

Meeting Summary

Sustainability Council

Wednesday, August 19, 2008 (3:00pm-4:00pm)

Office of Advancement Conference Room & President's Conference Room

Attendees: Sharon Goodman, Nancy Parkes, John Pumilio, Paul Smith, Todd Sprague, Ken Tabbutt, Art Costantino, John Hurley, Don Bantz, Lee Hoemann, Amy Lyn Ribera

Overview:

Our meeting began with a discussion with the Vice Presidents. This served as an official "kick-off" to our work as a Council. After a ½ hour we moved to the President's Conference Room for the remainder of our meeting.

Updates:

- Work has begun with the newly formed Thurston County Climate Action Team consisting of representatives of the Governor's Climate Action Team, Intercity Transit, the Mayor of Lacey, Thurston Regional Planning Council, Thurston County Commissioner, Citizen Activists, Business Leaders, and Evergreen representatives John Pumilio and Steve Trotter.
- AASHE Stars Indicators Pilot Project is underway. Kyle Murphy is evaluating the sustainability assessment report as part of his thesis work. John Pumilio is a sponsor.
- Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop is underway during Faculty Planning Institutes. The Workshop seeks to increase awareness of sustainability in all academic programming and to encourage faculty members of any discipline to create an integrative sustainability assignment.
- John Pumilio contacted members of the Geoduck Student Union inviting them to appoint a student representative to the Sustainability Council. Union members will appoint a representative during Fall Quarter.

Outcomes: There was no formal record keeping of the meeting. The following is a brief synopsis recalled after the meeting:

- The Council will meet with the Vice Presidents 2-3 times per academic year in order to provide updates.
- Council members are expected to provide the VP's with a written progress report of our work that highlights recent advances.
- The formation of the Communications and Fundraising Group is official and will consist of Jason Wettstein, Nancy Parkes, Todd Sprague, and Rick Reichert. They will begin meeting prior to Fall Quarter 2008.
- The Council will meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the Month in the Facilities Conference Room.
- The next Council meeting on Sept 9 from 3-5pm will invite the co-chairs of each of the working groups to officially kick-off their body of work.
- Once per quarter, the Council should host a joint event or gathering with each of the working groups. This gathering could be a lunch-time pizza party or other forum where we could all get together.

Tasks:

- **Council** members and Vice Presidents will review the Director of Sustainability's Venn Diagram to evaluate whether it is the right model to guide and prioritize our work.
- **Council** reviews and provides comments on Office of Sustainability Coordinator Position Job Description.

Next Meeting:

September 9, 2008 from 3-5pm in the Facilities Conference Room

Working Group Membership (Updated). Each group should be co-chaired by one faculty and one staff member. Each group should have a core group of individuals who invite ad-hoc members as necessary.

- Clean Energy Systems:
 - Rob Cole (co-chair)
 - Rich Davis (co-chair)
 - Mike Drennon
 - Tyrus Smith (faculty)
 - Rob Knapp (faculty)
 - Clean Energy Committee Member (Jeremy Epstein?)
 - Graduate Fellow Coordinator (funded from PSE grant)
 - Resource Conservation Manager (funded from PSE grant)
- Sustainable Food Practices:
 - Sharon Goodman (co-chair)
 - Martha Rosemeyer (co-chair)
 - Halli Winstead
 - Natalie Pyrooz (?)
 - Jake Mixon (Geoduck Union Representative)
 - Flaming Eggplant Representative (currently Dan?)
- Alternative Transportation:
 - Steve Trotter (co-chair)
 - Karen Gaul (co-chair)
 - Susie Seip
 - Victor Sanders (Coordinator, CTR Transportation Coordinator and Geoduck Union Rep)
 - Sherry Parsons
- Waste Reduction and Sustainable Purchasing:
 - Kathleen Haskett (chair)
 - Steve Scheuerell
 - Mark Kormondy
 - Aaron Powell (?)
 - Student Representative
 - Coordinator (?)
- **Working Group Criteria.** Working Groups should consider this set of common criteria and objectives to maintain some level of continuity behind all sustainable planning:
 - Whole systems thinking: cradle-to-grave or cradle-to-cradle analysis.
 - Financial implications/impacts: return on investment, payback periods, social inequities, fundraising opportunities, budget cycles and realities, etc.
 - Academic planning and curricular development: encouraging academic involvement is critical in meeting the college's educational mission and in advancing the practice of sustainability.
 - Social benefits: decision-making should be framed from a social justice and equity perspective.
 - Communications: storytelling and effective information sharing.
 - Employee education and curricular implications
 - College community outreach: be inclusive; invite campus-wide perspectives and feedback.
 - Greenhouse gas emissions: factor in carbon emissions during the decision-making and communication/education process.
 - Ease of implementation (low-hanging fruit): go for early successes and consider human resource and financial investments when priority setting.
 - Connect to existing infrastructure: collaborate with others working on similar agendas/initiatives (i.e. student groups, DTF's, academic programs, committees, etc.)
 - Foster community connections and partnerships.

- Establish sustainability indicators and baseline data.