

## Sustainability Council minutes, February 21, 2014

Attendance: Taylor Keen, Stuart Shell (community member), Amy Helms, Rich Jehlik, Tim Norton, Bill Hamilton, Charlene Stender, Ed DuPree, Bridget Stukel, Hannah Mullally, Jessica Sheldon, Barbara Dilly, Joe Zaborowski, Mary Duda

- Greenhouse gas information
  - Had to redo baseline as well as this year; electricity usage from residence halls had been double-counted
  - Greenhouse gases went up this year as compared to last year by about 2%. Still down overall from 2010 baseline by 2%.
  - GHG from utilities has steadily gone down. GHG from university-funded travel has increased and accounts for the overall increase.
- The decrease in energy consumption is compelling; why did it happen?
  - Facilities has been taking care of “low-hanging fruit” like replacing lightbulbs. They also have been identifying and targeting projects to reduce consumption.
  - However, the utility consumption on campus is approximately two and a half times what it should be, when compared with institutions of a similar size.
  - Upcoming projects include modifying the fume hood controls in the science buildings and several projects that the Energy Technology students are working on.
- Standing committee investigation
  - It looks like each committee may vary in number and type of members, but it is not mentioned anywhere in the descriptions that the committees can be open to interested parties.
  - Pros: Financial backing; backing from administration; presidential visibility
  - Cons: Could lose invested people; rigid structure
  - Could we have an advisory council, structured like the Wellness Council? Possibly report to new VP for Mission and Ministry. Or keep this council as advisory to an official presidential committee.
- Discussion of Earth Day
  - Probably April 23; April 22 (the traditional Earth Day) is the students’ first day back from Easter break.
- The Sustainability major has been approved by the College of Arts and Sciences
- Sustainability and Strategic planning:
  - Ray Stoupa reports that there has been interest in sustainability on the Strategic Planning “university spend” subcommittee.
- There was a discussion sustainability needing to be presented from a holistic perspective and do more with mission/ministry.
  - For instance, there are a lot of stories from various faith traditions that could be shared
  - We are stewards of creation; sustainability is holy work
  - Could be incorporated into Earth Day and St. Francis Day
- We need to work on a lifestyle change as opposed to changing specific behaviors.

- One faculty member suggested going to the faculty (perhaps at academic council) and tell them what's at stake and ask for their help. This might be a good place to introduce the handbook being developed, with practical suggestions.
- Studies have shown that as buildings become more efficient, occupant behavior becomes more important. Occupants are more satisfied when they have more control over their environment.
- 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.
- All Things Ignatian
  - Poster did not get printed and was not displayed. However, it was displayed at other events during Founders' Week. We now have the poster for future events. Other sustainability-themed posters included CCSJ's and Barbara Dilly's garden
- Purchasing Sourcing show – need people to work
  - March 4 10-2. One hour shifts
  - Previously, there have been approximately 200 people in attendance, but Purchasing is expecting more because they moved the date of the show to the week before spring break.
- Recyclemania continues. Mary Duda provided an update; currently we have recycled 0.75 lbs/person, with a total of 7903 lbs. Last year at this time, we had recycled 5549 lbs.
- Student updates: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual We Matter Walk is in April; the goal is to have 300 people in attendance (~200 were there last year).
- Tim Norton distributed information on sustainability conferences and resources through AASHE.
- A member suggested putting a hotline or suggestion box online. This can easily be accomplished on the sustainability website.

Upcoming events:

- Purchasing Sourcing show Tuesday, March 4 10am-2pm.
- Earth Week, April 23-25

Next meeting: March 21, 2014 in Epley 119