

## Clean Energy Committee Retreat

August 27, 2010 10am-3pm, Facilities Conference Room

In attendance: Dani Madrone, Paul Smith, Tom Mercado, Scott Morgan, Courtney Bailey, Don Middendorf, Connor Birkeland

### Dani's updates:

- Possible grant applicants include a computer for CEC, building metering project, Longhouse gardens, segways for Police Services
- Gasification
  - Forestry aspect, particulates in air, and engineering are some of the concerns that have been raised.
  - Dani has been doing a lot of community outreach to educate others about the study.
  - McKenstry has started the study but Scott has not heard anything from them. He anticipates the final report in October or November.
  - Due to funding and the need for more community feedback, the final decision probably won't be made for at least another year.
  - CEC has new student position to be biomass liaison. Dani has been letting student know this is available.
  - There is some concern from community that thinks we are contracted with Simpson Green Diamond and is also concerned we are looking into a biomass incinerator instead of a gasifier. This information is incorrect on both accounts. We have not entered into a contract with Simpson Green Diamond nor are there any plans for an incinerator.
  - There is a biomass presentation during Orientation Week. This session will be led by Scott and Dani and center around the college's goal of carbon neutrality and renewable energy. It will also include an overview of the gasification study and emphasize the importance of responsible management and extraction of resources if the college decides to pursue gasification. Paul will be there to give an update on the McKinstry report. The grant application process and an overview of the CEC will also be a part of the session. This is not a forum but an information session for new students. Forums will be held later in the year.
- Recent Press
  - Dani, Scott, and Abi Marshall (former RAD Sustainability Coordinator) were part of a documentary filming about sustainability projects.
  - Dani participated in community panel after film showing of "2010: A Time for Change" at the Capitol Theater.
- Dani was contacted by a group that would lead students through a week-long project involving carbon neutral activities similar to the "No Impact Man" documentary. This information will be passed on to RAD and student orgs.
- Electric Vehicles
  - RAD is now under contract for both.
  - Using for maintenance and deliveries.

- Contract states that the EV's must be inspected every 6 months and that RAD is responsible for general maintenance of vehicles.
- Eggplant no longer in need because they will not be using trailers anymore.
- Paul announced that the college will receive a rebate on the solar panels because they have put energy back on the grid. Evergreen will receive about \$2500 from Puget Sound Energy.
- Presentation on what other colleges are doing in terms of clean energy:
  - Appalachian State University
    - Fee is \$5 per student per semester
    - System monitoring
    - Photovoltaic rooftop
    - Solar thermal brewery project heats water
    - Biodiesel project
    - Kiosk
    - Wind turbine (off campus)
  - Green Mtn. College
    - Gasifier
    - Fund student projects
    - Green bikes shelter
    - Compost
    - Recycling bins
    - Building dashboard
    - Outdoor classroom
    - Solar electrical generation
    - Wind turbine repair program
    - Native flora
    - Tree canopy restoration
    - Recycled bike share
    - More listed on website
    - Website had application process
    - Website lists all grant proposal and who is responsible
  - University of Illinois
    - Fee is \$5 per semester
    - Sustainable campus environment fee
    - None of the money is used for offsets (green tags)
    - Projects: proposal, allocation, award letter, short paragraph, contact of students
    - Student group make recommendations but cannot approve. Sustainability Office approves
    - Annual funding \$550,000 annually
    - Projects include:
      - Wind turbine
      - Solar array
      - Green roof
      - Biodiesel

- Solar decathlon
  - Energy audits
  - Lighting retrofits
  - Heating, ventilation, and a/c retrofits
  - Ethanol tank for campus garage
  - More listed on website
  - Have a nice slideshow about committee
  - Two funding deadlines per semester
  - Grant recipients must submit status updates and timelines
  - Funding criteria
  - Maintain office hours for coordinator
  - Dani has had email interaction with coordinator at this school
  - They don't fund many student projects
- Discussion of ways to reach out to students:
  - Possibly explore the idea of the Eggplant model of a Big Annual Meeting where everyone could participate. Paul mentioned that students are welcome at any meeting. Could do something at end of year where students speak about projects and CEC talks about what we've done for the year. Could make it part of CE Fair and Synergy week.
  - Discussed meeting in a larger room (instead of facilities conference room) to allow for more students to attend. It was suggested we use Student Activities conference room in newly renovated CAB.
  - CEC outreach coordinator should be updating website on regular basis, and putting together a quarterly newsletter.
  - Make sure students involved with committee are meeting expectations.
  - Public bulletin board in CAB.
  - Press release when projects are funded.
  - People who receive grants could publicize their work and include the CEC in their publication.
  - Coordinator could send out TESCrier email about meetings and what proposals are being discussed. Include where to go to find agenda.
  - Forums on controversial proposals in order to receive input from students.
  - Youtube video about how to write a grant.
  - Challenge the outreach coordinator to get info. out to students in new ways.
  - Tabling at least once a quarter.
  - Talk to classes.
  - Emphasis on the fact that this is student money.
  - Invite Puget Sound Energy to do a presentation to campus community about green tags.
- Recruitment for open committee positions:

- We have two confirmed students on committee: Austen Wallsworth and Dani Madrone (Chair).
  - GSU is responsible for helping recruit for committee.
  - Three open positions.
  - Advertise on TESCcrier.
  - VP for Student Affairs sends out email to all students about committees students they can be on.
  - Flyers
  - Mention it at orientation gasification session.
  - Banner in library lobby.
  - Table at Activities Fair.
  - Go to classes to talk about positions.
- Discussion of Clean Energy Fellowship:
    - Newly approved by students in spring 2010 election.
    - Scott—Climate Action Coordinator description as a possible fellowship opportunity. This is not a proposal.
    - Needs to be tied in to academic work. CEC has opportunity to define what academic tie in is. Needs to be a proposal that comes to CEC, but the committee should not create it. Someone needs to bring a proposal. Co-funding, resources like an office, computer, etc... Would like to see a fully developed proposal. How will the fellow be supported by the grantee. Could put out an open call for proposals to the campus. May fit into our grant proposal guidelines already.
  - Discussion of request for ballot to reduce Clean Energy Fee by Don.
    - Currently it is \$1/quarter/credit hour. Proposed that \$.50/quarter/credit hour, however this may not be enough to cover the cost of green tags. Possibly look at capping the amount. Committee will look at exact numbers. Paul will work on this. Summer school students pay the fee but do not have access to grant money. Committee could do more outreach to summer students, Tacoma and Reservation campuses. Education about fee is important. This will be a project for the upcoming year.
  - Discussion of handbook:
    - Dani has worked on a Coordinator handbook and bi-laws.
    - Please see other document that was attached to email to view the updated handbook and by-laws.
  - Miscellaneous Discussion:
    - Goals
      - Office phone
        - Discussed getting a phone line for CEC office. Approx. \$300/year. In summer, phone would be directed to Director of Student Activities
      - Laptop
      - Meet with other schools

- Committee discussed the idea of having a conversation with other colleges in the area. PLU, UPS, and WWU are options.
  - Continued outreach
  - CE Fair
- Next meeting
  - Oct. 6 from 3-5pm. Student position applications will be reviewed during this time.
  - The first grant hearing meeting will be Oct. 27 to review proposals.
  - Deadline for proposals is Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Dani will send an email to Julie Sloan as a reminder that two faculty are to be assigned to Clean Energy Committee.
- Adjourned