



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

Minutes

December 16, 2019, 1:00-2:30 pm

Michael Smith Natural Resources Building - 345

1. Introductions – 5 minutes
Danielle Backman, Stacey Baumgarn, John H. Fitch, Carol Dollard, Tonie Miyamoto, Kirstie Tedrick, Mary Liang, Aaron Fodge, Olivia Bruce, Fran Letts, Mike Dilegge, Sara Vanhatten, Maile Wood, Andrew Warnock, Tony Rappe, Farrah Bustamante, Monica Latham, Tim Brennan, Jocelyn Hittle, Anthony Appleton, Bill Timpson, Mary Guiden, Brian Dunbar, Doug Max, Beth Etter, Peter Backlund, Julie Kallenberger, Sheela Backen
2. Sustainability Planner Presentation– 15 minutes (Olivia Bruce)
 - Olivia started as an Eco Leader in first at CSU and became the SSC Director for the past two years
 - The Sustainability planner is her Senior Thesis project, she wanted to take all the sustainability information that she has learned over the years to engage students, faculty, and staff members at CSU
 - Olivia has partnered with SoGES to produce around 3,000 -4,000 copies of the planner and the SSC will be distributing them to the CSU community this spring and creating an online version
 - Future prospect of collaborating with Housing & Dining Services to distribute the planner to incoming students in the residence halls
 - Next steps are to reformat the guide to save paper and update pictures
 - Please take a look at the guide and if you have any comments/suggestions (or photos) or big picture ideas to add, please email Olivia – Olivia.bruce@colostate.edu
3. Zero Waste Team Presentation – 10 minutes (Fran Letts and Mike X)
 - Sort waste at CSU and around the Fort Collins community as well
 - 6,953 pounds of material was composted from the 6 home games at the CSU Stadium this season
 - Increased by 5,000 pounds since starting three years ago
 - Peer-to-peer engagement on STARS report
 - Many schools have reached out to them to get info and best practices
 - 2nd basketball season diverting waste
 - Collaborative community garden from our compost – growing food for Rams Against Hunger and the Freedge
 - First newsletter sent out, listserv will be created in 2020
 - Ag week – diverted 3,000 pounds of waste there.
 - Helped with several events at Ram Welcome this year
 - Green Events CO. – working off campus in the Fort Collins community
 - PLAN – renewed the membership with ASCSU, Facilities Management, Housing & Dining and College of Agriculture sponsoring
 1. Anyone on campus can be part of the PLAN membership with a CSU email address

- Incentivization to keep them active
- Several PSC members gave kudos to the Zero Waste Team for the amazing work they do
- Question was asked about what would make the biggest difference in engaging the campus community at games and Fran shared that effective signage with shadowboxes would make the biggest difference because people could see where materials belong.

4. Commission Structure Updates – 15 minutes

- Feedback from our previous meeting was taken back to President McConnell and there was support for us to maintain our monthly meetings with broad representation
- President McConnell has asked PSC to form a Core Team and we are using existing Work Group and Strategic Plan Subcommittee Chairs as they are already filling this role (PSC Co-Chairs, Stacey Baumgarn, Tony Rappe, Aaron Fodge, and Mary Liang)
- Work Groups will be defined as small groups investigating, making recommendations, and completing specific topics or tasks that are short-term (i.e. STARS, Airline Offset Travel, Building Standards, etc.). Work Groups will be chaired by a member of the Core Team and membership invitations will be open to PSC and subject matter experts across campus.
- Subcommittees will be defined as long-term groups that will meet on an on-going basis. Chairs for the Strategic Plan Subcommittees (Academics and Research, Engagement, Operations, and Planning and Administration) will be Core Team members and other subcommittees will be chaired by PSC or campus subject matter experts (i.e. Campus Compost Committee, Pollinator Friendly Campus Committee). Membership invitations to subcommittees will be open to PSC and subject matter experts across campus.
- Will add the new commission structure to the December meeting minutes and it is due to President McConnell in January

5. PSC Framework Budget Request – 20 minutes

- Budget menu with priorities at the top list to be created – Carol and Tonie will bring a draft to the January meeting (will include the current budget for reference)
- All commissions are structured slightly differently so while there is a goal to create some consistency and equity, there are a lot of factors to consider with commission history, support, etc.
- Growth possibilities could include Green Fund, Presidential ambassadors, sustainability learning outcomes, new initiatives, full-time or part-time FTEs (reporting, admin, communications – social, website, data collection), funding for student groups?
- Current funding focuses primarily on graduate student position and dues for AASHE
- President McConnell requested the budget in January.

6. Updates from Members – 25 minutes

- Tonie - Sustainability Statement requested from President McConnell to be housed on the CSU website. The Core Team has a draft that will be shared with the December minutes. From PSC, it will go to the employee councils and ELT for approval. Share your feedback, final version available sometime in January.
- Carol – drilling rig for Geoexchange project has been on Intramural Fields to do a test well and will be working all summer. It will be messy. Maggie created a source article to help explain the project.
- Brian – anyone have spare space? IBE needs to find a new area. Some ideas were shared and Brian will follow-up.
- Mary – Shared stories about climate talks and bird migration impacted by climate change; lots of compelling sustainability stories to share from CSU
- Sara – Hiring a new director for SSC for social media – have a job description (will send out in the minutes and Eco Leaders)

- Peter – SoGES, Resident Fellows will be funded this year and Global Research Teams next year. These changes being made and announcements are out with proposals for Resident Fellows due at the end of February.
- Aaron – finalist for a grant to fund a trail under prospect to Spring Creek Gardens with matching funds from a donor. Presenting in January. New Ride Guide created, effective January 2nd, 2020.
- Mary – rolling out a new recycling guide to align with changes the City has made for plastic recycling. Going by shapes rather than the recycling numbers. New stickers will be out and implemented by the end of Winter break.
- Tonie – RecycleMania will be kicking off in February, the sorting game will be updated, SOURCE story will be produced to reflect the recycling changes. STARS report is officially submitted to AASHE. Shoutout to Mary and Danielle, CSU Life and SOURCE have consistently had sustainability stories. Thank you also to Mary Guiden and Maggie Walsh for telling incredible stories about CSU sustainability.
- Julie – Poudre River Forum coming up on February 28th, RFP is out and due February 2nd.
- Andrew – Kudos to Olivia on her thesis project!
Jocelyn – Rolling out the new SPUR brand for National Western, design is still being created and has taken some time. They will start reaching out more about the design process.
- Tim – IRB created a survey looking to collect student data on research (laboratory sustainability support at CSU). Look for this announcement coming out soon.
- Stacey – The survey is a great opportunity and is looking to see what would motivate individuals to think of sustainability. Green Lab Certification program – lab is piloted and will earn a certification in the next few months (Colleen Duncan’s Lab). Rebates for about 25 ultra-low freezer rebates. Couple hundred thousand dollars for energy projects.
- Danielle – 150th anniversary Sustainability highlights brief timeline which will be published in CSU Life in February
- John Fitch – Book on sustainable house nearly done. Brian Dunbar is doing the forward of that book. It summarizes over 10 years of data. House runs on Renewable Energy only.

1. Minute attachments

- New commission structure
- Draft of CSU Sustainability Statement