

President's Sustainability Committee

Minutes

September 18th, 2017, 1:00-2:30 pm

TILT 104

Members Present: Carol Dollard – Facilities Management – Co-Chair of PSC
Tonie Miyamoto - HDS, Student Affairs – Co-Chair of PSC
Stacey Baumgarn – Facilities Management
Doug Max - Athletics
Van Wallace – Facilities Management
Sheela Backen – Facilities Management
Kirstie Tedrick – STARS Intern
Emily Taylor – Student Sustainability Center
Madelyn Royal – ASCSU Environmental Affairs
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences Education and Outreach
Tony Rappe – College of Natural Sciences
Brian Dunbar – IBE
Farrah Bustamante – Procurement Services
Sheela Backen – Facilities Management
Aaron Fodge – Parking and Transportation Services
Mark Ritschard – College of Engineering
Lauren Pott - College of Engineering
Ken Shockley – College of Liberal Arts
Jocelyn Hittle – CSU System
Bill Timpson – College of Health and Human Sciences
Don Albrecht - Morgan Libraries
Julie Kallenberger - CSU Water Center and Colorado Water Institute
Peter Backlund – SoGES
Nicole Johnson - College of Business, Global Social & Sustainable Enterprise
Chris Giglio – EHS
Barb DiPasquale - CSUF

1. Strategic Plan Updates

- a. The Sustainability Strategic Plan was approved by the President's Cabinet last year in October.
- b. At the PSC Retreat in July, subgroups of the Committee discussed the addition of new goals and updates to the Strategic Plan.
- c. Updates and revisions were added to the plan, which was re-distributed to the Committee.
- d. The PSC will not seek new approval from Cabinet on the updated plan.
- a. Updates from the Academic and Administration & Planning subgroups still need to be incorporate into the plan.
- b. October 1st is the new deadline to submit edits to Becca.Mueller@colostate.edu
- c. Subgroups can bring new goals forward without official approval from the Committee. These goals will then be discussed among the Committee.

2. BOG Presentation in October

- a. Carol and Tonie are presenting to the Board of Governors on October 5th.

- b. They will have 10 minutes or less to present an executive summary about the work of the Committee, including an overview of STARS.
- c. Stanford recently submitted a STARS report and they have taken the top platinum ranking, scoring fractions of a point higher than CSU.
- d. Part of the PSC presentation to the BOG will highlight the categories in which CSU could score higher points with more investment in bigger initiatives.
- e. Brian suggested mentioning the basis of ratings and the report categories to the BOG, with a few goals to reclaim the top STARS score.
- f. Aaron suggested highlighting why the report is important. Data about how many students are interested in CSU because of sustainability initiatives may be compelling to the Board.

3. Next PSC Meeting

- a. The Committee agreed to move the next PSC meeting to **October 23rd**, rather than the 16th. Becca will send a reminder about this change.

4. Earth Week Sustainability Survey

- a. Van Wallace presented data from the sustainability survey that was distributed at the Facilities Management booth at the Earth Day Festival.
- b. This survey was only taken by people interested in the Earth Day Festival, who are therefore more likely to care about sustainability initiatives and projects.
- c. The survey included the following three questions –
 - 1. How does CSU best demonstrate its commitment to sustainability?
 - 2. How should CSU demonstrate its commitment to sustainability?
 - 3. What can you do to support sustainability at CSU?
- d. Responses included recycling, composting, outreach, and renewable energy as things student and employees appreciate at CSU.
- e. Suggestions for improvements included alternative transportation advancements and mindful behaviors.
- f. Van's presentations/data will be sent with the minutes.

5. Alternative Transportation Update

- a. Aaron Fodge presented the third year's worth of data from the mode split survey.
- b. As part of the University Census, a random sampling of students, faculty, and staff are polled about their transportation to campus.
- c. A notable change in transportation habits among students over the last three years can be seen in the data.
- d. There are many factors that may have created this change including; construction on campus, increase in cost of parking permits, free Transfort passes for students, faculty, and staff, more available bike racks on campus, increase in bike paths on campus, etc.
- e. Students have invested in alternative transportation initiatives like Transfort's Sunday Service and an increase in bus routes.
- f. The full data of the mode split survey will be sent with the minutes.
- g. Aaron asked the PSC to consider goal setting for projects regarding alternative transportation.
- h. Sheela suggested adjusting Transfort hours of service to begin earlier and end later. Custodial staff who work second shifts have expressed interest in using the bus system but don't have access with current operating hours.

- i. Farrah also suggested that goal setting consider the realistic facts of life that limit people's use of alternative transportation. Staff with children, who care for elders, who live far from campus, or who have other life circumstances cannot use alternative transportation in the same fashion as others. Often, this conversation suggests that people who choose to drive to campus should feel guilty for doing so, which should be avoided in this goal setting exercise.
- j. Tony Rappe mentioned that air travel, a mode of transportation used very frequently by CSU faculty, staff, and students, be taken into consideration during the mode split survey assessment. Air emissions have a far greater impact on the Greenhouse Gas Footprint (10% in FY17) and perhaps Parking and Transportation Services should consider incentivizing the avoidance of air travel.

6. Composting/Reusable Water Bottles at Stadium

- a. Students are taking an active role in composting efforts at the Stadium.
- b. For the first two games, 25 students volunteered to staff the compost bins and educate game attendees about what is compostable, recyclable, and trash. compost education/sorting.
- c. The first game's compost bins were too contaminated and had to be sent to the landfill. The second game was more successful.
- d. Students have reported that reusable water bottles are allowed in stadium. Tonie asked Doug if that was accurate and if so, what other options do game day attendees have for water bottles?
- e. Empty, soft-sided water bottles like Diet Coke bottles with caps can be taken into the stadium in a clear plastic bag. Nalgene bottles, aluminum reusable bottles, and similar bottles will not be allowed in the Stadium.
- f. Doug will discuss better composting signage and communication about what is and not allowed in the stadium with other Athletics staff.
- g. Housing and Dining will reevaluate what kinds of reusable bottle are given to freshman students.

7. Sustainable Denver Summit – December 5th

- a. The Denver Mayor's Office of Sustainability hosts an annual sustainability summit in Denver.
- b. CSU is sponsoring this year's event and is looking for staff who are interested in attending,
- c. This summit provides a good opportunity to collaborate on sustainability projects with other experts across the Front Range.
- d. Jocelyn and the Denver CSU office are looking for a table of experts from campus entities like IBE, SoGES, GSSE, and others to represent CSU.
- e. Jocelyn will send more information about the summit and faculty and staff can let her know if interested in attending.

8. Announcements

Kirstie Tedrick – The [Green Warrior](#) program launched this week. This is an 8-week program for students to engage in sustainable behavior to earn points and prizes.

Don Albrecht – The Library Sustainability Team wrote an internal Sustainability Strategic Plan. This plan will be sent to the PSC with the minutes.

Julie Kallenberger – Julie shared information about an upcoming event hosted by the Water Center. [Stories of Water Equity and Environmental Justice Symposium](#), October 18th 8:30 am-6:30 pm in the Lory Student Center.

Nicole Johnson - GSSE and Staples have a new Ecobiz partnership.

Sheela Backen – Sheela and her staff have been working with Spectra, the concessionaire at the Stadium, to better incorporate composting options.

Bill Timpson – Bill wrote a new book and will soon host an AASHE webinar called "[Core Concepts for Teaching Sustainability: Using "Tips" to Deepen Learning across the Disciplines, Grade Levels and Cultures](#)". The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. EDT.

Jocelyn Hittle – An RFQ is being written for faculty engagement to work on the sustainability group for the National Western Center, specifically to address urban ecology and river corridor. Also, the City of Denver will soon issue an RFQ for a private-sector energy partner for the National Western Center.

Madelyn Royal - ASCSU has been working to recruit composting volunteers. ASCUS is also hiring a Deputy Director of Environmental Affairs.

Emily Taylor – The Student Sustainability Center is actively updating information about sustainability-related student organizations to re-engage a sustainability coalition. Also, October is Campus Sustainability Month and Emily is creating a list of events. Send her information about any sustainability events in October.

Van Wallace - Van, Carol, and Stacey have almost completed the FY17 Greenhouse Gas Report, which will be presented to the PSC at a future meeting.

Andrew Warnock - Andrew has been working on a team with the Water Center to address water education the National Western Center. And, Andrew will be participating in a Department of Energy event in October called the [Solar Decathlon](#).

Peter Backlund – SoGES has many [upcoming events](#), including movie screenings, panel discussions, and more.

Brian Dunbar - IBE is involved with the Poudre School District and they have formed a Strategic Sustainability Team with staff from the City, School District, and CSU. The group share news and ideas for cross-collaboration. Any interested in sustainability and K-12 education might enjoy this group's activities.

Carol Dollard– More details about the report will be presented in an upcoming meeting but the FY17 Greenhouse Gas Report shows a 13% GHS reduction in 8 years. Also, Carol and Farrah have been working on a RFP solicitation to secure up to 100% renewable electricity for the University. The RFP will be sent along with the minutes. If you are approached from any solar companies, asking about the RFP, immediately inform Farrah, as she can address questions appropriately. Don not confer with vendors or companies.

Tonie Miyamoto- The Pollinator Friendly Campus subcommittee of the PSC has been meeting to identify a series of steps to become a Certified Pollinator Friendly Campus. A pollinator-friendly garden has been installed on the northwest side of Clark and other pollinator friendly initiatives are underway. The minutes from the subcommittee's meeting will be sent with the PSC minutes.