

Academic Affairs
Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting
Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2009
2:00 p.m.
UN 277

Attendees: Best (Rec. & Tourism Mgmt.), Carpenter (Graduate Studies), Cox (Geography), Erickson (Ed Psych/Grad Student), Gibby (AcR & Planning), Johari (Mechanical Engineering), Kurland (Management), Nirenberg (University Corp), Sherman (Matador Involvement Center), Vasishth (Urban Studies), Wilson (Facilities Planning), Wohldmann (Psychology)

Guests: T. Brown (PPM), S. Bhongir (student), L. Oustinovskaya (Sundial)

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the meeting minutes of June 19, 2009 deferred until the next meeting.

B. INFORMATION ITEMS / DISCUSSION

1. Vasishth began with presenting the idea of following each monthly Sustainability meeting with a fifteen minute presentation made by various campus speakers. The campus community would be invited to attend. Members agreed with the concept and to discuss later.
2. Best announced that as of this date, eighteen students have enrolled in the new Sustainability Perspectives course, URBS495C, with twelve seats remaining. Vasishth encouraged faculty to continue to inform students of this new course offering.
3. Nirenberg stated that University Corp. is fully committed to becoming a Styrofoam free campus beginning with the Fall semester. Signage will be posted publicizing this accomplishment. Also, he added they are presently considering the installation of misters to cool campus areas.
4. Wilson announced he spoke with Brenda Roberts, managing editor of the Northridge Magazine. She confirmed the next issue will include an article on Sustainability.
5. Carpenter mentioned the necessity of finding ways in which to publicize the institute's mission. It was noted that on-campus activities such as the Graduate Student Orientation, Freshman Convocation, and New Faculty orientation all provide good opportunities.
6. Cox extended a thank you to Vasishth for his leadership and allowing her the opportunity to continue to further the growth of the Institute.

She noted that new office space is now set up in Santa Susana Hall and prepared to accommodate the two directors and office staff. In addition, an active recruitment is in progress for administrative support.

C. UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events were reviewed and attendance encouraged:

- AASHE *Greening of the Campus VIII* conference, Indianapolis, September 20 – 23, 2009
- CSUN *Water Awareness Day*, October 20, 2009

- SCUP *Carbon Footprinting* Workshop - Date to be determined
- *This Way to Sustainability V* Conference, CSU Chico, November 5 – 8, 2009

D. REPORTS

It was recommended and agreed that the agenda be standardized to give each working group the opportunity to share their efforts with the team.

Reports were then provided from each of the following groups:

CSUN Community Gardens

Three projects have been decided upon that will run over the Fall semester.

- Hillel Property Landscaping Project: Landscaping the property backyard. Further information will be provided on the web blog.
- Reseda Corridor Tree Planting Project: Wilson stated that tree planting will occur in two phases throughout the Fall with the actual planting ending in December. More detailed pedestrian streetscaping has been designed including benches, planters, etc. He added that business members will take ownership for maintenance with a five year commitment to each tree. Wilson plans to meet with Andy Lipkus in September to arrange training.
- Food/Garden Project: Wohldmann will report at the next meeting.

Farmers Market/Food

Nirenberg reported he has a meeting set with Tom Brown to discuss public safety issues associated with loading in and out in the Bayramian Hall area. He stressed the need to be aware of safety care issues on campus. The market has been scheduled on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Nirenberg stated that once approval is received from the President's Cabinet, they will submit the application to the Agricultural Commission.

Transportation

Michaud reported the working group will focus on three projects.

- Bicycle Planning: Promote it as a more acceptable off-campus activity.
- Transit Center: Conduct survey to determine who would utilize the transit center. Plan to have Buses enter campus through Reseda or Zelzah and create CSUN as a hub for alternative transportation systems.
- Website: Design a website that will additionally draw interest from single car commuters.

Water, Waste, Recycling

Kurland reported that planning for Water Day, scheduled October 20, is underway. It will be a full day of events. She noted that when the agenda is completed, she'll send it to team members. The focus will be to determine how we consume water on campus and what can be done to reduce our water footprint.

Discussion followed with questions related to placing signs on campus reminding people to shut off water and conserve. Brown offered to provide the signs to those interested in posting in various areas on campus.

Bhongir noted that a waste audit will be conducted on October 22, 2009 with plans to target more buildings on campus.

Carbon Footprinting

Cox began with noting the University has been filing official data such as the fuel use of vehicles CSUN owns and operates. This information goes to state level and outside contractors take the data and produce a report. Not included in the report is commuting data,

energy associated with water, goods and resources we consume, and trash that goes out. She stressed the importance of knowing where our energy use is internally and how to reduce it. Carpenter suggested the formation of a working group and recommended attendance at the workshop for those interested.

Information and Outreach

Kurland volunteered to serve as Information and Outreach coordinator and, thus far, has created a duties sheet and communicated with various media in an attempt to get the information flowing. She expressed a need to appoint someone to oversee and coordinate events taking place in the next year. Kurland also sees the value and plans to pursue the prospect of ongoing articles being published in the Sundial.

E. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Brown provided highlights to the tentative agreement reached with Boeing for highly efficient triple junction solar photovoltaic technology to be installed at CSUN. Boeing has agreed to fund the project with CSUN assuming responsibility for installation at Lindley and Nordhoff streets.

Congratulations were extended to Brown.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Carpenter to speak with Terry Piper regarding Grad Orientation.
2. Cox/Stephens to speak with Terry Piper regarding Freshman orientation.
3. Erickson to create a new flyer to be handed out at orientation.
4. Wilson to determine a date for training of 30 staff, students, faculty, committee members for tree planting on Reseda.
5. Brown to provide tree data from rainforest to Cox.
6. Kurland to recruit faculty and students for Sundial articles.

Next meeting: Friday, August 21, 2009.