

Minutes
Sustainability Committee

May 16, 2008

<u>Members Present:</u>	Cindy Adams	Wayne Morford
	Teresa Bohnet	Ari Podsiadlo
	Katie Booton	Karin Priefert
	Mary Duda	Susan Reaves
	Ed DuPree	Ken Reed-Bouley
	Ed Grudle	Frank Reida
	Jessica Heller	Pamela Vaughn
	Lou Marcuccio	Joe Zaborowski

Randall Nichols from Element Distributing gave a presentation on sustainable packaging. He had samples of various types of plates, bowls, and plastic silverware made of different sustainable sources, such as corn, potato, rice, and sugar-cane. The presentation was quite interesting. Christine Krin from Sodexo mentioned that this packaging could add significantly to the cost of items purchased in our food-service areas. One example was a “clam-shell” made of corn would add approximately 75 cents to the price of a salad in the student center.

Teresa Bohnet gave an update on where the plans for single-stream recycling stand. She says that we are on target for August and are looking at the various ways of picking up the materials – getting our own truck, hiring more workers, etc.

Jessica Heller gave an update on the bicycle program. She says the best place for the University to start is to address issues that would bring awareness to cycling, such as short and long term bicycle storage, identification of bikeable routes through campus, and bicycle repair workshops. Second steps could include shower privileges at the fitness center and reduced price parking passes for using an outlying lot and biking into campus. Eventually, some sort of bike rental/loan program should be considered.

Jessica also spoke about leaf-blowers. She talked about the fact that the Innovative Team from Facilities Management has been looking into this issue for some time. The verdict at this time is that it is not feasible to eliminate leaf-blowers entirely from campus operations. The grounds crew is planning on testing a quieter blower that has less power to see if it will work for our needs. Additionally, they will work on training to determine when a blower is the appropriate tool for the task.

Ed Grudle spoke about the many sustainable items he has installed in his home over the years and invited people to talk to him if they had any questions about photovoltaic power or other sustainable home improvements.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:10 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 20th at 2:00 PM in Alumni Library, UP Room.