

## SMU Sustainability Committee Meeting

September 1, 2010

### Attendees:

Betsy del Monte	Joshua Tate	Pamela Varela
Bonnie Jacobs	Kelly Milazzo	Pat Van Zandt
Christopher Mavros	Kevin Salfen	Patrick Cullen
David de la Fuente	Kim Cobb	Rick Halperin
David Hayden	Kim Lewis	Robert Taylor
George Holden	Mary Balogh	Sarah Rincon
Jake Torres	Michael Marr	Tiana Lightfoot Svendsen
Jessie Hart	Michael Paul	
Elizabeth Rust Oliver	Niraj Bhagat	

### Sustainability Spotlight - Tiana Lightfoot Svendsen

- Kim Cobb was recognized for her work in putting together promotional material for the Hughes-Trigg display case.
- Patrick Cullen was recognized for programming copy machines on campus to automatically print double-sided.

### DOT/Pledge – Tiana Lightfoot Svendsen

- Members committed to Doing One Thing (DOT) that they are not currently doing for the environment.
- Members watched short video on DOT: “small change in your daily routine that makes you happy” Nanopractices: Routine + Personal Passion = best DOT
- Members took a sustainability pledge: *“Today I agree to embrace my responsibility to help improve the environment. I pledge to directly impact the Earth’s health by making environmentally responsible choices every day.”*

### Green Cleaning - Michael Paul

- We may become the only institution in the country with house-keeping and green-building certified with honors.
- A motion to support green cleaning was passed.

### Group Goals

#### Carbon Action Plan (CAP) - Michael Paul

- Making our homecoming football game carbon neutral is \$1200 less than the initial amount anticipated. (KS: I heard Mike as saying the cost was \$1200 instead of the \$5000 originally budgeted.)
  - George Holden asked for explanation; Mike Paul explained that Bonnie had asked the Provost and Coach about this; both approved
  - Motion passed to support a carbon neutral game.

- October 23<sup>rd</sup> as likely date
- We are waiting for a proposal for CAP from contractor at Southern Mississippi; goal to have something to full committee by late fall/early spring
  - Goal to be carbon neutral in 20 yrs.
- Along with RECs ways to promote environmentalism will be explored – recycling, old cell phone collection, etc.
- A motion to create a CAP as a group goal was passed.

#### **Purchasing - Sarah Rincon**

- Everyone was treated to a biodegradable pen.
- Terry Connor's "guidelines" for green purchasing being adopted
- The cost of recycled content paper is decreasing, but it is not yet cheaper than non-recycled content paper.
- Members would like to see a standard location to drop unwanted pen for Office Depot's pen recycling program.
- A motion to support sustainable purchasing at the individual and university level was passed.

#### **Subcommittees**

Subcommittee chairs explained subcommittees' purpose & meeting time to full committee.

- Recycle/Recyclemania – Pamela Varela
  - First meeting didn't happen as planned, but plans to meet soon.
- Green Service Subcommittee - Kevin Salfen
  - First Tuesday of the month, 3:00; first meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup>
- CAP - Mike Paul
  - Jake Torres is the student co-chair
- Education – Pat Van Zandt
  - 10-11am (Sept 2) in Fondren West
- Outreach – Kim Cobb
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in Hughes-Trigg lobby

#### **Events:**

##### **Green Minute Video Contest - Kim Cobb**

- Students work individually or in groups to create a video promoting DOT for a chance to win cash prizes and have their video played at TEDxSMU.
- Kim asks for e-reps and others to spread word; Tiana sent e-mail containing poster with Green Minute Video Contest announcement.
- Last year Green Minute played on jumbotron during game; this will likely happen again this year.
- Top three videos last year were uploaded onto YouTube.
- A video of last year's winner was played.
- A motion to support the second annual green minute video contest was passed.

**AASHE - Jessie Hart**

- Jessie will be giving two presentations on SMU's environmentalism at the AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) conference in Denver, Colorado.
- Students have the opportunity to apply for spots to attend the conference for free.
  - 10-12 student slots available
  - students only need to send five tweets to fulfill obligation

**Project Green Summit - Bonnie Jacobs**

- Tuesday, September 28, 2010, 7-8:30pm, in the Hughes-Trigg Theater.
- The summit is targeted to current and future decision makers who are interested in learning more about where sustainability is headed and how the next generation workforce is helping to shape that direction. A networking reception will be held prior to the summit where individuals can meet one another and share information.
- A motion for SMU Sustainability Committee to endorse the summit as the official sponsor was passed.

**Tapped -Tiana Lightfoot Svendsen**

- Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at 6:30 – 10pm at the LaGrange, Deep Ellum.
- Screening of the film "Tapped" at networking opportunity.

**Green Festival**

- Sept. 18, 9am-2:30pm.
- Family-oriented event; if there are no takers for tabling, we will plan on participating next year.

**Questions from committee members**

- Where do we send pens for recycling?
  - Sarah Rincon: collect them, contact Sarah, she'll provide a shipping label, send them to Terrecycle. The university gets 2 cents per pen.
  - Kim Cobb suggests this is a great thing to do on Campus Sustainability Day.

*Adjourned at 3:52.*