



# PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

## COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Agenda  
February 10, 1:00-2:30 pm

### Teams

- Welcome and Introductions – All
  - STARS Impact MBA Fellow – Debbie Meisinger. Debbie will be working with Tonie and the SARS Team to complete the STARS report.
  - COB Rep – Matt Schild, Communications Manager
- Committee and Work Group Updates
  - Strategic alignment with new leadership in President's Office (Matt Tillman, new PSC liaison and Chief of Staff), Facilities (Mike Singleton, AVP Capital Planning and Programming), and SoGES (Courtney Schultz, Director)
    - Ongoing meetings with these groups are scheduled and information will be shared with PSC.
  - Tree Campus and Arboretum Committee Proposal - Julia Innes Presentation
    - Julia presented about the Arboretum Committee included alongside minutes.
    - The goal of this committee is to educate the campus community and guests/visitors around the trees on campus.
    - Representation is across campus and City of Fort Collins. They are seeking new reps for PSC, WCNR, and Colorado State Forest Services.
    - Julia shared the committee has not had as much activity since 2021, and the arboretum accreditation is up for renewal. Individual efforts continue, but due to leadership changes, retirements, etc. there has not been as much committee work.
      - Julia's proposal is to see if it makes sense for the Arboretum Committee to become a subcommittee under PSC so there is more oversight and continuation of work.
    - PSC discussed if we want to bring the Arboretum committee under the umbrella under PSC?
      - Vote: Majority voted in favor.
      - If you are interested in serving as the PSC rep please let Julia and Grace know.
  - Reminder of current committees under PSC:
    - Campus Composting Committee
    - Campus Bicycle Advisory Committee- includes outside partners
    - Pollinator Friendly Campus Committee – includes outside partners
    - Strategic Plan Subcommittees
  - Pollinator Friendly Campus Community – Julia and Grace
    - Julia plans to submit the Bee Campus Certificate by the end of Feb.
    - Looking for a leader to co-chair this group. Please let Julia if you want to join or take on

this co-chair role. Jackie expressed interest.

- Big thanks for Julia for her leadership and work in both the Pollinator Friendly and Arboretum Committees!
- District Energy Conversion (DEC) Finance Work Group Launch – Grace and Stacey
  - DEC Finance work group has launched!
  - Goal is to research financing models to fund the full DEC initiative.
  - Work is going to be made through May and then delivering recommendation to VP Brendan Hanlon and President Office.
  - The group is reaching out to universities on how they funded these initiatives on their campuses. Mid-March-May will be digging into the details of finance options.
  - The cost of the DEC is estimated to be around \$300 million.
    - This would make our heating and cooling systems more efficient by electrifying them and will save money over the long term.
- Carnegie Elective Classification for Sustainability – Tonie
  - Overview: <https://carnegieclassifications.acenet.edu/elective-classifications/sustainability/>
  - Over the years, Carnegie has rolled out a couple of elective classifications that universities can choose to pursue. Classification is good for 6 years and is not a ranking; institutions either earn the classification or don't earn it.
  - Carnegie is seeking a host institution for this classification, and we discussed some of the requirements and potential benefits and drawbacks associated with hosting.
- EV Conversion and EV Grant Proposal– 15 min - Tonie
  - EV Grant Update:
    - Reminder: Last year PSC created an EV Grant:
      - \$5000 incentive to buy an EV
      - \$2000 incentive to retire (and not replace) Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles.
      - EV Grant is open again this year, so far only 2 vehicles have been submitted.
      - We have asked Aaron and his team how we can use the remaining funds to make the most impact possible to EV conversation on campus and we are exploring options for an electric truck, van, and/or CSUPD vehicle.
  - Fleet Policy language was sent to Brendan, which would empower fleet professionals to make decisions on procurement and retirement that are most in line with university goals and sustainability goals.
  - NOTE: CSU Parking and Transportation is now called CSU Transportation
- Community requests – 15 min
  - "A" Painting - anyone interested in exploring this?
    - A group came forward to ask if there is a more sustainable paint, or a more permanent option for our A on the foothills. Concern of the toxins for soil, plants, and animals and potential land disruption from repainting each year.
      - Are there rocks we can utilize?
      - Can we make a sign that we can paint?
    - Greg is going to investigate this request and provide some more information
  - FoCo Trash Mob - ban on plastic bottles in City of Fort Collins.
    - A group, FoCo Trash Mob requested a signature from the PSC for a plastic bottle ban at the city. Because the purview of the PSC is campus-focused and we are an extension of the President's office, we determined it was not within our scope to sign the petition. We would also need to ensure alignment with the President's office, procurement, and many other parties before advocating publicly for something like this.
    - It was recommended that your group reach out to other entities on campus (student

sustainability center, etc.), who may be able to act in a more independent manner.

- Other Questions:
  - Is this an overall Fort Collins Ban or just around certain areas?
  - What research has been done to truly see if this is the best option?
- Member updates – All (20 min)
  - Event Planning Sustainability Session
    - 2.12.25 Tonie Miyamoto and Emily Schmieding are presenting on teams at 10am
    - Info was sent to PSC listserv
  - Please share any confirmed or potential plans for Earth Month/Events focusing on sustainability education and efforts!
    - March 27th from 5:30 to 7:30 in the Longs Peak Room, LSC will be hosting our second annual Sustainable Roundtable event.
    - April 7<sup>th</sup>: consumption panel (more to come)
    - April 15<sup>th</sup>: – all day – Eve Showcase with vehicles and bikes
    - April 23<sup>rd</sup> Bike Scoot - Skate to Breakfast where folx are provided breakfast to folx who roll on active Transportation devices to breakfast that morning.
    - April 17<sup>th</sup>: Lyric Theater doing a student native bids film festival with mixer
    - April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Earth Day Festival at the Sculpture Garden
    - April 24<sup>th</sup>: PSC Milestones and Recognition
    - WCNR Natural Resources and Sustainability sessions coming soon
  - Ball Foundation Funding Request (Greg – 5 min)
    - They wanted us to submit a proposal for university recycling
    - This may bring an opportunity on recycling on campus
    - Greg is looking at the next grant cycle, but this is a good thing to keep on our radar
    - We will need to check to see if their proposal is around aluminum
    - Other thing to consider around aluminum – do we have the infrastructure, resource recovery, etc. to ensure we can benefit from going aluminum