

Sustainability Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Date: November 7, 2007
Time: 3:00-5:00 pm
Place Sem II – A 2107 and A 1107

Agenda:

- Prepare for the State Agency Interagency Sustainability Committee meeting, held today between 4:00 – 5:00 pm.
- Discuss purchasing, actual usage counts and the New Purchasing Work Group
- Housing and Facilities update
- Attend State Agency Interagency Sustainability Committee meeting
 - Discuss potential internship opportunities for Evergreen students

Attendees: Halli Winstead, Steve Trotter, Sharon Goodman, Kathleen Haskett, Rich Davis, Nancy Parkes, Karen Gaul, Lin Nelson, Rob Knapp, Susie Seip, Rob Cole, Martha Rosemeyer

Discussion:

Possibilities arising from State Agency Interagency Sustainability Committee meeting:

- Operational needs the State agencies are experiencing
- Governor passed and executive order for climate change
 - Recommendations provided February this year
- Task force discussed how Evergreen could fulfill some of this work through contracts with some potential thesis work

Fund for Innovation

- Rob Cole and faculty member, Dylan Fischer, are currently undertaking
- Investigating carbon sequestering in trees, and the correlating relationship between tree diversity and the rate of CO₂ uptake.

Analysis of the term “sustainability”

- Karen Gaul defining its multi-faceted definition.
- She also graciously agreed to define thesis work to our potential cohorts in the State Agency Interagency Sustainability Committee meeting
- The State agency goals overlap with the Sustainability and Justice Cohort goals
 - Students to do long-term work in an ongoing relationship with the state agencies.

How to build long-term relationships

- Lin Nelson discussed how the community center secures funding from community collaboration
- Raising the question, “how do we sustain work in a collaborative manner with the agencies?”

Overall goal

- To allow the State agencies to list their needs and for us to research what possible resources we can provide.
- Discussed what we could do with potential funding
 - Allow faculty release time
 - Research and development
 - Sustainability consulting

Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- Taylor Shellfish practice TEK
- We have such great opportunities to engage the community with campus processes and with the government.

State Agency Interagency Sustainability Committee meeting

- Introductions and roster
- Discussed uniting the community through fulfilling State agencies needs with Evergreen curriculum
- Discussed the Executive Order on Climate Change
 - Aimed at reducing facility energy use, gas use, and transfer over to bio-diesel
 - Goal of purchasing environmental friendly products
 - Reducing waste
- They have developed biennial plans to move forward with a sustainable approach which specify 2009 goals
- Barriers confronted are
 - Data
 - Energy usage information collection
 - How to address climate change
 - Encouraging the practice of sustainability
 - How to utilize the whole groups skills towards creating a more sustainable society
- Agencies provided specific tasks they could use assistance in
 - Environmentally preferable purchasing
 - Doing life-cycle evaluations
 - Where are we investing and what are the costs?
 - TESC challenge, “how do we get people thinking about sustainability?”
 - Litter and dumps in Public Parks system
 - Needs “data divers”
 - Goal is to increase recycling in Parks
 - Bio-Accumulated Toxins in hospital environments
 - Assessing which chemicals are crucial and which are not
 - Technical assistance to agencies who may need help with sustainability initiative enforcement
 - Data acquisition
 - Data reporting

- Formulate guide to getting energy information
- Focus the Nation update-
 - Chelsie Papiez discussed FTN overview and upcoming events
 - JANUARY 30!!
 - Teach-ins, workshops, activism, and justice
 - Evening event at the Washington Center of Performing Arts
- Evergreen will resource and see what kind of student force we can provide

Choice phrase of today: “Evergreen students vote with their feet” good one Nancy.....