

Academic Affairs
Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2010
2:00 p.m.
UN 211

Attendees: Best (Rec & Tourism Mgt), Bhongir (A.S. Environ. Affairs), Carpenter (Graduate Studies), Cox (Geography), D'Orsogna (Mathematics), Donahue (Fac. Planning), Erickson (Institute Assistant), Garcia (Coll. of Bus & Econ IT), Michaud (Political Science), Motti (Geog. grad student), Pontikis (Family & Consumer Sci.), Signett (A.S. Recycling), Stephens (ARP), Toker (Urban Studies & Plan.), Wilson (Fac. Planning), Wohldmann (Psychology)

Guests: D. Grimm (Student), A. Pacheco (A.S. President), A. Tivasuradej (Student)

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes of December 11, 2009 were approved by consensus.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Introductions were made by all members and guests.

Cox announced the Go Green Expo taking place January 22-24 at the LA Convention Center. Cox also informed the group of EPA webinar series, which will take place on the third Thursday of each month from 10:00am-11:30am starting February 18. Stephens will reserve a conference room for these dates if group members are interested in attending.

Signett informed group of the Burbank Green Alliance Environmental Film Series and sent the information to the green info listserv.

Cox announced that the Institute is currently updating the listservs. An email was sent to the green info listserv asking members to identify themselves as a CSUN student, faculty, staff/administrator, or community member/other. Erickson is creating a listserv for each of these categories.

Pontikis announced that the American Institution of Architecture will be holding a meeting for their environmental committee and invited Cox to speak about the Institute. Pontikis will provide Cox with contact information.

Pacheco reported on current sustainability initiatives he is working on as the Associated Students president.

- The bookstore is now carrying “green books” made of recycled paper
- He plans to meet with Rick Evans, director of The University Corporation, regarding having all eateries on campus provide a place for patrons to recycle their receipts
- He met with President Koester regarding obtaining a Zip Car for the residence halls and is going to assess whether or not there is demand for this.

III. LIBRARY DISPLAY

Carpenter provided measurements and setup for Oviatt library exhibit. Group discussed what items will be displayed. Wohldmann and Motti will create food display and poster. Erickson will gather objects for "Use This, Not That" display. Donahue will look into obtaining a waterless urinal for tall display case. Committee members will submit book and DVD titles to Erickson to display library holdings of sustainability related materials. Wilson will contact USU to have model of student recreation center on display. Donahue will try to obtain a sample of a photovoltaic panel. Pontikis, Toker, Johari, and Cox will submit posters. Erickson and Cox will create poster introducing exhibit and Institute. Donahue will contact PPM to see if they have a poster for the fuel cell. Carpenter will contact librarian Dean Arnold regarding having rec center table in lobby and whether library staff can assist in printing and setup. Carpenter set a deadline for Friday, January 29 for group members to submit their posters and other materials to the Institute for Sustainability office (SN 324).

IV. SUSTAINABILITY COURSE SCHEDULING

Cox reported that the Sustainability Perspectives course is not currently scheduled for Fall 2010. Committee will figure out which department it will be under, who will teach it, and if they will apply for the Beck grant again. The deadline for course scheduling is February 5th. Cox is in contact with the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences about housing the core courses in that college. Plan to launch sustainability certificate in Spring 2011. Wohldmann reported that the Contemporary Issues in Psychology (PSY 426) course she is teaching this semester has 53 people enrolled and students on the waitlist.

V. SPRING EVENTS

Wohldmann and Bhongir are coordinating a lecture and film series this semester in partnership with the Marilyn Magaram Center. Events will take place every other week, starting with "Food Inc." on February 9th. Stephens suggested the Armor theater in Manzanita Hall and offered to assist with room reservations.

VI. EARTH DAY

Bhongir reported that the Environmental Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet next week to discuss Earth Day 2010. Cleary Court and the USU are currently reserved for the event. The bookstore and library lawns, where the event has occurred in the past, were already reserved. A.S. has funding allocated for the event. The group is planning to have booths with relevant community groups, giveaways, a band, campus sustainability tours, a speaker and movie in the evening, and a "Greeks going Green" competition. Wilson will provide Bhongir with a list of possible speakers. Best suggested a Trends club recycled clothing fashion show.

VII. REPORTS

a. Faculty retreat summary

Cox reported that there was a small turnout, but the group received positive feedback. She distributed feedback to presenters. Garcia was invited to attend green core meeting after showing interest at the presentation. Garcia would like to obtain feedback from CSUN staff regarding sustainability issues. Suggested we add a way for staff to report sustainability issues on the Institute website. Best suggested a workshop on sustainable practices on-campus and at home be added to the professional development series put on by Human Resources. Wilson thanked Signett for providing recycle bins on the Student Recreation Center and Performing Arts

Center construction sites to reduce waste. Pontikis suggested the curriculum committee provide a workshop to teach faculty how to incorporate sustainability into their coursework. Bhongir proposed that faculty display what they are doing in their courses or department towards sustainability at Earth Day.

b. Food Garden

Wohldmann reported that the Hillel garden has an abundance of food. Donahue reported that the site for the proposed garden is likely to be approved.

c. Transportation survey/TWG

Michaud plans to meet with Erickson next week regarding the feedback she provided for the commute survey. The IRB application is due February 15 and she plans to launch the survey shortly after. The TWG goal for this semester is to gather data and write a white paper. Donahue reported that the university received a federal grant to create additional tram stops on north campus. There is going to be a formal stop with a security booth in the F7 lot. This project will begin in March and will likely take 90 days to complete. This is an optimal location because it will serve the future staff housing as well. Wilson informed the group of the Sundial article regarding the proposed transit center.

d. URBS495C – analysis

Cox distributed course feedback forms to Best, Michaud, Pontikis, and Wohldmann

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- Stephens will reserve conference room for EPA webinars
- Pontikis will provide Cox with contact information for the American Institute for Architecture
- Committee to decide where to house Sustainability Perspectives course
- Wohldmann and Motti will create food display and poster
- Erickson will gather objects for “Use This, Not That” display
- Donahue will look into obtaining a waterless urinal for tall display case
- Committee members will submit book and DVD titles to Erickson to display library holdings of sustainability related materials
- Wilson will contact USU to have model of student recreation center on display and will try to obtain a sample of a photovoltaic panel
- Pontikis, Toker, Johari, and Cox will submit posters
- Erickson and Cox will create poster introducing exhibit and Institute
- Donahue will contact PPM for poster of the fuel cell and sample solar material
- Carpenter will contact librarian Dean Arnold regarding rec center model in lobby and if library staff can assist in printing and setup
- Wilson will provide list of possible speakers for Earth Day to Bhongir
- Michaud to revise commute survey and submit to IRB by February 15

Next meeting: February 19, 2:00 pm, UN 211