

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE-MINUTES

10:00 am, February 5, 2013, Carrington 203

Introduction of all members-Ken McClure opened meeting and committee members introduced themselves.

New charge from President Smart – President Smart expressed appreciation and made particular note of the “Beyond Coal” Initiative and the presentation and discussion at the December 2012 Board of Governors Meeting. A status report will be made to the Board of Governors in March.

- Develop recommendations for new sustainability initiatives and for improving current sustainability initiatives.
- Develop realistic strategies to increase our use of renewable energy so that the University becomes less dependent on coal over time, keeping in mind that recommendations for increasing the use of renewable energy must come with an estimated funding cost.
- Develop strategies to promote sustainability initiatives across our state and region
- Research what our peer universities and sister universities in Missouri are doing related to sustainability initiatives.

Announcements from Co-chairs-Dean Jahnke introduced the purpose of the Sub-Committees to enable a more efficient process in considering sustainability issues presented to the Committee.

Three new subcommittees with charges –Chair’s and membership appointed and noted.

a. Energy Subcommittee-Chair Jen Cox, Membership includes: Matt Morris, Kara Andres, Lauren Bansbach, Randy Blackwood, Terrel Gallaway, Pilar Karlen, Thomas Lane, Barbara Lucks, Cara Shaefer, WD Blackmon, David Vaughan, and Mike Kromrey.

- Promotes campus energy conservation through efficiencies and education.
- Educates campus and surrounding community on energy conservation.
- Analyzes trends and develops proposals for energy projects for review by Facilities Management.
- Develops energy saving projects for implementation as funded by a revolving loan fund, student SustainaFund monies, and other sources.
- Explores new technologies including renewable energy both on campus and from our energy providers.
- Promotes energy initiatives statewide and researches best practices from our peer institutions and other in-state universities.
- Reports to Sustainability Advisory Committee regularly.

b. Benchmark Subcommittee-Chair David Vaughan, membership includes-Paige Oxendine, Paige Jenkins, Evan Clark, Shelby Anderson, Pilar Karlen, and Tom Radomski.

- Prepares a summary of which agreements have been signed by our benchmark institutions and sister institutions in the state of Missouri.
- Prepares a summary of accomplishments from each institution noted above related to the agreements signed (President’s Campus Climate Survey and the Beyond Coal Commitment).
- Prepare a summary of AASHE membership and AASHE STARS ratings for all benchmark institutions and sister institutions in the state of Missouri.
- Initial summaries are due May 1, 2013. Summary will be updated annually.

c. Goal Watching Subcommittee-Chair Bill Cheek, membership includes-Tony Hein, Earle Doman, Janice Greene, Teresa Frederick.

- Committee will monitor the Sustainability Advisory Committee’s list of goals and prepare a quarterly summary of accomplishments.
- Committee will present annual report summary to Sustainability Advisory Committee by September each year for approval at the October meeting.

Goals for 2012-2013 – handout provided and an overview by Dean Jahnke.

Review of Sustainability Website-<http://www.missouristate.edu/sustainability/> David Vaughan provided an overview.

Announcement – Sustainability GA-Shelby Anderson-Dean Jahnke introduced and asked David Vaughan to provide details and goals set forth for this position. Shelby will report directly to David Vaughan. Maintaining the Sustainability Website will be the biggest task to be maintained by the GA. David provided an overview of the GA’s responsibilities and objectives. The website was viewed and detailed as to how it has been improved; use of social media outlets Facebook and Twitter were noted. Suggestions and interests should be directed to Shelby to include via the website. Dining Services offered to coordinate a promotional event by providing water bottles when people ‘like’ the sustainability page, thus helping promote the website and increase exposure to the campus community.

Sustainability Survey-David Vaughan provided handout regarding the introduction of the Sustainability Minor study program, goal to complete in March 2013. Chris Herr provided explanation of process to consider the program and its implementation. It was noted that the survey is specifically directed at freshmen and sophomores, as juniors and seniors are not likely to take interest so far into completion of their degree programs.

AASHE 2013 Conference, October 6-9, Nashville, TN-Call for presentations is open!

Help Us Inspire, Empower and Motivate the Campus Sustainability Movement!

This week marks your first chance to **submit presentation abstracts** and **awards applications** for the AASHE 2013 Conference, to be held October 6-9 in Nashville. In other words, your chance to surprise, inspire, empower and motivate the higher education movement. With this year’s theme in mind, “Resiliency & Adaptation,” AASHE 2013 is an opportunity to share the innovations, activities, frameworks, learning outcomes, tools, strategies, research, theory and leadership initiatives that are changing the face of sustainability in higher education.

The **call for presentations will be open through March 21**. We are also looking for abstract reviewers! If you are interested in being part of the presentation selection process, select "volunteer to be a reviewer" once you have logged into the submission site. Contact conference@ashe.org with any questions.

The **deadline to apply for this year's ASHE Sustainability Awards is May 10**. For a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the ASHE Awards process - including a few tips and notes about this year's awards program - [check out our latest ASHE 2013 blog post](#).

Additional business-floor opened for committee members to report.

Tony Hein-ASHE Dining Services scores- We are starting to review and gather data to get more points in purchasing as well as other categories. We are starting an involved process call "Carbon Food print". It looks at impacting 4 key areas: Menus, Facilities, Kitchen Services, and Site Equipment. The first step is to do an extensive site survey that includes equipment, customer counts, menus, hours of operation etc. This is used to generate some baseline data.

Teresa Frederick-Residence Life, Housing and Dining Services is hosting our annual Green Games February 3-April 5. Green Games is a friendly competition between buildings and individual students to increase sustainability awareness and encourage sustainable living choices. Events include a recycled art contest, recycled fashion show, community service, green room certification, energy conservation, etc.

Janice Greene-The Bull Shoals Field Station offers a leadership academy for high school students in the summer. The focus is our Ozarks natural resources with a sustainability focus. We are currently recruiting high school sophomores and juniors. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please let me know.

Joe Pitts-Working on an approximately 2 mile (both sides) of Wilson's Creek above the SW Wastewater Treatment Plant

- We are finishing fencing to exclude cattle from the stream
- We will be planting 125 trees 1.25-1.5 in. diameter in 7 areas along both sides of the 100 ft. easement
- We also will be planting (with volunteers) nearly 7,000 tree and shrub seedlings to stabilize the eroded banks of the creek
- Large trees will be planted on March 8-9
- Seedlings and shrubs will be planted on March 22-23.

Mike Kromrey-Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is exploring the possibility of applying 319 grant funding to three projects at MSU to address storm water runoff and nonpoint source pollution:

- Rainwater harvesting at the Darr agricultural Center
- detention basin retrofitting at Grand and National
- rainwater harvesting system that might include three tanks buried on campus and water re-use.

Mike also invited anyone to utilize the Watershed Center for meetings, retreats, or educational field trips, or to take a Jordan Creek Storm water Tour through the tunnels under the City.

Barbara Lucks-

- Greenhouse Project- fueled by waste heat from the Springfield Sanitary Landfill's Methane Energy Project. This will be the topic of a public brainstorming meeting planned for March.
- Sustainability Plan-There will be an announcement to the Leadership Team at next week's meeting regarding the next step, followed by the recruitment of the Environmental Working Group, which will have input in the Plan and its implementation. Shockey Consulting, Kansas City, is assisting the City in the development of the plan.
- The electric car charging station at the Environmental Resource Center is proving to be very popular, with both regular users and "travelers passing by."
- The Department of Environmental Sustainability Division (DES – SD) The Spring show season includes: recent completion of the Home Show, Lawn and Garden Show next week and the CSI (Construction Specification Institute) conference/exhibits in March.
- Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods along with Tree City USA Citizens Advisory Committee is hosting a tree-care professional trimming workshop on February 8. To date, there are 50+ registered.
- The Environmental Resource Center has earned LEED Gold. The Busch Building and Clean Water Services buildings have earned the Energy Star rating.
- The City is looking at, once again, utilizing effluent from one or both of the wastewater treatment plants to water young trees, clean streets, etc. in an effort to conserve water in the upcoming season.

- Please send me Earth Day/Arbor Day events for posting on our website along with inclusion in several press releases and other promotional efforts.
- The (DES – SD) is working with City Utilities to create a “consumer water cycle” exhibit with accompany teaching materials. This is the familiar water cycle with wastewater, storm water and drinking water management included.
- Air quality in Springfield continues to be an emerging issue. The current Ground-Level Ozone standard is at 74 and our design value (level), following the hot summer of 2012 is now at 74. The standard is expected to be adjusted (downward) in the Fall, 2013. Particulate matter (PM) standards have recently been adjusted downward and we are now nearing that standard, as well. The City, as a part of the Ozarks Clean Air Alliance was recently recognized for their proactive approach to air quality issues in and around Springfield.
- The Annual Choose Environmental Excellence Luncheon will be held at the Springfield Area chamber of Commerce on April 19, 2013, as a part of the city-wide observance of Earth Day. The committee has sponsored an award in the past and is welcome to do so again this year.

Kara Andres-The Sustainability Committee has been busy looking over the proposals submitted by Lauren Bansbach and her committee.

- A proposal for LED lights in lot 15 was passed in the fall and should be implemented this spring.
- The solar array proposal passed last year is seeing a lot of progress and should be put in place sometime this semester.
- The outdoor recycling bins should be popping up around campus in the next few weeks.
- The Commission is currently reviewing and will be voting on proposals for Hydration Stations Phase II, a Campus Garden Manager, and Low-tunnels for the campus garden.

Tom Radomski-

- Ecopalooza is a solar-powered concert; solar energy is harvested from a solar trailer we borrow from Crowder College for the day. It will be on the Bear Paw on April 12th.
- Students Retreat included MSU and Mizzou students working on the Beyond Coal campaigns and additionally Webster University, Truman University, Washington University, and Westminster University collaborated to consider an initiative at their campuses.

Ken McClure-An Affordability Task Force has been appointed by the Mayor, Greene County Commissioner and Chairman of the Board of Public Utilities and presented its findings last week to the public. Barbara Lucks noted she can assist in providing more information access on this if it is of interest to the committee.

Jen Cox-

- LED lighting installs as funded by student Sustain a Fund – we are in progress of installing LED lights in interior locations in Ellis Hall 206, Temple lobby, Glass Hall hallways, and HHPA lobby, as well as some exterior wall pack lights at Plaster Sports Complex and McDonald Arena.
- We are working with the students and will be installing LED lights in parking lot 15, hopefully during Spring Break, as funded by Sustain a Fund monies.
- We applied for Tree Campus USA and should hear sometime this month if we were successful.
- Our Native Plants policy and Wildlife Habitat policy are complete and posted on both the Facilities Management and the Sustainability website.
- Working with Republic Waste to monitor amounts of waste and recycling from campus and make improvements to better meet campus needs. We were able to make a reduction in the number of pick ups at some locations as a result of the October trash audit. We also were able to reduce service during Winter Break.
- We are working with the Watershed on potential rainwater reclamation at Darr and on the main campus, which could be funded through a grant by the Watershed.

Brad Kielhofner-We re-carpeted several classrooms in Glass Hall recently and all of the carpet that was removed has been sent to be recycled. In all 13,510 lbs. of carpet was recycled. Recycled carpet is used to make carpet pad, new carpet, plastic tanks, surface coverings, synthetic landscape walls and sound walls, and synthetic bales used to prevent erosion on construction sites and other similar areas.

- Commissioning on the Bond Learning Center and the Darr Agricultural Center has been complete and the documentation for LEED has been submitted to USGBC for their review. We are hoping to obtain LEED Silver certification for the facility.
- The photovoltaic solar array for Meyer Library is currently out to bid. We will open bids on Thursday, February 7 and plan to present the bids to the Board of Governors executive committee for their approval at their February 20 meeting.

Next meeting

Tuesday, March 5 at 10:00 am, Carrington 203