

Sustainability Council minutes, January 17, 2014

Attendance: John Lehman, Mike Cherney, Katie Bruckman, Larry Hopp, Charlene Stender, Bill Stephens, Hannah Mullally, Joe Zaborowski, Jessica Sheldon, Barbara Dilly, Peter Maas, Rich Jehlik, Bill Hamilton, Amy Helms, Chris Rodgers, Mary Duda

To discuss:

- Thanks to Ray Stoupa for chairing our last meeting.
- Discussion of Earth Day
 - Should we participate in Omaha's Earth Day? This would help promote Creighton as a leader in sustainability. Other schools have had booths/giveaways there over the years.
 - We would want to involve the marketing folks.
 - Perhaps we could give an award to bring attention to Creighton's efforts.
 - City's Earth Day is April 19, which is the Saturday before Easter; students most likely will not be around to work at it.
 - Decided to have something at the fair, but it is not clear what at this point.
- Assessment of the council's activities:
 - We have an "audit" of the council's activities; it needs to be updated
 - The STARS survey gives an outside perspective
- Invite Provost to a meeting (possibly in March). Would need to discuss what to talk to him about. At this time, the Council is more concerned about being included in strategic planning. We need to let those in charge know that we'd like to see people from the Council included on appropriate strategic planning subcommittees.
- Working groups were discussed at last meeting. Pick 5-10 projects to work on
 - Handbook for faculty and staff; a council member volunteered to head this; it would be handed it out at orientation and highlight policies and ideas for being more sustainable at work.
 - Outreach (dashboards, advertising, "click it off", St. Francis Pledge). Several members volunteered to head these initiatives.
 - Mission
 - There was an interest in field trips
 - Standing committee investigation
 - Concern: Most presidential committees have members that are appointed and have limited terms. Also, becoming a presidential committee does not automatically mean that the committee will have a budget.
 - Council member with experience on a presidential committee volunteered to look into what is needed to become a presidential committee, how the bylaws are written, can we choose who is on it, length of service, etc. Will report back.
 - CSU can also help support initiatives with resolutions, etc.
- All Things Ignatian
 - Sustainability poster

- Found volunteers to be with it from 3-5:30 on Monday February 3.
- Purchasing Sourcing show – need people to work
 - March 4 10-2. One hour shifts?
- Monitor with energy data has been installed in Facilities Management. Also shows weather, university announcements, job postings, etc. Can be used for other announcements. Will combine with energy technology displays. A second, similar display will be mounted in the Harper Center.
 - Council showed interest in having a “Grand Opening” when the Harper monitor is installed and operational
- Recyclemania starts Monday with a 2-week warmup period. Actual competition starts February 3 and runs through March 29. Need informative emails, of the Did You Know variety; ideas include information on what happens when plastic bottles accumulate, etc. The students have an interest in decorating recycle bins to bring attention to them.
- Earth Day: sometime in April. Earth Day is the Tuesday after Easter, so that is the students’ first day back. April 23 appears to be a good day for Earth Day; it can be combined with “Wednesdays After Class”. The “We Matter Climate Walk” is scheduled for April 25, making this Earth Week.
- The oneShirt competition is no longer being offered. However, we still get calls about it and will still be hosting a drive during Earth Week. We just won’t be competing.
- The Executive Vice President for CSU (Creighton Students Union) attended the meeting and informed the group of CSU’s initiatives and activities. There is an interest in sustainability among the student body. CSU is looking to partner with various student groups for programming and awareness activities (Wednesdays After Class, hands-on things like planting herbs for dorm rooms, providing reusable water bottles). Deglman Hall is composting and has partnered with City Sprouts. CSU is interested in more composting on campus. CSU has also networked with other Jesuit universities; several of them have a VP for Sustainability.
- The group discussed whether we can get support from other offices, such as Alumni Relations or Athletics. We will look for opportunities to partner with these groups.
- We need to have small wins and use that momentum to create more opportunities and larger wins. Ideas included the “Click-it-off campaign” mentioned previously, a “green-out” at athletic events (an idea successfully implemented in the NBA), the guide for faculty/staff, and more.

Upcoming events:

- All Things Ignatian Poster session, February 3
- Purchasing Sourcing show March 4 10am-2pm.
- Earth Week, April 23-25

Next meeting: February 21, 2014 in Epley 119