

## **Sustainability Task Force**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 18-October-06**

**Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Place: Sem II – B3105**

**Agenda:** Fall quarter objectives and timeframes; define working groups; assemble working groups.

**Attendees:** Steve Trotter, Rob Cole, Rich Davis, Martha Henderson, Rob Knapp, Luda Konshin, John Lauer, Kent Lavender, Jean MacGregor, Claude Mahmood, Lin Nelson, John Pumilio, Martha Rosemeyer.

#### **Topic 1 – Announcements.**

- Campus Sustainability Day (October 25<sup>th</sup>). Luda Konshin, John Lauer, and the students of the Sustainability House have taken the lead in promoting and sponsoring multiple events as part of “Campus Sustainability Day”, next Wednesday, October 25. One such event is a webcast entitled “Where is Your Campus on the Continuum of Integrated Sustainability Planning” being produced by the Society of University and Campus Planners (SCUP) that will be broadcast in CAB 110 from 9:30-11:30 AM. All community members are invited. Later in the day from 5-7pm there will be a barter fair in the pavilion past the soccer field. And from 7-9pm a movie/documentary will be played with a sustainability theme in the Housing Fishbowl, A Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Originally, the plan was to reshew the webcast from earlier in the day, but restrictions on second showings will prevent that from happening. More information about the webcast can be found at: <http://www.scup.org/csd/4/>
- The Sustainability Task Force has a website. Please make yourself familiar with it. Our link is: [www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability](http://www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability).
- The Sustainability Task Force also has a listserve. All members are currently joined and should be receiving emails. You can send emails to the listserve through:

[sustainabilitytaskforce@lists.evergreen.edu](mailto:sustainabilitytaskforce@lists.evergreen.edu). Always ask, is this email pertinent to everyone on the Task Force or certain members? We must be conscious about the number of emails we post to this listserve – it will fail as an effective form of communication if we have too many irrelevant emails. Please see attached guidelines for more information. For more general sustainability announcements you can send an email to [sustainabilitygeneral@lists.evergreen.edu](mailto:sustainabilitygeneral@lists.evergreen.edu). This is intended to notify listserve members of conferences, meetings, activities, etc. regarding sustainability. It is not a discussion board on concepts of sustainability and is fully moderated by John Pumilio.

- **Salmonpeople** will be playing at the State Theater □ October 19, 20, 21 at 8:00. □ Special half-price tickets to anyone in your circle of friends, family and colleagues who share a commitment to ensuring a vibrant, sustainable future for our neck of the woods. The code for half-price tickets is: **“Sustainability”** □ Call the Box Office: **360-786-0151**.
- **“Fall at the Farm”** First annual Faculty and Staff Open House, Friday, October 20, 4-7pm. Events include ongoing tours of Evergreen’s Organic Farm along with free treats including wine and cheese.

## **Topic 2 – Fall Quarter Objectives.**

**Discussion:** We identified several overarching objectives to be completed by the end of fall quarter. These include:

- Write and publicize our new charge.
- Identify and define “Working Groups”\*
- Communicate to our community. The majority of our community does not know the results of our work from last year, that we still exist, or what our purpose is. This needs to be clarified this quarter.
- We need to begin the process of procuring baseline sustainability data. For example, what and how do we measure water use, paper purchasing, campus spirit, sustainability literacy, etc... This led to a lengthy discussion and all participants recognized the value and

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\* We decided that “Working Groups” is a better title and better represents our subcommittees.” Therefore, the title “Focus Groups” will no longer be referred to.

importance of gathering this information. Identifying and tracking appropriate sustainability indicators are very much a part of telling the Evergreen sustainability story. However, obtaining the right information can be quite challenging. Where is this information? ...how do we gather it? ... is it even available? ...and how do we obtain and evaluate qualitative data? See “Defining Working Groups” for more details.

**Topic 3** – Defining the “Working Groups”:

**Discussion:** We discussed how each working group should be organized and what its responsibilities should be. The consensus was that each working group should:

- have a point person or lead representative. This person should take the lead in organizing meetings while overseeing and documenting the work of the group.
- take it upon themselves to meet on a regular basis.
- have one representative from each working group attend our Wednesday meetings for information sharing.
- identify and focus on one or two objectives to be accomplished by quarter’s end. Each group should refer to the corresponding strategic area (found in the comprehensive chapters report) to help guide their planning and work.
- obtain baseline (indicator) data. We decided that each working group should identify potential indicators while gathering available data. Five resources for guidance are immediately available:
  1. preliminary baseline data that was obtained and identified as important by the Task Force in our comprehensive report completed last academic year;
  2. AASHE indicators – this will be distributed by Martha Rosemeyer who worked on this initiative;
  3. Don Bantz’s “Dashboard Indicators” – Steve Trotter will oversee getting a copy and distributing it to the group;
  4. Good Company’s Evergreen Sustainability Report (can be viewed from the Sustainability Task Force webpage);
  5. Olympia Sustainable Community Roundtable – has identified and tracks sustainability indicators (some of which may provide insight into our work).
- submit a bullet point or two answering why your working group is important? What work on campus (related to your working group)

has already been done or is currently being worked on? This information will help write the Evergreen sustainability story. The pillars of that story should come from each working group.

- Prepare an “End of the Quarter Report.” This brief report should consist of your stated objectives, the progress your group made, and next steps.

#### **Topic 4 – Working Group Members.**

##### **Discussion:**

We continued the process of assigning Task Force members to working groups. Each member expressed their interest in one (or two) of the working groups.

1. Curricular Pathways in Sustainability: Rob Cole, Lin Nelson, Martha Rosemeyer, Karen Gaul, Martha Henderson, Rob Knapp.
2. Student Participation and Education in Sustainability: Luda Konshin, John Pumilio, Claude Mahmood, Scott Hollis, Kent Lavender.
3. Resource Strategies: Steve Trotter, Rich Davis, Kathleen Haskett, John Lauer.
4. Communications: Nancy Parkes, Jean MacGregor, Martha Rosemeyer, Karen Gaul, Claude Mahmood.
5. Evergreen Land Stewardship: Robert Smurr, Martha Henderson.
6. College Communities Collaboration (focusing on Evergreen’s sister campuses):
7. Campus Neighbors and Greater Community Region: Lin Nelson, Kathleen Haskett.
8. Campus Spirit (Internal Wellness/Health): Rob Cole, Steve Trotter.

#### **Topic 5 – Task Force Organization and Future Meetings.**

##### **Discussion:**

We discussed how we could best organize ourselves and schedule our meetings for the rest of this quarter. We came to agreement that we should continue scheduling our weekly meetings with the intention of keeping it to an hour or so. At least one representative from each working group should attend our Wednesday meeting. The idea is to share the progress of each Working Group and to continue working on our Task Force wide objectives for the quarter.

##### **Next Meeting:**

- **Schedule Working Group meetings among yourselves;**

- **Next Task Force Meeting: Wednesday, October 25, 2006 (SEM II B3105) from 3-5pm (try and have at least one member of your Working Group show up for all or part of this meeting).**