

**Academic Affairs
Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting
Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2008, 2:30 p.m.
UN 211**

Attendees: Best, Carpenter, Jennings, Kurland, Michaud, Stephens (Chair), Vasishth, Wohldmann, Zell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes of September 26, 2008 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephens began with commenting on the success of the Sustainability Day Event and expressing her appreciation to all for their contributions. She noted how pleased she was with the attendance of the campus community.

Jennings also thanked and congratulated the team for their accomplishment in the day's event. He announced that the Institute has been approved and the deans are in the final stages of appointing a Director and an Advisory Board. The importance of the coordination of activities and the ability to be more effective as a result was then discussed.

Stephens noted that three offices in the Santa Susana Hall have been reserved for institute directors and staff. This office space will provide a good environment/situation for both the Sustainability and Health and Well Being institutes.

Stephens added that Vance Peterson has shown an interest in possibly obtaining external funding to support the institute. A subgroup, with the addition of Colin Donahue, will begin work on developing an institute budget for the purpose of seeking external support.

UPDATES / DISCUSSION

Vasishth reported that he has received more surveys and will be continuing with the Faculty Survey and Transportation Survey.

Wohldmann will contact University Corp. regarding her food study. She had the following questions of concern: (1) what data will be available to us? (2) what specific type of questions to ask? (3) what is the most important?

Michaud brought up the importance of obtaining more recycling bins in an effort to increase recycling across the campus. Suggestions made were to negotiate with the vendor for different options or coordinate with PPM to provide more bins. Writing a grant to improve waste separation on campus was another consideration.

Stephens noted she and Ashwani are working with David Moon, Professor in the Art Department, to create a logo and branding for the CSUN greening project. A meeting with Viscom has been scheduled on Wednesday, October 29th at 8:00 am. They plan to have something to share with members at the next meeting.

The team agreed to pursue the development of an experimental course for the Fall 09 semester designed to have a different faculty member speak each week. Kurland agreed to apply for the Beck Grant as a

source for funding, and Vasishth agreed that he would pursue having the course scheduled through the Urban Studies and Planning department.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Going Green: Careers Supporting Environmental Sustainability will be held on October 28th, 12:30 – 2:00 pm, USU. Kurland is serving on the panel.
- Vasishth reminded members the final of the four webinars is scheduled on Wednesday, October 29th, at 10:00 am, entitled *Financial Mechanisms for Campus Sustainability*.
- Best led a discussion of what methods could be used to publicize the Hunter Lovins appearance scheduled December 9th, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm, in Nordhoff Hall. One idea presented would be to ask faculty to include it as an assignment in their classes. Stephens offered to arrange to have a poster and post cards created.
- The National Teach-In on Climate Change was discussed. Vasishth reported that there has been no real development so far. Possibly a panel discussion should be considered. The potential for faculty to incorporate climate change into their lectures was reviewed.
- Ways in which to stimulate interest in Earth Day scheduled April 22, 2009 were considered. Carpenter brought up student committees and a suggestion was made to involve CSUN fraternities and sororities. Best cautioned that the 10 am – 2 pm scheduled time may be a problem for those students that attend in the afternoon. An attempt should be made to involve evening students. Another suggestion was to have faculty representation from departments that can in turn create involvement throughout their departments.

The meeting concluded with the team agreeing on the following points:

- Keep students involved and engaged – vocal student body representation is essential.
- Continue to grow in sustainability over time.
- Focus on curriculum.
- Realize necessity to move forward while remaining cooperative, sensitive, and helpful.

Symposium discussion to be deferred to next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- Carpenter to invite Associated Students President or Vice President to next meeting on November 21st.
- Kurland to apply for Beck Grant as a source of support for experimental course.
- Interested faculty to work on developing experimental course to be scheduled through Urban Studies and Planning.
- Best to download photo of Hunter Lovins and provide to Academic Resources.
- Vincent Chavez, Academic Resources, to create poster & post cards for Hunter Lovins campus visit on December 9th.
- Carpenter to provide team members with the schedule of Darwin week occurring February 9 – 13, 2009.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 21, 2008.