

Academic Affairs
Greening Initiative Core Team Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2010, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
UN 211

Attendees: Best (Rec & Tourism Mgt), Bhongir (A.S. Environ. Affairs), Carpenter (Graduate Studies), Cox (Geography), Erickson (Institute Assistant), Michaud (Political Science), Motti (Geog. grad student), Pontikis (Family & Consumer Sci.), Signett (A.S. Recycling), Stephens (ARP), Toker (Urban Studies & Plan.), Wohldmann (Psychology)

Guests: Christopher Jones (Accounting)

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes of January 22, 2010 were approved by consensus.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Carpenter announced that the library exhibit is now complete and that it will run until April 1st. She contacted PPM because the touch screen is not working properly and will follow-up. Best will have a poster on the water assessment by March 1st.

Cox will be on a panel at the WASC conference on April 22nd. The panel topic is, "Sustainability across the Curriculum." Wohldmann was also going to present, but is no longer on the curriculum committee, but mentioned that Christina Mayberry (Library) would like to attend. Cox will contact Mayberry.

Cox announced a call for proposals for the UC/CSU/CCC California Higher Education Sustainability Conference, which will take place June 20-23rd at LA Trade Tech College. The proposal deadline is March 10th. Wilson and Best are serving on the water track committee. Michaud will submit a proposal for the transportation survey. Stephens reported that the SCUP conference will have a workshop regarding bicycles on campus.

Motti presented to FCS 690B, a graduate seminar on sustainable food. He suggested inviting the professor, Dr. Fajardo, to attend a green core meeting. Discussion regarding ability to harvest food (oranges, olives, etc.) on campus occurred. Motti reported that PPM needs to grant permission to harvest beforehand. Cox will give Tom Brown a GIS map of the edible food on campus. Michaud suggested that the FCS and Business departments collaborate to harvest and sell the food. Motti mentioned that there are four students in the course interested in creating a farmer's market on campus. He will forward their contact information to Bhongir to get them involved with the EAC.

III. SUSTAINABILITY COURSE SCHEDULING AND CURRICULUM UPDATE

Cox reported that the Sustainability Perspectives course will be offered through the Urban Studies department in the Fall. It will be held on Fridays from 11:00 am to 1:45 pm. Toker and D'Orsogna will be part of the teaching team and Kurland and Claude Willey will not be teaching the course in the fall. Cox will submit a proposal to CIELO

for the Beck grant. Stephens offered to help with FTE issues that may arise. Cox will create a Doodle survey to set up a meeting for the course instructors.

Cox reported that the plan is to create a minor in Sustainability rather than an undergraduate certificate, as previously planned. It will include three core courses: an Interdisciplinary Perspectives course (URBS 495C), a Best Practices course (PSY 426), and a Business/Engineering course as well as three elective courses for a total of 18 units. The first two core courses will be prerequisites for the third course. The Business/Engineering course will focus on cost/benefit analysis of sustainable products and design. The group agreed that the goal is to educate as many students as possible and give them a broad, rather than specialized knowledge of sustainability and that courses on each of the three pillars of sustainability need to be included. Cox suggested that guidelines need to be given for courses to be approved as electives. Courses will be submitted, reviewed, and approved. Carpenter noted that the list of elective courses will continuously evolve as new courses are added and dropped from the schedule. Discussion occurred on the level of the courses to be offered and how many courses per college or department can be included as electives. Bhongir suggested offering a 100-level course to introduce freshman to sustainability. Best recommended identifying 100 and 200 level courses with sustainability content to be approved as electives and to get sustainability courses approved for general education. Cox mentioned that we are requesting that core courses have “SUST” designation.

IV. PSY 426 UPDATE

Wohldmann reported that Randy Thompson will present a workshop on composting in her class next Thursday (February 25th) from 12:30-1:45pm in Sierra Hall 309. Erickson will request the workshop to be filmed. Bhongir reported that Associated Students is marketing this event and will send the flier to Erickson to post on the Institute website. All Eco Speaker event information for this semester can be found at www.csunas.org/ecospeaker. Additional events scheduled for this semester are a campus tour and a field trip. Best suggested adding the green core member’s websites to the Institute site. Erickson will do so.

V. EARTH DAY PLANS

The Earth Day event will be held on April 22nd from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Bhongir reported that the EAC plans to have a “Cans for Cash” contest and welcomed committee members to judge the contest. There will be booths with exhibitors and organizations, unamplified music from 12:30-1:30pm, and a showing of “Wall-E” at the residence halls in the evening. Online registration to reserve a table is available on the A.S. website. Bhongir reported the “Awakening the Dreamer” symposium, which is an audio/visual interactive documentary, is currently unconfirmed, but may be scheduled after the fair and before the film. Motti reported that Food Forward will have a booth at the event. He will follow-up to see if they will have an orange picking connected to the event. Wohldmann suggested that her class could participate if the picking is scheduled for Thursday. Best suggested an olive pick. Motti will research.

VI. REPORTS

a. Food Garden Update

Wohldmann reported that the East Campus garden has been approved. Wohldmann and her co-instructor, Roger Moss, donated their salaries from teaching the course to

fund the garden. It is a total of 1,500 square feet; 400-500 sq. ft of garden and 1,000 sq. ft of teaching space. Wohldmann will set up a Doodle survey to coordinate times for committee members to volunteer to maintain the garden.

b. Transportation Survey/TWG

Michaud reported that she is currently waiting for approval from the vice presidents for email distribution of the survey. It is scheduled to launch at the end of this month or early March. It will be sent to 10,000 people (mostly students, but also to faculty, and staff). A meeting with the chief of police, Anne Glavin, is scheduled for next Wednesday to discuss bicycles on campus. Captain Fernandez will present technology utilized by Public Safety at the TWG meeting scheduled for next Thursday at 2:30 pm. A presentation by Zimride will also be made at that meeting. Michaud will send the meeting agenda to core members. Cox will invite A.S. president, Pacheco, to attend because of his efforts to obtain a Zip Car for the dorms.

c. Orange Grove and Food Forward

Motti reported that the last orange picking yielded 10,000 pounds in four hours. There were about 120 volunteers for the pick. All the fruit was donated to SOVA food pantry in Van Nuys. Food Forward would like to do 3-4 picks a year on campus. They would like to get permanent approval from PPM. Hillel donated orange pickers for the event and Wohldmann plans to purchase a few with the Campus Garden budget. Motti is scheduled to meet with Food Forward on Monday to discuss future orange picking events. Erickson will add a link to the Food Forward website for people to register as volunteers on the Institute website.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

- Carpenter will follow-up with PPM regarding touch screen in the library
- Cox will invite Mayberry to attend WASC conference
- Michaud will submit a proposal for the UC/CSU/CCC California Higher Education Sustainability Conference for the transportation survey
- Cox will submit a proposal to CIELO for the Beck grant for URBS 495C
- Cox will create a Doodle survey to set up a meeting for the course instructors
- Cox will give Tom Brown a GIS map of the edible food on campus
- Motti will forward FCS student contact information to Bhongir
- Erickson will request for the composting workshop to be filmed
- Bhongir will send compost workshop flier to Erickson to post on Institute website
- Bhongir will send speaker information to Erickson to post on Institute website
- Erickson will add green core member's websites to the Institute website
- Motti will research having an olive pick for Earth Day
- Wohldmann will set up a Doodle survey for committee members to volunteer to maintain the campus garden
- Michaud will send TWG meeting agenda to core members
- Cox will invite A.S. president, Pacheco, to attend the TWG meeting
- Erickson will add a link to Food Forward on the Institute website for people to register as volunteers

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