

**Academic Affairs
Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2008, 2:00 p.m.**

Attendees: Best, Cox, Jennings, Kurland, Michaud, Pontikis, Stephens (Chair), Theodoulou, Vasishth, Zell

Guest: Dean Stella Theodoulou, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

DISCUSSION

Stephens distributed the Charter and Sustainability Initiative to all members.

Theodoulou recognized the need for the Initiative and the support being provided by the deans. She stressed the importance of an integration of the team's efforts and the necessity of sustainability becoming a part of everyday life on campus. Perhaps the end product should function as an umbrella over the center.

Discussion then referred to Figure 2 of the Sustainability Initiative. Issues raised included:

1. Developing a synergy and operations side of the institution.
2. "Bringing it all together and telling our story."
3. Building an institute of well being that includes clinical experience and necessary services as well as a contribution to the community.

Vasishth emphasized the importance of student involvement. He mentioned the Summit in Spring and how it can serve as an Outreach event.

Whether or not the creation of an Institute is essential was discussed. Team members agreed that it would provide credibility and legitimacy. Theodoulou noted that the deans' involvement will play an essential role. She then raised the question of whether the Advisory Board should be separate. Jennings advised against becoming too structured but to allow room for evolution and consensus--building.

Stephens informed the team that office space has been acquired for two directors (for sustainability and health/wellbeing) and administrative staff for the sustainability effort. Their focus will be to integrate the institutes with the community. She also added the two major issues recently identified by Provost Hellenbrand for the future in the San Fernando Valley are (1) health and wellbeing and (2) sustainability.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephens announced recent articles in the Daily Sundial and the Daily News featuring Kurland and Vasishth and the efforts of the Sustainability Team.

Vasishth announced the upcoming webinars scheduled October 1st, 15th, and 29th. In addition, a SCUP webcast is scheduled on October 2nd, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Campus Sustainability Day is Wednesday, October 22nd with a SCUP webcast scheduled from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. Ideas were presented to enhance the day and increase visibility:

1. Involvement of the student organization, CSUN Greens.
2. A brief presentation by faculty.
3. In addition to the webcast include an outside activity.
4. Each college involved in a project that is related to their field.
5. Organized student based clean-up on campus.
6. Announce Earth Day event on April 23, 2009.

Stephens reported that the campus is moving to “New Class Hours” beginning Fall 2009. Classes will be offered in Monday/Wednesday, Tuesday/Thursday, Friday/Saturday blocks. This will provide students with more flexibility within their schedules, require less commuting, and utilize our facilities more efficiently.

Kurland stated that her program with students in her class to assess recycling on campus is actively underway. Cyndi Signett of A.S. is coordinating with students to increase awareness.

Vasishth reported the results of the transportation survey as follows:

Total Respondents to date: 640
Drivers: 79.2%
Average days per week coming to campus: 3.61
Average vehicular occupancy: 1.15
Average miles commuted, one way: 16.84 miles
Average fuel economy: 24.9 mpg

Vasishth reported that he has been discussing with Colin Donohue data sources for the Campus Footprinting Exercise. Wohldmann will follow up with her contacts.

Helen Cox shared a PowerPoint presentation of work on carbon footprinting. Of particular interest were the various categories of green house gas emissions (GHG) and the ways in which they can be reduced. Campus mapping was provided with a focus on CSUN landscaping.

Stephens noted that Sustainability and Health and Well-being are being incorporated into the Academic Affairs annual planning process.

ACTION ITEMS

- Team members to submit comments regarding handouts to Spero Bowman via email with a copy to Stephens, Theodoulou, and Jennings.
- Stephens to update team with information from senior management regarding the creation of an institute.

- Michaud to contact Dave Crandall, General Manager of Associated Students, regarding CSUN Greens involvement.
- Stephens to contact department chairs regarding faculty presentations.
- Best to provide information related to planned December 9 event.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.