

## Sustainability Council minutes, December 12, 2014

Attendance: recorded at 10

- BikeNest update: We are looking for someone to take over supervision of the work-study students in the BikeNest. Would need to check on them to ensure they are working appropriately. If not, work studies will no longer be able to work at the BikeNest; however, volunteers could still work there. Discussion ensued on how to best utilize the BikeNest.
  - The current location makes it difficult to have someone supervising on-premises.
    - Loud and noisy
    - However, there is no other place to put it.
  - Volunteers are the best shot for keeping it open.
  - Some members felt that the “end game” should be a bike library or bike check-out
  - Since we will only have volunteers, could we have it such that someone could make an appointment to use the room? Perhaps email the volunteers to meet them. This might be more convenient for both the customers and the volunteers.
  - There are not many people stopping by. Part of that is the current weather.
  - Talk to residence life. Kimberly Grassmeyer.
  - First step, have regular hours.
  - Could we make one work-study supervisor over the others?
    - Keep track of customers
  - Maybe squeeze it down to one or two afternoons a week
  - Incentives for students to come in
    - Like at Community Bike Project – have once a week training session
    - Could public safety do the classes?
    - GreenDot program does trainings – could we do a special bike safety program?  
Justin Carter is the one to talk to
  - A bike group has to be organized by students and would go through Student Activities
  - CSU was looking at a rental bike program
  - Could we have a bike rack under the Criss I archway? (Editor: there is currently one there)
- Mary Duda talked to Dan Burkey at a “listening session” for the strategic plan and mentioned that the Council is disappointed that the Climate Action Plan has not been included in the Strategic Planning process.
- Earth Week – what kinds of events would be of interest?
  - Want to add/highlight Jesuit values
  - We Matter Walk; was on Friday last year and had lower turnout. Walk will be on Wednesday this year
  - Sustainable WAC (Wednesdays after Class) during Earth Week
  - Andy Waltke will have an education session on composting for students
  - More lectures on campus – would be beneficial for all of Creighton Community

- Clarissa Parker, diversity and leadership for IRHG, does a “Movies that Make you Go Hmmm” series. Could do one during Earth Week.
- Other departments help? Energy Technology, especially
  - Starting an Energy Technology Club focused on outreach; this would be a good outlet for them
  - Solar panel demos
  - Tours of solar array in parking lot
  - Tabling on the mall
    - Poster boards on people’s ecological footprints
    - Give people an incentive
  - Arbor Day?
- Andy Waltke will be doing greenhouse outreach during the spring semester. Keep an eye peeled for more information and feel free to participate as much or as little as you’d like.
  - Get people interested in Greenhouse
  - January -- Tours, introduction
  - February -- How to affect change
  - March – startup of greenhouse
  - April – Earth Week events + composting
  - May – wrap-up
- Recyclemania starts in January
  - Official Dates: February 1-March 28
  - “Pre-season”: January 18-31
  - Q: How to we count our materials?
    - Everything goes to our recycling compactor – gets weighed when compactor is emptied
    - Cardboard is separate
  - Bring awareness to the fact that Skutt is not recycling well
  - Need increased signage
  - Need standard instructions for how much food/residue can be in containers
  - Put posters above recycling bin
  - Look at where recycling bins are located – near water bottle filling station to rinse/empty containers
    - “Drink it or sink it”
  - Invite Scott back for January; maybe do a walkabout, since the next meeting is in Skutt?
  - May be some funding available for store credit
  - Guide to a more effective RecycleMania:
 

<http://www.recyclemaniacs.org/sites/default/files/Strategy%20Guide%20for%20web.pdf>

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total weight	87,045	99,217	90,417	79,952
Total/person	7.71	7.99	8.62	7.62
Cardboard/person	1.51	1.47	1.41	1.27

Paper/person	1.53	2.02	1.08	0.82
Bottles & Cans/person	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.52

- Taylor Keen teaches at Heider School of Business. Native American Studies has gone through changes; he has been asked to take charge of NAS. This includes teachings about sustainability and Mother Earth. According to Native American tradition, God gave us corn, beans, and squash; these three plants sacred. However, there is nowhere to plant. One idea for NAS – have a credit course or extracurricular activity to plant Indian corn. Dr. Dilly is working on a grant for doing this. Great stories that go with it. Start to get ready sometime in April, plant first of May.
  - Need to be away from other corn because it is susceptible to cross-pollination
  - Where to do this?
  - Plots are not large (25' x 35')
  - Seed sovereignty
  - Have you talked to CCSJ? Could be a good place to partner
  - Taylor is invited to speak during Earth Week to talk more about this.
- IRHG has been working with “We Compost” curbside composting pickup
  - Pick up compost from residences and businesses and take it to a farm in Iowa
  - Most viable to do to get rid of food waste in dining halls
  - IRHG needs to do a lot of homework – how much food waste, how many students, etc.
  - WeCompost would do the audit
  - Food service workers would put waste in green bags. Would need a composting dumpster to put stuff in. Pick up as often as trash, but as infrequently as possible.
  - Try to make it as cost-neutral as possible. About same cost of trash pickup.
  - Will take a while to get through university channels
  - Only looking at stuff coming out of kitchens, not the dining halls
    - Due to contamination – no meat, eggs, etc.
  - Invite Sodexo back for February
- From Jay Leichter: “In November, the Sustainability program proposal was reviewed and approved by the Creighton College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee and, just this past week, the proposal was reviewed and approved by the Academic Planning Review Committee. On December 15, the proposal will be on the agenda for the Dean’s from the university to review. If approved, the final step is approval by the Provost. Although it is not guaranteed and these last two reviews may raise different sets of questions, based on the review comments thus far, I am expecting approval.

If it is approved, the program will probably have a soft launch first, setting up the administration and allowing some students to begin the major. A full launch with assistance from Marketing and Admissions would likely happen for Fall 2015, if approved.

The program includes specific resources to help build an intellectual community in this unique interdisciplinary program. It builds on the established frameworks and practices of the EVS and ERG programs, and opens the possibility for efficiency in teaching schedules and collaboration.

Most notably, if approved the program will partner explicitly in the delivery of the EVS Senior Seminar and the year-end awards/keynote banquet.

I welcome all comments and questions. I will share with anyone who asks the details of the program and will be disseminating official program information when/if approved. If you would like to be connected to the program as staff, faculty or students, please contact me.”

Next meeting is January 16, 2015 in SKUTT 209. NOTE that all meetings during spring semester 2015 are there.

Upcoming events: Earth Week: April 20-24, 2015