President’s University wide Sustainability Committee  
August 7, 2008

Updates

Website

1. There is now a link to submit events for the “Calendar” section. Any visitor to the site can submit an event. Events will then be screened through Carolyn Noack and then to Lisa Knutson.

2. Discussion on issues of “upcoming events” and how long “upcoming events” should stay on homepage. Lisa will use discretion in taking down outdated events.

3. Lisa will be changing the location of the calendar on website and dividing the President’s message between the Home Page and a second page accessed through a “continue” button.

4. “Take the Pledge” icon will be taken down until the pledge and green guide are ready for launch.

5. Assignment to PUSC: write any website updates/comments to Carolyn, Lisa, or John by Friday, 8/15/08.

Announcements:

1. **30-35% recycled content paper**: VP Lowell Rinker announced change of 20% recycled paper content up to 30-35% recycled content paper policy (depending on availability). The 20% recycled paper content was a marker from VP Rinker’s predecessor Bob Beam.

2. **Student Assistant**: Harold announced that Casey Barrons is the new Student Assistant to the PUSC.

Actions

1. **Discussion on Initiative Prioritization Summary**
   - PUSC committee members reviewed the prioritized list of initiatives. A concern was expressed about signing the Presidents Climate Commitment not being on the prioritized initiatives list. The group agreed that certain initiatives must be accomplished before assessing the feasibility of the ACUPCC. This positions WMU to consider the feasibility of the ACUPCC as a long-term goal.
   - Subsequently, Committee decides to add “consideration and research of PCC with a long-term goal of signing PCC” as an additional initiative under the Governance and Administrative category.
   - Another change was made to the Operations & In-reach section to include a composting pilot as a prelude to creating a full-scale composting system.

2. **Research Initiatives**
   - Barbara and Harold will facilitate a conversation on sustainability research. The interdisciplinary nature of sustainability research presents an challenge with current and past research efforts often tending towards the disciplinary and the
level of coordination required for, especially, cross-college interdisciplinary research. There is a need for strategic discussion on what suggestions of research initiatives to present in the PUSC report. (UPDATE: Given these strategic issues, we agreed to present the Research initiatives unprioritized.

- Discussion on Asylum Lake Preserve Field Station: It is believed that certain land rights do not allow for building on preserve property. Casey Barrons will look into concern of Asylum Lake Preserve Interpretive Center and property/building rights. (UPDATE: Casey has reviewed the rules and guidelines for Asylum Lake Property and This initiative was not included in the PUSC Report).

- Additional comments on Initiative Prioritization DUE 8/15/08—same date as website review.

3. Outline for Initiative Prioritization
Harold gave an outline of his approach for the introduction that included the rationale for and process of developing our initiatives.
- The intro will continue to describe the technical and planned as well as the overall categories such as: governance and administration, community and outreach, etc.
- Each initiative will have a short description. Additional Initiatives will also have a brief description. The Executive Summary will not include additional initiatives.

**Next Meeting:** October 9th, 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center, Board of Trustees Room