University-wide Environmental Standing Committee

MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2014

Present: Ron Fields, Michael Hanson, Erica Johnson, Medea Myhra, Kim Rademaker, Lou Schwartzkopf, Dan Elliott, Gary Urban, Monika Antonelli, Skylar

1. Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from August 27 were approved.

2. Climate Action Plan Workshop
   • Tech Comm is writing an abstract and proposal (work out the instructor, Lee Tesdal).
   • Goal and schedule for report
   • Thoughts were shared on the workshop. Everyone felt it went well. There was good representation from across campus. Felt that we achieved our goal from planning. Had 80 people in attendance. Katie from Sebesta mentioned that this is one of the largest campus groups that she has worked with. Felt that we had good “buy-in” from president Davenport. Impressed by what research some of the students brought to the workshop. Glad to see the students involved, as well as faculty. Good pace, good time frame, worked well.
   • Katie from Sebesta will be sending a synopsis to Lou from this workshop. Committee would make recommendations based on campus input.
   • The next question is what should the report look like, how should it be shared across campus? Meet and confer schedule? The committee would also set the goal of the report (carbon neutrality, rate of decrease in GGEs). Finally, the schedule for the report. The way the proposal is written, this all takes place through this academic year. The report will be written this spring with the URBS classes; should the presentation be done in the fall semester of 2015 (may need permission). One reason this is a good idea – final report is written by the class in spring term. It would be better to give a campus presentation in the fall and present the final report at that time. It was also suggested to maybe have the class present the report to the Cabinet as part of the final wrap-up of the class. Also, the report should maybe go through the Meet and Confer process prior to being submitted to the Cabinet. Build the base of support at the front end.
   • We need to identify what sub-groups across campus to bring this to:
     1. One presentation to the Cabinet after “buy-in”, one to the campus community after that.
     2. Meet and Confer process: What does this look like? We get on their agenda and then what? Present what was learned at the workshop and let them know how to contact if they have additional ideas to share.

(cont’d)
3. Updates to the campus newsletter.
4. If you can think of a group to meet with, send that list to Beth. Include the bargaining unit representations from committee membership.

- Feasibility test – we can put a plan on paper, but we don’t know if we have the resources to help fund such a request.
- Maybe put together options from a cost-perspective (low, medium, and high cost ideas).
- AMERESCO would like to attend the next Environmental Committee meeting. By the next meeting, they will have assimilated the 8 weeks of data they have collected across campus, as well as be able to provide some project suggestions.
- One other layer of the conversation are carbon offsets – look at what we save (by market value).

3. Housekeeping
- Bylaws and chair position – Look at the October meeting as one for voting on both the student and faculty/staff chairs. People interested in chair position or interested in nominating a person for that position should forward names to Beth.

Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 22, 3:00 – 4:00 in CSU 256 – Conference Room (note change!)

Respectfully submitted:

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Future Meetings: (all mtgs. held 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.)
Nov. 19, 2014 CSU 203 – Daniel Buck Room
(Change in DATE!)