President’s Universitywide Sustainability Committee Minutes
April 17, 2008

Present: Casey Barrons, Paul Farber, Harold Glasser, Danielle Harik, Pat Holton, Carolyn Noack, Chris Pyzik, Joh, Patten, Anand Sankey, Joshua Schultz

Guest: Sarah Campbell

Minutes from April 3, 2008 meeting will be sent out by Glasser. Return any comments on the minutes to Glasser.

Ideas from the 4/17/2008 meeting will be added to the Brainstorming list compiled at the 4/3/2008 meeting.

ACUPCC Update: Glasser provided an update on the ACUPCC and the conference scheduled for June 3. Questions raised by Danielle Harik “is the president more likely to sign? What issues would he most like addressed” Make sure president Dunn will in the very least have an opening to attend conference. Submit a request that president Dunn to attend meeting. Conference focus on confusion with president’s who have signed
Commitment and president who have concerned who have not signed but still have interest in sustainability. Glasser will contact Pres. Dunn to determine whether he is available to attend the conference and suggest that it would be beneficial for him to attend.

Campus Food Waste Reduction Project Update:
With support from Dr. Dunn and Lowell Rinker she is working on vermicomposting. Feasibility of food waste program and how it would benefit Kalamazoo community
Also cost of instituting program. Follow audits on Carolyn Noack’s Bigelow food study. Food waste going to Kalamazoo water treatment plant. 30% of total biological solid going to waste water treatment. Tray removal study done by 410 class and has seemed successful. Disposing and transportation concerns and may collaborate with Renewed Earth. Process of setting up tours of universities, Allegheny, U of M, and Southern Illinois. Make a strategic document best practice of each method of composting for cafeterias and landscaping. In vesicle system, issue of cost in electrical and up front cost. Windrow system another system is leaf pile? Possibility of permaculture being incorporated into vermicomposting system. Campbell will provide a strategic options
document outlining best practices, options and costs to VP Rinker. Completion is scheduled for July or August. Committee will see draft before it is submitted.

Food Waste Audit Update and Discussion:
Tray-less study President Dunn visited. Students don’t like not having trays taken way. 14% reduction of food waste. Mix of responses from students. Older dorms have less effect on tray elimination. Sensitivity to operational duties and costs. Draft will be presented to sustainability before presented to Lowell Rinker and President Dunn. Location of silverware could be changed.
Discussion on Life Cycle Guidelines
Revised version of Life Cycle Guidelines. Highlighted portions are revised parts. All
renovations now have more recommendations and policies. Jennifer Granholm instituted
state funded projects must be to LEED standards
- Subcommittee of Life Cycle Guidelines Chaired by Chris with members of
  maintenance, and facilities, people who would be implementing guidelines.
- Change of Josh Shultz to life cycle guidelines committee and Casey Barrons is
  moved into website committee.

Current guidelines were updated to meet LEED-EB requirements for the CHHS project.
Smaller projects must meet guidelines by not meet LEED requirements.

Brainstorming:
- Should we ask for input from the wider community? Yes, with a deadline.
- Barrons moved to have the WSA Campus Concerns Committee create a student
campus sustainability green guide with the WMU Green Guide as a starting point.
  2nd by Glasser. Passed.
- Reduction of Bottled H2O on Campus.
- Informally survey WSA on what students desire for sustainability initiatives.
- WMU to support Earth Week as a campus, not simply a student activity.
- Green roofs – possible grants, especially if it is used as a research opportunity to
  compare various types of green roofs.
- Competitive scholarship type program to elicit sustainability projects from
  students (from the President’s office)
- Glasser moved to have WSA look at a recommendation of using 75% pcw
  recycled paper on campus. 2nd by Patten. Passed.
- Sankey moved to have WMU join Southwest Michigan Sustainable Business
  Forum. 2nd by Patten. Passed. There are currently 3 WMU staff/faculty members
  listed as individual members. WMU will be hosting the annual statewide
  Sustainable Business Forum later this year. Cost is $500. Glasser will contact
  Rinker with the recommendation.

Other News: Casey Foss is the news editor at Western Herald. She would like to have an
article on sustainability issues and will be contacting various committee members for
information. Only activities and projects in process or completed should be discussed.

Signs will be placed in the parking lots at CHHS for alternative fuels vehicles. There will
be 10 student and 5 faculty/staff spots in prime locations.

Brainstorming list will be reorganized in subsections of education, policy, student life,
operations, and research. Glasser to reorganize.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2008, 3:00pm