

California State University  
**Northridge**

**Academic Affairs**  
**Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 11, 2010 | 9:00-10:30am | UN 211**

**Attendees:** Lisa Anderson (Developmental Math), Mechelle Best (RTM), Hedy Carpenter (Graduate Studies), Helen Cox (Geography), Kristy Michaud (Political Science), Kyriakos Pontikis (FCS), Jean Porter (Academic Resources and Planning), Yann Schrodi (Chemistry), Cyndi Signett (A.S.), Magdy Rizk (Art), Vanessa Rosenberg (A.S.), Zeynep Toker (URBS)

**Minutes:** Sarah Erickson (Institute)

### **I. Introductions**

Group made introductions and welcomed new members.

### **II. Planning for 10/11 AY**

#### **a. Events**

Cox initiated discussion of events for next year. She noted that it is important to have faculty place events on course syllabi to increase student participation. Cox gave an overview of last year's events, which included Water Day, Campus Sustainability Day, the Oviatt Library exhibit, and the Earth Day Fair. She noted that the Library Presentation Room is a better location for events than the Whitsett Room. Cox asked the group for suggestions on what events should be held next year.

Carpenter mentioned that she has been in contact with Pam Longobardi to present her work at CSUN. She is an artist and has a film about trash she collects in oceans. Her speaker fees could be paid with the Distinguished Speakers series. She could do two presentations; one to the Art department and one to the entire campus in a large theater such as Nordhoff Hall or the Armer Theater. The group decided to spread events throughout the semester and ask Longobardi to present in September or November and have another event on Campus Sustainability Day (October 20). Carpenter will find out Longobardi's availability.

The group brainstormed ideas for Campus Sustainability Day. Toker suggested a coordinated bicycle ride throughout campus. Michaud suggested a transportation theme. Cox proposed inviting Councilman Greig Smith to discuss alternative transportation in Northridge. Erickson suggested having a bike clinic. Schrodi added that we could hold a poster session outdoors. Anderson suggested a bike tour of CSUN sustainability features. Michaud suggested including the SSU Math Lab to the tour. Cox mentioned having a demo bike if we are able to implement a bike leasing program and to invite someone

from the City to discuss the 2010 LA bike plans. Michaud will follow-up on the latter. Toker will make the event mandatory for her classes. Best mentioned the perhaps involving the Skateboard Club. Cox mentioned that the Engineering department can display their unmanned vehicles. Toker added that we could have an electric bicycle on display. Anderson suggested inviting Ed Begley Jr. to speak, as rides his bike around the SFV. Erickson will contact him regarding his availability and speaking fee and reserve a room for the event. Green Core members will put event information on their syllabi and ask colleagues to do so.

Cox reported that an orange pick with Food Forward is scheduled for October 3. Best suggested targeting student clubs and organizations, including fraternities and sororities to increase student participation in this event. Erickson will contact the MIC regarding advertising in the Red Hot News. Anderson suggested inviting alumni to participate.

Signett noted that Earth Day 2011 falls on a Friday so the event will likely be held on Wednesday, April 20.

Best noted that the Climate Teach-in is February 5.

#### **b. Curriculum**

Cox reported that the sustainability minor is currently going through the internal process and will be reviewed by EPC in September. A graduate certificate in Sustainability is being developed and may be offered through the Tseng College. The courses will target working professionals. Best stated that a similar certificate already exists and has three concentrations. Toker reported that a sustainability certificate in Urban Planning has been approved by APC and EPC. Three campuses have agreed in principle and courses will be accepted at all campuses.

Michaud mentioned that the Beck Grant report is due June 25<sup>th</sup> for last year's Interdisciplinary Sustainability Perspectives course. Best noted that the article written about the course can be disseminated online. Cox added that the Provost will be supporting the course this Fall. Pontikis noted that five FCS professors received a Beck Grant and will be teaching a sustainability course. Carpenter noted that the Beck Grant reports used to be presented through CIELO and that doing this would increase exposure for the Institute.

Cox stated that members need to advertise URBS 495C to students prior to registration, which will be offered in the Fall.

#### **c. Funding**

Cox initiated discussion of funding opportunities. A grant proposal was submitted regarding environmental education to teach teachers how to incorporate sustainability into their curriculum. A proposal was also submitted for a farmers market on campus. It has been difficult to acquire funding for initiatives thus far. We need to work on obtaining funding towards the Institute's operational budget. Best mentioned an EPA pollution prevention grant, but it is not offered every year. Carpenter suggested utilizing the grant writer in her office, Shelley Bartenstein. We would need to provide her with a

boiler plate and a PI for the grant. Carpenter will meet with her to discuss funding ideas for the Institute and ask her to present at the next meeting regarding how to find funding opportunities. Toker mentioned SB375, which provides grant funding from the city of Los Angeles. Cox mentioned that there is interest on campus in starting a bicycle sharing program, but programs like this need funding and we should look at ways to funds such programs. Pontikis and Anderson suggested looking into private partnering. Carpenter added to that we need faculty expertise so we should look for university grant writers. Toker suggested partnering with Peter McCarty on community projects. Cox will talk to Eng about setting up private partnerships and how they have managed such programs. When asked about the role of the Institute, Cox stated that a portion of funds received from grants would go to the Institute for indirect/overhead/management costs; but grants would be like other faculty grants in that the faculty member would be the P.I. and the grant would be operated through the University Corporation. The Institute's role is to bring together people both on and off campus to collaborate on grants and to obtain funding which would help support the Institute. Carpenter confirmed that it is important to prove the Institute is valuable to the campus to ensure continued support, also noting that other centers on campus are not self-sustaining but seek some support from outside. Cox would like all active members to participate in writing one grant per year because the Institute needs to increase the number of grant submissions. The group should also seek small funding opportunities through foundations.

#### **d. Additional Items**

Cox plans to continue working groups and asked members to submit Faculty Associates Applications for formal recognition of work done with the Institute. Cox is currently working to identify a Green Core member from the College of Business, likely Deborah Cours, who coordinates the MBA student consulting program.

**Next meeting:** July 16, 2-3:30 PM in UN 277

### **III. ACTION ITEMS**

- Carpenter will find out when Longobardi is available.
- Michaud will follow-up on inviting someone to discuss the 2010 LA bike plans.
- Erickson will contact Ed Begley Jr. and Greig Smith regarding speaking at Campus Sustainability Day.
- Erickson will reserve a room for Campus Sustainability Day
- Green Core members will include events on their syllabi and ask colleagues to do so.
- Erickson will advertise October orange pick through the MIC.