

President's Sustainability Committee

Minutes

May 16th, 2016, 1:00-2:30 pm

TILT 104

Members Present: Carol Dollard – Facilities Management
Tonie Miyamoto - Housing and Dining Services, Student Affairs
Stacey Baumgarn - Facilities Management and Classified Personnel Council
Chris Giglio – Environmental Health Services
Michael Streight - SoGES
Tim Broderick – Housing and Dining Services
Bill Timpson – College of Health and Human Sciences
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences
Neyda Gilman – Libraries
Farrah Bustamante – Procurement Services

1. The Climate Reality Project - Vasiliy Kisunko

- a. Climate Reality is a national non-profit organization founded by Al Gore in 2006.
- b. There is a Climate Reality club on campus. Carol serves as liaison to the club and Vasiliy Kisunko is the coordinator for the program.
- c. The Climate Reality Project hosts national and international trainings for energy efficiency policy changes in all 50 states.
- d. The project has outreach chapters across 12 universities, including Colorado State University.
- e. Vasiliy has come to the President's Sustainability Committee to ask for the University's support or endorsement of the Climate Reality Project.
 - i. Specifically, Vasiliy is asking that the PSC consider a commitment to having 100% of electricity on campus generated by a renewable source by 2030.
 - ii. The student chapter at CSU is very excited about this goal as it would show a large university's commitment to sustainability. They have circulated petitions to garner support for the commitment.
 - iii. Carol recommended that Vasiliy reach out to the City of Fort Collins, as this goal would also align with their Climate Action Plan (CAP). They could potentially be a co-signer of the University's endorsement.
- f. This goal aligns with CSU's CAP and Carol believes it is a very reasonable goal. She has been involved in many conversations about renewable energy tactics and strategies.
- g. Specifically, this commitment would incorporate more solar and wind power but the purchase of renewable energy credits (RECs) is also acceptable.
- h. CSU would be the first university to commit to this goal via Climate Reality.
- i. Electricity is the largest portion of CSU's GHG footprint and this commitment would reinforce a commitment to energy efficiency.
- j. Aggressive electric conservation is also a component of this goal.
- k. This initiative might tie into President Frank's challenge to the PSC to reach for an extraordinary goal for the coming year.
- l. As next steps, the PSC will consider writing a memo or pledge of support, similar to the Climate Day of Action memo drafted by the PSC in November.
 - i. Then, this pledge will be sent to the President for his approval and signature.
 - ii. The petition circulated by the students associated with this goal will be attached to the pledge as an appendix.
- m. Vasiliy can come back to the June PSC meeting to discuss this further or collect the signed pledge.

2. Green Sports Alliance

- a. CSU is now a member of the Green Sports Alliance.
- b. In association with the alliance, Stacey and Doug Max submitted a grant application for a \$50,000 make-over of a single sports facility.
- c. Moby Arena was selected for a make-over of the recycling/trash facilities.
- d. The concessionaire within Moby had to sign off on the grant to agree that they would adhere to the goals of the grant, which is a major step.
- e. This is the first sustainability agreement Athletics has committed to.
- f. Winners will be announced the first week of June for announcement of winners.

3. Second Nature/Carbon Commitment Membership Dues

- a. After The American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) disbanded, Second Nature became responsible for managing college and university's "carbon commitments".
- b. Second Nature is an online platform that CSU has used to publish the Climate Action Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reports.
 - i. The CAP and GHG reports are also posted on CSU's websites.
- c. Recently, Second Nature has begun charging membership dues to publish reports on their website. The membership dues are \$5,000, which is 25% of the PSC recently approved budget.
- d. Carol suggested that there is no value in paying these fees, just to publish the CAP and GHG reports.
 - i. Carol would like to stop using this service and avoid paying the \$5,000 fee.
- e. This would not affect the signatory status of the University. The University will always be signatory's to the carbon commitment.
- f. Bill mentioned that Second Nature used to have sustainability related curriculum examples but CSU's STARS report addresses the issue of sustainable curriculum and course development without any reference to Second Nature.
- g. Tonie will ask Nik Olson in the President's Office to consider sending feedback to Second Nature about these membership dues.
- h. The PSC was in consensus that the membership dues are unnecessary.

4. Fair Trade Alliance Update

- a. The Fair Trade Alliance has announced the CSU is the first university in Colorado and only one of 12 universities in the nation to be fair trade certified.
- b. The process to become Fair Trade certified had three main steps –
 - i. The students of the Fair Trade club made the declaration and came to the PSC for support.
 - ii. Fair Trade language was incorporated into an official University policy (EPP, with Farrah's help)
 - iii. Students passed a bill through student government.
- c. The process was delayed within the student government but the resolution passed at the last ASCSU meeting of the semester this year.
- d. An official announcement of this achievement will be held until the fall semester, to have a bigger impact when students are on campus.
- e. There is also an opportunity for the Green Warrior campaign and the Forever Green t-shirts to be Fair Trade certified shirts for the upcoming year.
 - i. There is a difference in price between regular t-shirts and organic, fair trade t-shirts, which might inhibit the Forever Green (order of 8,000) t-shirts from being fair trade.
- f. Tonie asked the PSC if there was interest within the committee to offer to pay the difference in price between regular and fair trade t-shirts, with the small seed money allocated in the PSC's budget.
 - i. Yes, the committee expressed interest in paying the difference, if it was manageable within the budget.
 - ii. Tonie will investigate the feasibility of this.

5. Re-Envisioning CSU

- a. 2020 is the 150th anniversary of CSU and part of this celebration includes President Frank's exercise called "Re-Envision Colorado State".

- b. There is opportunity for anyone on campus to provide feedback about the future development, in whatever capacity, of the University.
- c. Stacey passed out postcards that can be filled out or feedback can also be submitted online here - <http://source.colostate.edu/re-envision-csu/>
- d. Ideas can be wide-spread and involve any level of budget, as this is a visioning exercise.
- e. In the fall, there might be open forums and guest speakers to address these issues and ideas.
- f. This is an opportunity for impactful sustainability related initiatives to be shared.

6. Sustainability Awards – APPA, NACUFS Waste Management, Eco Leader Green Student Champion – 10 minutes

- a. CSU has been awarded the National Sustainability Award from APPA, which is a facilities in higher education organization. Carol and Stacey submitted an application in the fall and CSU won the only national award.
- b. The National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS) awarded CSU with a silver designation for the dining hall's food management practices, which includes a 93% diversion rate via pulpers and composting.
- c. Sarah Ross is an Eco Leader who began a food waste management pilot program about composting in Pinon Hall. Her project was selected as the only student champion project in the nation this year and she received \$1,000 for tuition.
- d. Press releases about these awards will be spaced out over the summer and fall semester to get as much attention as possible.
- e. Also, the Library applied for a \$150,000 grant for a solar installation on the roof. Neyda will hear back about the status of this grant in early June.

7. Updates from Members

Jake Drenth – Jake and his crew are actively collecting left over material from the residence halls and the apartments as part of the Leave it Behind program. All of this material will be sorted and sold at the annual tent sale on June 18th and 19th. Though final numbers are not yet ready, Jake estimates 40,000-50,000 lbs. of material will be collected. Last year, the tent sale raised \$7,000, which went to funding the Eco Leaders program. Jake is still looking for volunteers for sorting shifts and for the actual sale day. Sign up here - <http://cr.colostate.edu/tentsale/volunteer.html>

Farrah Bustamante – Farrah is working with Dr. Graham Pierce of the Biology Department for a pilot recycling project for pipets. So far, the pilot is going well and Farrah will report back to the PSC soon.

Bill Timpson – Bill will be presenting posters and case studies at AASHE this year. Also, he will be teaching a course called “Models of Teaching” that discusses infusion of sustainability in curriculums. Contact Bill if you are interested.

Tonie Miyamoto – The new EVs are very popular and are being widely used. Nissan is going to write a case study about the recent process of acquiring EVs at CSU.

Tim Broderick – Admissions will soon be offering prospective student tours of campus via bicycle, which is very exciting!

Chris Giglio – The City of Fort Collins Hazardous Waste Department is willing to come to a PSC meeting to discuss the hazardous waste collection event.

Next Meeting – Monday, June 20th from 1:00-2:30 pm in TILT 104.