

SEEAC Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 17th, 2014
TILT 104

Members Present: Carol Dollard - Facilities Management
Tonie Miyamoto - Housing and Dining Services, Student Affairs
Becca Wren - Facilities Management
Tim Broderick - Housing and Dining Services
Meagan Dechen - STARS Intern
Stacey Baumgarn - Facilities Management
Farrah Bustamante - Procurement Services
Doug Max - Athletics
Jacob Kimiecik - Student Sustainability Center
Sheela Backen - Facilities Management
Dell Rae Ciaravola – Department of Public Relations
Jocelyn Hittle - Denver Operational Initiatives
Aaron Fodge – Department of Parking and Transportation
Aleta Weller – School of Global Environmental Sustainability
Andrew Warnock – Energy Institute
Scot Allen – Office of International Programs
Jeff Cook – Graduate School
Kat Ernst – Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Enterprise
Cary Weiner – Center for Agricultural Energy
Brian Dunbar – Institute for the Built Environment
Sam Block - ASCSU
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property
Tom Weeks – Procurement Services

I. Introductions

II. RecycleMania Update

- The RecycleMania Competition will run from **February 2nd-March 29th, 2014**.
- RecycleMania is a national University recycling competition, which CSU has been participating in since its inception. CSU has always placed in the top 5% of participating schools.
- The RecycleMania Waste Audit will be held on **Wednesday, March 5th**. This event will analyze one day's worth of trash from a dining hall. Sheela's crew from Facilities Management will set up several tarps on the plaza at 6:00 am. Her crew will then dump trash from a dining hall on the tarps for volunteers to rifle through and analyze. Tim from Housing & Dining Services will start sorting at 9:00 am. He is looking for 50 volunteers from 9:00-2:00 pm. Please let him know if you are interested in volunteering at this event. Protective gear such as gloves and goggles will be provided. The volunteer slots are broken into hour chunks so any time commitment is appreciated. As Tonie noted, the waste stream found in the dining halls has consistently improved, with less recyclable items found in the trash each year. The waste audit is a helpful exercise that is showing improvements in student habits.
- Upon request, Sheela and her crew will bring more recycle bins and supplies for office cleaning. By cleaning your office now, you can help bolster RecycleMania numbers within the competition. Sheela will be available for this request the entire month of March.

III. Earth Week Update – Events that have been submitted as of 2/17/2014

- **Thursday, April 17** - Energy Institute Grand Opening – two tours during the day, then open house
- **Monday, April 21** – Request to hold from SoGES , Biodiversity Ignite talk - Aleta will follow up on hold
- **Monday, April 21** – John Fielder 50 Years of Wilderness exhibit/talk, 7 pm – Griffin Concert Hall

- **Tuesday, April 22** – Earth Day Festival will be held on West Lawn due to construction on plaza. There may be lower traffic on the West Lawn but there will also be less space limitations.
- **Wednesday, April 23** – Collaborative Colorado Panel: A group of different student clubs in NR are banding together to present an interdisciplinary panel of speakers on a conservation topic.
- **Thursday, April 24** – Earth, Sun, and Fire Tour: A free bus tour to the Foothills Campus to see the Composter, the solar panel array, and the biomass boiler.
- **Thursday, April 24** - Tree Campus USA/Arbor Day Tree Planting with CSFS – More details about the tree planting ceremony will follow.
- **Friday, April 25** – Ewaste Collection and Compost Giveaway
- Others?
 - CBAC (Campus Bicycle Advisory Committee) has interest in holding a transportation fair the week before Earth Week. Aaron Fodge will follow up on exact date.
 - **Saturday, April 12th** - CSUnity, EcoLeaders to contribute to sustainable projects.
- To add your Earth Day event to the paper marketing, please officially register your event on the CSU website by March 15th. Then, send the link of the event to Tonie Miyamoto and she will add it to the official list.
- Tonie suggested that a table be set up on the plaza on Earth Day to direct traffic to the West Lawn.
- Sam Block has an initiative to give free reusable coffee mugs away outside of coffee shops during Earth Week. Sheela already has a large order of mugs coming and she agreed to give some to Sam for this initiative.
- An official event poster with a detailed agenda is to come.

IV. STARS Update -

- Meagan Dechen is a graduate student who has compiled the information to submit to AASHE for the STARS program.
- STARS is a nationally recognized tracking report of sustainability in higher education and CSU is resubmitting information in the programs new platforms - 1.2 and 2.0.
- Currently, CSU is the second ranked University in the nation but it has the potential to be the first platinum university, reclaim first place, and to revise and update sustainability programs.
- In the new submittal, CSU will rank #1 in Education and Research, #1 in Planning, Administration, and Engagement, and #75 in Operations.
- If the University reaches a platinum ranking, a third-party auditor will come to assess CSU's programs.
- Meagan mentioned that SEEAC input has helped her develop more credits for reporting.
- The University's definition of sustainability as was previously submitted was called into question. The definition was taken from the Brundtland Commission. Meagan then asked for input from SEEAC to propose a new definition, more suitable to CSU.
- Arguably, the working definition now is so vague that it allows for many different interpretations.
- Aleta would like to see the social component of sustainability reflected in the new definition.
- Aaron agreed, as he sees sustainability as a very social entity.
- Aleta then mentioned that when SoGes was first created, there was a campus-wide discussion of what sustainability really meant. The definition of sustainability, according to the campus-wide dialogue, can be found on the SoGes website.
- Meagan asked about community partnerships. Previously, CSU claimed FortZed as the partnership and then moved to ClimateWise. Other suggestions from SEEAC include the Road to 0 Waste, Drive Electric Northern Colorado, The Clean Energy Cluster, The Water Cluster, CBAC/City partnership, Zipcar, Univercity, and the Energy Institute.

- Cary Weiner mentioned that he is working with several extension partnerships across Colorado that are mostly energy related but still applicable.
- Brian Dunbar stated that he knows President Tony Frank is proud of the STARS achievement on campus as he has shared the University's efforts and rankings with the Board of Governors.
- The 2.0 report is due in October, which will allow SEEAC and others more time to develop ideas for reporting. The 1.2 report submittal will give a good idea of where the University will stand in the 2.0 report.
- Some credits, especially in the Operations category are extremely difficult to attain. It is not certain that CSU will be a Platinum University, but why not aim for it.

V. AASHE Conference Proposals-

- The AASHE Conference will be held the last week of October in Portland, OR.
- It is important that SEEAC be represented in some way at the conference. Having multiple people going and representing the University shows how our parts are greater than our whole. If you, or anyone you work with at the University is attending, please let Tonie or Carol know.
- Brian Dunbar shared his past experience and said he learned a lot and came home with many new ideas. He will not be attending this year because it coincides with the Greenbuild conference.
- Tim- Broderick also shared his experience saying that it is exiting to see other people struggling with similar issues and work shopping a solution together.
- Tonie and Tim plan to submit a presentation topic about the Housing Pavilions on campus that will be the first LEED platinum buildings on campus.
- Meagan expressed interest in attending and speaking about CSU's high STARS score and submittal process.

VI. Mini-Retreat

- The SEEAC mini-retreat will be held **Thursday, March 6th from 11:00-1:00pm** in Durrell Room 2. Lunch will be provided.
- The mini-retreat will give the committee the opportunity to review audiences and give an opportunity to develop our larger goals.
- Tonie and Carol have attended several department meetings of sustainable groups on campus over the last few weeks. They went to the meetings with a brainstorming questionnaire to get feedback about SEEAC. The feedback will be brought to the committee for review.
- There will also be a discussion about if SEEAC should have its own SPARC, or if it should be a subset of another SPARC.
- The SEEAC name itself will be discussed at the mini-retreat.
- Overall, the mission and goals of SEEAC will be better understood after the mini-retreat.

VII. Updates from Members -

Andrew Warnock – Real tours of the Energy Institute begin in April but the building is open to the public now.

Scot Allen – In the Education Abroad area, proposals to expand international internships are being submitted.

Doug Max - The Stadium project is still evolving.

Jake Drenth – He will be attending a Surplus conference soon.

Stacey Baumgarn – Stacey is embarking on a building outreach program on the Foothills Campus.

Sam Block – A new Leave it Behind campaign for off-campus students is being developed with the help of Surplus Property and Facilities Management.

Brian Dunbar – The Institute for the Built Environment has a new certificate program where users can earn badges for their sustainability efforts and see where they can improve.

Cary Weiner – Cary is teaching a new Energy Masters program, which allows people to become a Colorado Energy Master, requiring 30 hours of training.

Jacob Kimicek – The Student Sustainability Center is trying to contribute to The Collegian frequently to give a student perspective of sustainability to a larger audience.

Sheela Backen – CSU had a 45% recycle rate in the first week of RecycleMania but she is hopeful that the numbers will increase as the competition goes on.

Tim Broderick – The EcoLeaders just recently started learning about STARS and are enthusiastic about the program.

Kat Ernst – Kat runs the GSSE blog about sustainable enterprise and is willing to host a blog post from a SEEAC member.

Jocelyn Hittle – Jocelyn has hired a Master Planner and the design of the Stock Show Pavilion is developing.

Carol Dollard – Carol has information about the green revolving fund in Facilities Management. Contact her if you'd like more information.

VIII. Next meeting: Monday, March 17th 1-2:30 pm, TILT 104