



PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes

March 25th, 2019, 1:00-2:30 pm

Michael Smith Natural Resources Building – Room 402

Members (and guests) present

| <u>Name:</u> | <u>Representing:</u> |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Tonie Miyamoto – Co-Chair of PSC | Vice President for Student Affairs Office/ Housing & Dining Services |
| Carol Dollard – Co-Chair of PSC | Vice President of University Operations Office/ Facilities Management |
| Laura Jensen – Guest presenter | Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness |
| Sheela Backen | Integrated Solid Waste |
| Stacey Baumgarn | Classified Personnel Council |
| Tim Brennan | Office of the Vice President for Diversity |
| Farrah Bustamante | Procurement Services |
| Jessica Davis | College of Ag / Horticulture and Landscape Architecture |
| Andrea Fairfield | ASCSU |
| Aaron Fodge | Parking and Transportation Services |
| Julie Kallenberger | Colorado Water Center |
| Stephanie Malin | College of Liberal Arts / Sociology / Environmental Justice Working Group |
| Nick Novak | Administrative Professional Council |
| Tony Rappe | College of Natural Sciences / Chemistry |
| Mark Ritschard | Walter Scott College of Engineering |
| Kirstie Tedrick | Housing & Dining Services |
| Bill Timpson | School of Education |
| Andrew Warnock | College of Natural Sciences / Education and Outreach |

Introductions and welcome

Guest presenter: Laura Jensen, Vice Provost for Planning and Effectiveness – Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness – CSU Strategic Plan session with the PSC

Beginning at the 2018 Fall Forum, a 90-minute workshop launched the refresh of the CSU Strategic Plan. Starting with the most basic questions of: What do you want CSU to be? What does it mean to be at CSU? What ideas do you have to make CSU a better place? This next 5-year Strategic Plan is intended to serve as a guide and yet be flexible. The Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness and the Center for Public Deliberation have hosted several open fora. The Office of the Provost has hosted several targeted / topical dinners inclusive of internal and external stakeholders. These activities, and many other session and outreach efforts, including this one today, will be compiled and presented to a

committee of campus and community leaders for consideration. Final recommendations will be given to CSU's new president, Joyce McConnell, who will take over for Tony Frank on July 1 as he transitions to role of Chancellor. The Strategic Plan refresh and adoption will be finalized after President McConnell is in place.

Today's session is intended as a follow-up to the Provost's dinner focused on sustainability – specifically to respond to two questions. Discussion and comments from PSC members are recorded below:

1. How are we doing? (What is PSC doing well?)

- We have done a good job with initiatives.
- We have had good success when we share plans with the City & other external partners – we can see the alignment and identify sustainability themes we are each working on. Examples include (but are not limited to):
 - City Plan (City of Fort Collins)
 - EV Readiness Roadmap (City of FC)
 - Transit Master Plan (City of FC)
 - Climate Action Plans
 - 100% Renewable Electricity Goals
 - National Western Center (Denver)
- We have enjoyed the partnership between the PSC and SoGES with small amounts of money to provide faculty buy-outs to learn and plan for embedding sustainability into courses or developing new sustainability courses.

2. What are the goals? (What does PSC want to do better or more of?)

- Can we move from an initiatives-based approach to a values-based approach?
- There is an opportunity for the new president to set a vision with sustainability as a core value.
- CSU has a leadership role to play. For example, from a transportation perspective – CSU is the #1 trip generator in northern Colorado – we should accept/embrace our leadership role/opportunity for this (and other sustainability-related topics)
- Bring/communicate the sense of urgency to our work. There is an increasing urgency to take action to combat the accelerating effects of climate change. Student activism to prevent/mitigate the effects of climate change is high. How do/can we assert ourselves to be more active?
- More zero-waste events on campus. Help to inform the campus community how to. Should zero-waste events have an enabling policy?
- Focus on our buildings and infrastructure. We have been kicking the can down the road – not building the highest-performance buildings, not tackling deferred maintenance, and not adequately funding ongoing operations and maintenance.
 - Funding first-costs for energy efficiency / high-performance systems in new construction
 - Or, a fund that helps a unit spread costs across years (like a revolving fund when the funds can be paid back through realized savings)
- Opportunities for more team-teaching, interdisciplinary / collaborative research and teaching.
 -
- We have been very humble in talking about our sustainability achievements – we could be more up front with “this is who we are” – especially with onboarding and recruiting (employees)
 - More signage / story telling around campus – highlight sustainability in action / achievements
- We have an opportunity with the Foothill Campus Master Planning process – designing a campus for sustainability. And, furthering the concept of campus as a learning lab through National Western Center.
 -

Dr. Jensen has been collecting all of the college and unit level strategic plans – including the [PSC Sustainability Strategic Plan](#) – and capturing all of the themes to be integrated in the future. Stacey will attend a training session at the end of April 2019 for adding PSC themes into an online tool. Themes are

being collected into a visualization tool. Stay engaged – more opportunities for input are coming. Thanks to all for these comments, suggestions, and ideas.

Earth Week 2019 at Colorado State University

There is a very robust calendar of events and activities for 2019 (see all events at <https://source.colostate.edu/earth-week/>)

Given the quantity and the scope, should the Commission consider “Earth Month” for 2020? While there is no lack of events to include (or create in future years), the challenges include: keeping student and staff attention for a whole month; complexity in managing / coordinating the schedule and publicity; the necessity of even earlier deadlines to getting events planned / scheduled to be included in publicity efforts. If we did pursue a month-long event, it was suggested to break the weeks into themes. Coordination of a month-long event may be beyond the scope of the PSC as we are currently configured.

One option is to move or shift some focus to October, when AASHE encourages and promotes “Campus Sustainability Month”. Again, bandwidth to coordinate the events and promotions is a challenge at this time.

No definitive decision was made following the discussion.

STARS 2.2 – a credit specific review – OP-09: Landscape Management

- Review of the criteria – as outlined in the [STARS 2.2 Technical Manual](#)
- Review of our 2.1 reporting for this credit and our score (CSU earned 1.24 out of 2)
- What goals or next steps can we take/support in an effort to improve the sustainability of our landscape management and thus our performance (and scoring) in this credit area?

The discussion captured these notable items:

- 1) An (updated/improved) outdoor Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy has been adopted thanks to the Pollinator Friendly Campus Committee
- 2) While discussing “managed grounds” – it was noted that all CSU ag lands are operated under an IPM – Jessica Davis to share policy / practice with STARS team
- 3) A question of including lands managed by CEMML will need further exploration (this may be treated similarly to the lands under the management of the Colorado State Forest Service – in both cases, while CEMML and CSFS are under the umbrella of CSU, they may be outside the scope of a STARS report)
- 4) Carol Dollard will take the lead on this credit with the assistance and input of Jessica Davis and Rick Novak from the PSC; in addition to other CSU stakeholders normally engaged for this credit

NACUBO Poster Theme for 2019

For the past several years, Lynn Johnson, Vice President of University Operations, has presented a poster at the annual [NACUBO](#) conference, highlighting an aspect of sustainability here at CSU. The 2019 conference theme is “We are the Journey”.

After brief discussion it was determined to utilize (with any necessary revisions) a poster recently developed by Parking Transportation Services on the FC Moves program. [FC Moves](#) is the “brand” for the City of Fort Collins transportation planning, with many components developed in collaboration with CSU. Commission members felt the focus on alternative transportation was a very nice fit. Aaron Fodge and Erika Benti will coordinate with Tonie Miyamoto to prepare the poster and information for Lynn.

Updates from members

- **Tonie Miyamoto:** the PSC is currently seeking student applications to serve as the PSC/HDS Intern.
- **Aaron Fodge:** three items
 - [ATFAB](#) (Alternative Transportation Fee Advisory Board) is finalizing its awards for the year and will be announced in the coming weeks. Awards will fund project proposals for allocations of student alternative transportation fees
 - PTS has been awarded a grant for 3 additional dual EV charging stations – this would bring the campus total over 30 stations. The first were installed at Rockwell West in 2010
 - And, PTS is looking into long-term opportunities for solar PV covered parking canopies
- **Mark Ritschard:** announced that the second (of four) [Walter Scott Jr. College of Engineering Presidential Chairs](#) has been hired. Welcome [Tami Bond](#), appointed as the Walter Scott, Jr. Presidential Chair in Energy, Environment and Health
- **Julie Kallenberger:** two items
 - The [Colorado Water Institute](#) encourages everyone to take a look at the most recent issue of *Colorado Water* – the January/February 2019 issue is focused on environmental justice. Read online here: http://www.cwi.colostate.edu/Media/img/newsletters/2019/CW_36_1.pdf
 - The Hach company is hosting the 6th Walk for Water on the CSU campus on May 11th – more info at <https://watercenter.colostate.edu/hach-walk-for-water/>
 - Call for volunteers – please contact Catie Boehmer at the CoWC at Catie.Boehmer@colostate.edu if you are interested in hosting a display table or volunteering to help engage the CSU community
- **Carol Dollard:** announced that the team exploring the potential for a geo-exchange project to provide heating and cooling for the Moby complex, has permission to draft an RFP, seeking a partner to develop and install the project

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the PSC is Monday, April 15th, 2019. 1-2:30 pm – Room 402, Michael Smith Natural Resources Building.

Meeting adjourned

There is so much happening at Colorado State University. Here are just a few additional sustainability related calendars, events, activities, newsletters, etc. to help you keep up to date:

- Earth Week events: <https://source.colostate.edu/earth-week/>
- SoGES Event Calendar <https://sustainability.colostate.edu/events/2019-03/>
- Subscribe to SoGES mailing list. Stay up to date on sustainability news, events, and announcements. And receive CSU's Sustainability Newsletter – *Plugged In*
 - Join here: <https://sustainability.colostate.edu/engagement/mailling-list/>
- Subscribe to the Student Sustainability Center [Green Bulletin](#). Click on “Sign up for the Green Bulletin” – the Green Bulletin is a great resource for events and activities for you, for students, and the community
- Colorado Water Center Event Calendar <https://watercenter.colostate.edu/events/>
- Subscribe to the Colorado Water Institute Newsletters
 - Sign-up here: <http://www.cwi.colostate.edu/Subscriptions/Subscribe.aspx>
- Subscribe to the Diversity Newsletter from the Office of the Vice President for Diversity
 - Join here: <https://diversity.colostate.edu/diversity-newsletter/>