary Nere and Kim Rademaker

There are questions regarding what amount of money, if any, has been collected by the student senate for green initiatives and if there is a plan to use it. Another questions is whether or not it would make sense to have any money collected through other sources to go to the student senate account. Ryan will check with Tom William, student body president regarding the status of these funds.

Sustainability Policies: No update

Education and Outreach:

Continue need was expressed to have more information about sustainability activities reported to the campus and greater Mankato community.

Campus of the Future Task Force

Submitted feedback to the draft from Lou Schwartzkopf via e-mail.

*The one comment I have regards Item 1 under Old Business of the Agenda, Campus of the Future Task Force. While I support the Draft Objectives listed under 1. Create a campus culture supporting energy efficiency, resource conservation and sustainability, especially 1a. Create a campus sustainability policy and support network, it strikes me that these objectives (like 1aiv, Complete a “Carbon Footprint” analysis) are preliminary to the university signing on to the ACUPCC. I recommend rewording 1a to say “Create a campus sustainability policy and support network in preparation for signing on to the ACUPCC if deemed feasible.”*

Environmental Committee members are encouraged to submit any recommendations to the present draft to Ryan Ihrke or Paul Corcoran.

Jean Lundquist

Jean Lundquist, Blue Earth County, was unable to attend this meeting but hopes to attend the future Environmental Committee meeting. In a phone conversation with Ryan Ihrke, she suggested the Environmental Committee could provide assistance with helping improve the rates of recycling at the University.

Connecting with more students
No students attended the committee meeting in May. There is a desire to have significant student participation in the environmental initiatives on campus.

**Facebook Group**

A Facebook group titled "Maverick Greens" has been created. Please join and invite your friends to join. Ryan will attempt to get incoming students to sign up during summer orientation resource fairs.

**Website**

Ryan Ihrke now has access to update the Environmental Committee webpage. The location of this webpage is [http://www.mnsu.edu/mssa/committees/campus/environmental.html](http://www.mnsu.edu/mssa/committees/campus/environmental.html). He will be working on updating this website throughout the summer and is looking for assistance in creating an effective site.

**Fall 2010 Goals**

Ideas for 2010 goals were discussed including:

- Getting more students involved
  - Connecting with Residence Hall Association, Student Union Board, MSSA

- A campus garden to produce food for student consumption

- Connecting with the Engineering school with projects for graduate student
  - Dale Plemmons discussed this with John Knox and Ryan will follow up

- Starting a student worker based eco-rep program

- Using waste oil with city buses

- Green events on campus
  - Flower sale as fundraiser
  - Utilizing the greenhouse at Wiecking Center
  - Farmer Market on Campus
  - Contacting individuals who participated in Sustainability Talk last week through the College of Business
2.

Other Useful Tid-bits:

** University Dining is has initiated a number of sustainable projects at MSU, Mankato. These have included compostable dinnerware, trayless dining and sourcing more local food. Additional examples and efforts are taking place at other schools and Phil Novak is open and interested in helping promote innovation in these areas.

Successes have the result of working with students and student groups including students for sustainability, the Residence Hall Association and the Student Union Board.

Additional assistance could be used in helping promote is already happening to the campus community.

** Dale Plemmons will be putting together a Pollution Prevention Report this fall. Items that will be reported on include oil and oil filter recycling. He may be collecting additional information from dining services and other areas.

The next meeting is June 17 from 12-1 in CSU 203