

SMU Sustainability Committee Minutes

Nov. 18, 2011

Attendees: Lourdes Bravo, Jennifer Smith, Darren Ford, Stephen Rogers, Jessie Hart, Kim Cobb, Chris Mavros, George Holden, Bonnie Jacobs, Raj Bagaht, Pamela Varela, Sarah Rincon, Chris Roos, Pat Van Zandt, Darin Ford.

1) Welcome

2) December 16 meeting/potential holiday conflicts

We will still meet, though without students since finals end Dec 13. Looking at change in future meeting times/dates to have more representation.

If you have any members who you think would be good for the committee and are committed, send names to Kim Cobb

3) Responsibility for Minutes

Stephen Rogers was elected Secretary and will be responsible for keeping minutes

4) Briefing on draft Climate Action Plan, need for review structure, subcommittee

We have received draft CAP of 61 pages. Document will exceed 100 pages with the addition of charts, graphs, photos. Need to review ultimate building-by-building usage and find way to mitigate. Looking for a subcommittee.

All committee members should review and give suggestions on non-technical aspects of the draft. Chris Mavros is leading technical review of CAP, working to verify that things are correct with areas such as transportation, landscape, energy-use. Chris needs committee members to help him look into researching these groups and get information to back up the climate action plan.

Draft CAP to be loaded to inside.smu.edu website. Kim will send committee instructions on how to log-on and retrieve document.

CAP Subcommittee members are Jennifer S, Pamela V, Darin F, Raj

5) Green Minute Video Contest: Entries, judges, announcing winners

Had 6 entries (Stanley, Stephen, David, Kelly judging) Kelly will send these out and Kim Cobb will get the winning video to the TEDxSMU people

Prizes are 1st: Ipad, 2nd: 22-in TV, 3rd: \$50 Starbucks gift card. Winner scheduled to be announced at E-Rep Eco-Friendly Fashion Show on Friday, December 2

6) Recycled Material Fashion Show Dec. 2 –

E-Reps are putting on program in Hughes-Trigg Ballroom at 6pm on Friday, December 2. Getting designs from throughout campus. Free food and entry with 2 recyclable items

7) Student Sustainability Survey – George Holden

Survey was outgrowth of Educational Subcommittee. Dr. Holden's survey is about Environmental Attitudes & Actions, with 3 subscales: Conservation attitude, Global warming attitude, environmental actions. Assessed 694 first year students, 102 psychology students who are 2nd year +, and 14 sustainability committee members. Looked at regional differences and international differences.

Females have higher environmental attitudes than males

Discussed ways survey can be used over time to measure changes in SMU attitudes about sustainability, such as:

- *Reviewing whether student attitudes change through living in the residence halls (with use of e-reps)*
- *Surveying student attitudes prior to and at the end of certain environmental classes*

Darin Ford to inquire whether can conduct this survey on the bus en route to Mustang Corral to establish a baseline for annual comparisons of entering students. **Survey Subcommittee: Sarah, Jennifer, led by Darren, consultant is George Holden, Stephen**

8) Sustainability Curriculum Discussion

Committee discussed creating a sustainability curriculum project at SMU based on models at Northern Arizona (Ponderosa Project) and Emory (Piedmont Project). Link to [Piedmont Project](#) and [Ponderosa Project](#) models.

- *AASHE's Sustainability Across the Curriculum Leadership Workshops are for faculty leaders of all disciplines who wish to develop curriculum change programs around sustainability on their campuses.*
- *Next opportunity summer 2012*
- *Workshop tuition is \$420 for AASHE members and \$485 for non-members. Tuition covers snacks and lunches on both days of the workshop, handouts, materials, and an evening reception on the first day of the workshop.*

Ponderosa-Northern Arizona and Piedmont -Emory are both short course programs set up to teach faculty across disciplines to infuse sustainability into coursework. At SMU could develop interdisciplinary studies coursework and series, infuse sustainability in new curriculum (examples: pillars classes, cultural foundation classes).

*Committee approved moving forward to develop curriculum program at SMU. **Curriculum Leadership Subcommittee (George, Bonnie, possible Chris Roos)** to develop list of core faculty to attend AASHE workshop summer 2012 with funding from Sustainability Committee, with goal of developing this for SMU campus.*

9) Water refill station study. Subcommittee, if approved

Committee discussed test project water refill station located at Dedman Center. Donated, some adaptations. Would we want to identify small number of locations where we could make a difference, and realistically change behavior?

*Can we ask Crystal Sedoris-Oliveira in RLSH to ask to have this placed in the budget for new buildings? **Chris Mavros** to report back on potential locations, working toward and presenting proposal to university. **Stephen R** willing to work on this due to efforts trying to get these installed in the residence halls.*

10) Proposed recognition for advancement of sustainability curriculum, program development, research at SMU

Kim asked if committee was interested in establishing a recognition program for new courses, degree programs that advance sustainability (such as new Master of Arts in Sustainability, Lyle School of Engineering, Master of Liberal Arts-focus in Sustainability, geothermal laboratory.

Committee agreed there are numerous other groups on campus that promote/teach sustainability. We will not do a special recognition for this new Lyle program because we have not done the same for other groups on-campus already, but will highlight successful/new programs/courses on sustainability page and try to attend as a committee at the dedication on December 9.

11) OTHER BUSINESS: **Raj** proposed using the Funding Request Form for Committee use to track spending. Committee agreed to begin using form, which will help identify success indicators, adding cost, funding partners, contact information. Committee members to e-mail Raj with any comments on his proposed form.

12) Announcements

Silent Art Auction for Students for Better Society for the cause "Food for Darfur" in Owens Art Center on Saturday, November 19, 2011