



**PRESIDENT'S
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Meeting Minutes
January 20th, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Wolverine Farm Publick House

- 8:30 am: Introductions
 - Anthony Appleton, Stacey Baumgarn, Greg Lewis, Grace Wright, Mary Liang, Alicia Armentrout, Tim Brennan, Jennifer Williams, Monica Latham, Jacob VanderRoest, Dan McGrath, Jake Drenth, Carol Dollard, Andrew Warnock, Bryn Hall, Tonie Miyamoto, Mark Paquette, Kenneth Kineer, Aleta Weller
- 8:45 am: Refresher on PSC mission and a quick recap of subcommittees and working groups.
 - Tonie: Our group is unique in that we are both advisory and action-oriented. We come up with the actions or initiatives that we then work towards completing, whereas some universities may have an advisory group that then passes action items to a sustainability office. We may pass things onto higher leadership for centralized support, and in general, we are often the doers to carry new initiatives and goals forward. As a reminder, our PSC Mission Statement is “Promote and facilitate the effective integration of sustainability across all aspects of the University.” This requires and allows us to collaborate with many groups, departments, and individuals across campus. With this STARS report, we’ve reached out to and had help from nearly 100 different people at CSU. Carol and Tonie have also been working with a system-wide sustainability group chaired by Jocelyn Hittle to connect with Global, Pueblo, and SPUR.
 - PSC Subcommittees are University-groups with an ongoing focus. We have three standing subcommittees that are open to members University-wide: the Campus Composting Committee, the Campus Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Pollinator Friendly Campus Committee. The Campus Bicycle Advisory and Pollinator Friendly Campus committees pursue accreditation for CSU. We have an additional four subcommittees for PSC that are centered around STARS areas: Academics & Research, Planning & Administration, Engagement, and Operations. These committees are responsible for our Strategic Planning in their respective areas.
 - PSC Working Groups are short-term groups comprised of subject matter experts with specific goals that sunset once an initiative is completed, such as the Air Travel Offset Working Group. The Environmentally and Socially Responsible Procurement Working Group has been working through a more enforceable policy that we are hoping is open for stakeholder input soon. The Green Building Standards Working Group is also a relatively long-term working group given the nature of changing building standards and innovation. They recently worked on the Conceptual Review Process, to ensure all relevant stakeholders are involved in capital project development. The document is with Brendan Hanlon (VPUO, CFO) for review and guidance on next steps. The GBS may be a group that does not sunset anytime soon given how building standards are constantly changing. The STARS Working Group just completed CSU’s fourth Platinum report and is now working to communicate the report to campus and then looking at changes to STARS version 3.0 criteria for the next report. The E-Waste Management Working Group has made a recommendation to Brendan Hanlon, centered on creating a centralized funding mechanism so that departments do not hoard e-waste to avoid the disposal fees. The proposal is a relatively small financial ask, essentially reallocating funds departments would spend to a centralized pool, and if approved will make the e-waste disposal process more efficient and appealing to departments.
- 9:00 am: STARS Gap Analysis and PSC Strategic Plan Goals for 2023

- Update on CST and Transitioning to new President.
- Tonie: Amy Parsons has already reached out and let us know that sustainability will remain a priority for the University. Tonie and Carol are hoping to meet with her this spring to share our Strategic Plan and learn more about her priorities.
- The STARS Gap Analysis was discussed in our November meeting and the slide deck was shared via email to the PSC listserv. The Gap Analysis is a tool to use alongside our PSC Strategic Plan and the University Strategic Plan to determine where we are falling short and where to focus our future efforts. The primary area for improvement is in Operations.
- 9:30 am: Breakout Session 1 – Subcommittees update PSC Strategic Plan Goals
 - Operations - the Operations subgroup focused their discussion on waste reduction goals that were not articulated in the previous Strategic Plan. We will be adding to the Ops section of the Strategic Plan to reflect these new goals. In addition, we had updates to the existing goals (some done, some delayed, some evolving).
 - Planning/Administration – discussion focused on strategy for PSC budget in FY24, continued progress with positive sustainable investment, opportunities and challenges related to sustainability fundraising, and the continued need for a living wage and affordable housing.
 - Engagement – The Engagement sub-committee reviewed each of its three main goal areas for accomplishments and updates – in depth review will take place at our next monthly meeting. Much of the conversation centered on Goals 2.3 and 2.4 - tracking student volunteering and service learning, and whether or not that should be a graduation requirement. We agreed to try to recruit a representative from the SLiCE Office to join our subcommittee and to explore student opinions via the SLiCE Involvement Fair on Jan. 25th (where we will be tabling for PSC and sustainability engagement on campus).
 - Academics/Research – the Academics/Research subcommittee focused their discussion on investigating the results of the Academic Course survey sent out at the end of last summer to determine which departments/colleges could be targeted for sustainability curriculum development and possible routes for sustainability curriculum to target all students.
- 10:15 am: Break
- 10:30 am: Introduce/Vote on Fleet Working Group
 - Aaron Fodge has proposed a Fleet Working Group that we will be voting on today. Fleet is a weak spot in our STARS report, so this group will be looking to address fleet issues like under-utilization, emissions, rightsizing, and lifecycle cost. Aaron is hoping to make recommendations by June. Several members have been recruited already: Tiffany Glover (PTS), Jake Drenth (Surplus), Kevin Carroll (FM), Janine Waltrep (Purchasing), Rachel Tand (Operations), Anthony Appleton (OVPR), Joe von Fischer (Biology). The group is looking for members to represent CEMML, Foothills Campus, and possibly Housing & Dining Services. If you know of anyone on campus that may be interested, please contact Aaron Fodge.
 - PSC voted to create a Fleet Working Group.
 - Mary and Alicia will be bringing forward a Food Procurement Working Group to address campus food purchasing at the February meeting.
- 11:30 am: Lunch
- 12:00 pm: Recap of goals and discussions, determine next steps
 - For Earth Month, we discussed themed weeks last year vs a general month in years past. The consensus was that a general month is more supportive for colleges and units that have already planned speakers or events far in advance. Please submit any events you would like us to advertise for Earth Month. We will continue to host the Sustainability Milestones & Recognition Event in April. If you have anyone you would like to recognize for this event, please let us know!
 - Greg Lewis – I’ve been looking into fundraising possibilities that could potentially benefit PSC and the possibility of some sort of annual fundraising effort towards PSC expenditures like the Curriculum Innovation Grants, Sustainability Fund, or even solar. The Bohemian Foundation could be a potential funder. The internal application deadline is Feb. 15th for CSU proposals. Civic engagement and student success are priorities for the Bohemian Foundation, so the Curriculum Innovation Grants or funding for SLiCE to help student volunteer efforts could be possible ideas.

- 12:30 pm: Wrap Up
 - We look forward to working on and establishing the subcommittee goals discussed today throughout the year. Subcommittees are asked to complete updates to the PSC Strategic Plan by mid-March so we can share the updated plan during Earth Month, starting April 1.
 - Also discussed getting back to “in-person” meetings or at least hybrid. There was a lot of interest in that. We will work on locating options for that. The Warner College of Natural Resources meeting room we used to use has the technology for hybrid meetings.