

President's Sustainability Committee

Minutes

September 15th, 2014, 1:00-2:30 pm

TILT 104

Members Present:

- Carol Dollard - Facilities Management
- Tonie Miyamoto – Housing & Dining Services
- Tim Broderick – Housing & Dining Services
- Colleen Duncan - CVMBS
- Kathleen Henry – CSUF
- Sheela Backen – Facilities Management
- Cary Weiner – CSU Extension
- Jocelyn Hittle - Denver Operational Initiatives
- Stacey Baumgarn - Facilities Management
- Paul Doherty – Faculty Council
- Jacob Kimicek – Student Sustainability Center
- Johnny Roos - ASCSU
- Michael Streight - SoGes
- Brian Dunbar - IBE
- Doug Max – Athletics
- Meagan Dechen - STARS

1. Introductions – 5 minutes

2. PSC Budget Status – 20 minutes

- Historically, the committee has never had budgetary funding.
 - Amy Parsons has provided discretionary funding but the committee has been underfunded.
- The committee must decide either to pursue an independent SPARC submittal or to embed sustainability aspects into each individual SPARC
- Independent SPARC
 - Pros – Stands out and apart from others, has a higher chance of getting funding
 - Pros – Amy Parsons recommended the committee pursue an independent SPARC
- Embedded SPARC
 - Pros – Enforces the idea of sustainability as an integrated model across campus
- The committee must decide SPARC process by November/December
- The committee should also consider how to best integrate the goals/need of the CAP with the SPAC process

□ Financial Review

▪ Current Expenses

- Path to Platinum – \$4,500 for sustainable curriculum development mini-grants
 - Expenses to achieve first ever platinum STARS score
 - Funded 3 mini-grants to allow faculty to integrate sustainability into a course
 - Allows for faculty to attend AASHE conference
 - Still testing model for best practices

- ❑ AASHE - \$1,700 for membership and ~\$800 to pay registration for Carol and Tonie to attend conference
 - Will have 10-12 CSU reps at the AASHE conference this year
 - ❑ Earth Week - \$2,500 for promotion (graphic design and posters/banners/etc.)
 - PSC will now own the Earth Week expenses for the first time
 - ❑ STARS registration - \$900
 - This only occurs every 3 years
- **Potential Expenses**
 - ❑ \$5,000 for AASHE Conference
 - Should the PSC consider sending several more CSU reps (faculty, staff, and students) to the annual AASHE conference?
 - ~\$1,500/person to attend AASHE conference
 - ❑ \$5,000 to support green programs/events
 - Expand beyond Earth Week?
 - Students frequently ask for funding resources for small, sustainable projects
 - Funds could help the development of small student projects
 - Potential to add new sustainable events
 - Faculty/staff Green Warrior campaigns
 - New student orientation programs and events
 - Can a revolving fund be generated from a SPARC request?
 - Worth investigating for this cause
 - ❑ \$5,000 - \$10,000 to continue the sustainable curriculum development initiative
 - Currently, only three mini-grants are available.
 - Should PSC expand this to allow more faculty to participate?
 - Can PSC collaborate with TILT or SoGES and share costs?
 - ❑ \$10,000 for STARS grad student
 - PSC may consider hiring a new grad student to replace Meagan in completing STARS submission
 - Meagan's position is currently paid through Facilities Management and the President's Office
 - Grad students are preferable to this position – high-level responsibility
 - Maybe consider a sustainability or STARS “fellow”, PhD student
 - Position does not come with tuition reimbursement
- **Other Ideas?**
 - ❑ Food Waste Management
 - HDS wants to explore the potential of installing a massive composter that can handle the amount of food waste generated by the whole campus
 - This will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars
 - Would affect the “Operations” category of STARS in a positive way
 - Asking for this amount of money will negate the “baby steps” theory
 - ❑ National Western Center Support

- Funding to support student work of the NWC
- Maybe this is a “Special Project” SPARC request
- Advisory Role of PSC
 - Should the PSC send letters of support to other SPARC submissions?
 - PSC vets submissions and endorses?
- Send other ideas/thoughts to Tonie or Carol.

3. **FY14 Greenhouse Gas Footprint Review** – 15 minutes

- Carol recently submitted the University’s GHG report for FY14
- Overall emissions increased by 4% (10,000 metric tons) from FY13
- Emissions factor increased 9%
- Platte River Power Authority burned more coal in FY13, increasing the University’s emissions
 - Coal emissions increased, hydro and renewable energy decreased
- Per square foot of the campus, emissions decreased
 - CAP doesn’t account for square footage
- Xcel Energy provides cleaner energy
 - Carol has voiced her concerns to PRPA to change their processes
 - CSU must look at a more accelerated solution to this setback in order to achieve CAP goals
- Facilities is looking at other sources of energy
 - Wind farm at Akron area– looks promising but transmission is tricky
 - Multiple solar projects around campus

4. **STARS Score** – 20 minutes

- STARS will be submitted in six weeks – end of October
- Fine line between Gold and Platinum score
 - Meagan does not have a projected score
- Academics scored 100%
 - Same as February 1.2 submittal
- Engagement scored almost 100%
 - 100% on Campus Engagement
 - 98% on Public Engagement
 - To get full points in the Public Engagement category, 100% of students must participate in community service
- Operations will score about 49%
 - Ambitious “Operations” goals, i.e. 100% of University fleet being electric
- Planning and Administration will score similarly to that of the 1.2 submittal
 - Planning and Administration criteria are also very ambitious, i.e. 100% of assets invested into sustainable projects.
- Innovation – 4 points to talk about innovative things
 - Powerhouse – Combination of unique remodel and unique programs
 - Sustainable transportation
 - Green Revolving Fund – ERF model
 - Meagan is looking for another innovative project that has occurred in the last three years to submit
- Meagan will present a final summary at the October PSC meeting

- She will send the sustainability assessment to new students next week for baseline knowledge assessment

5. **Updates from Members** – 30 minutes

- **Jacob Kimicek** – The Plant a Tree campaign at the bookstore is in full swing and is very popular. \$1,500/semester will be allocated to student sustainability projects from this fund.
- **Stacey Baumgarn** – CAP working groups have been making progress. There is still the opportunity to serve on a working group if you would like. Let Stacey know.
- **Carol Dollard** – Carol is presenting at the Diversity Symposium about the social aspects of sustainability.
- **Johnny Roos** – Johnny is working on an email about the sustainability aspects of the freshman 15.
- **Brian Dunbar** – Jeni Cross of the sociology department has been working with IBE to provide the human aspects of sustainability. Also, Brian will be harvesting the Coors Field garden this week, which has been providing produce to the concessionaires of Coors Field.
- **Doug Max** – Doug will soon be attending the Green Sports Transportation Conference in Denver.
- **Andrew Warnock** – Andrew will be hosting elementary, middle, and high school students interested in STEM programs. Students will be exposed to hands-on lessons and about half of the lessons are energy related.
- **Jocelyn Hittle** – With the help of Stacey, the systems office will be participating in an energy conservation challenge. Also, Jocelyn is looking for feedback about the National Western Center goals from the previous meeting. She has 5 subgroups to develop tasks and priorities, let her know if you are interested.
- **Tim Broderick** – The Green Warrior campaign launches September 22nd and runs until November 17th. The campaign only includes students living in residence halls.
- **Cary Weiner** – The Faces of Energy photo was successful, with many good submissions. Photos will be shown at the Natural Gas Symposium, the Alliance Center in Denver, the Powerhouse, and other venues.
- **Sheela Backen** – Sheela and her crew are prepping for Ag Day, which is a 0 waste event on October 4th.
- **Michael Streight** – The SoGES workshops at Avo's begin next week. SoGES recently hired a new Associate Director, who will attend the next meeting.
- **Colleen Duncan** – Several people on the South Campus who are interested in conserving energy have formed a green team. Also, there is a current search for the OneHealth Director, who will want to incorporate the goals of PSC into the new health center.
- **Tonie Miyamoto** – Tonie needs more volunteers for the plate waste audit to track waste from the dining centers. Tonie will buy you lunch to thank you for your participation. Contact Tim or Tonie if you want to volunteer.

Next meeting: Monday, October 20th, 1-2:30 pm, TILT 104