President’s Universitywide Sustainability Committee (PUSC) Minutes
Approved Minutes of September 19, 2013
Office for Sustainability

Welcome and Introductions
Members: Anne Copeland, Bill Davis, Paul Farber, Harold Glasser, Jamie Hirsh, Leah Omilion Hodges, Jonna Johnson, Denise Keele, Carolyn Noack, Tim Palmer, Paul Pancella, Mary Peterson, Sarah Pratt, Jorge Rodriguez, Andrew Targowski
Guests: Nicole Davenport

Procedural Items
Approval of Minutes
Motion by Targowski to approve previous meeting minutes; seconded by Farber; Minutes approved.

Approval of Agenda
Motion by Palmer to approve the Agenda as presented; seconded by Keele; Agenda approved.

Welcome and Introductions
Welcome to Derek Kanwischer, the new coordinator of Sustainability Projects. Derek, who has a Masters in Environmental Studies, comes to WMU from the University of Montana in Missoula. Derek brings a wealth of experience in university and community relationship building as well as an impressive list of accomplishments during his time at UM where he created a living, learning laboratory. One of Derek’s first projects will be to compile a list of sustainability related major resources for faculty and staff access on our website. PUSC members are encouraged to send their relevant resource lists to Derek to inform this work.

Changing Climate Events
Committee members were reminded of several events to attend the Spare Change: Art of Climate Change exhibits on October 10th in South Kohrman Hall. Additionally, on Tuesday, Sept. 24th Bob Inglis, the executive director of the Energy and Enterprise Initiative will present an energy and climate change lecture, "The Role of Free Enterprise and Government: A conservative Republican talks substantive and political solutions" in Sangren Hall at 7 p.m. On September 30th, a climate action discussion on the Obama administrations plans for addressing climate change will take place in Rood Hall. This discussion offers an opportunity to provide feedback to the EPA. Additional related events can be found on the Office for Sustainability homepage.

Dorceta Taylor Events
Thank you to Jonna Johnson for her work in coordinating the recent events with Dorceta Taylor, Food Justice Scholar.

Updates/Discussions
National Campus Sustainability Day
As part of the continuing efforts to broaden engagement while building a culture of sustainability across campus and in the community, the Office for Sustainability will conduct several events over the course of two days, October 22nd and October 23rd in recognition of the 11th annual National Campus Sustainability Day. Current event plans include a
roundtable panel discussion on the evening of October 22nd. Confirmed panelists include President Dunn, Mayor Hopewell, Felix Young from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, Seseer Mou, Jennifer Hsu, and Jennifer Palthe. Panelists will explore the question and theme “What does sustainability mean to me?” Each panelist will have five minutes to present and a community discussion and reception will follow.

The current framework of events scheduled for October 23rd was outlined to committee members for review. Events include open faculty or student discussion times, a celebration in honor of Honeywell’s support of an innovative behavior change research project reinforcing the work of graduate student Kate Binder, the presentation of the university sustainability features map, an open conversation on the 2012 WMU Climate Action Plan, and the Office for Sustainability open house and project showcase. The possibility of a presentation of the Living Building Challenge was considered.

As committee members discussed the events, the faculty and student open discussions were combined into a singular town-hall type of event. At this event faculty, staff, students and community sustainability pioneers could either propose ideas for pilot projects that can be “field-tested’, encourage class enrollment or use the time to facilitate engagement in other cross-college collaborative endeavors. Each participant in the event would be given two minutes and one slide to present and the slides could be archived to become part of a searchable Idea database.

The following event suggestions were made:

- Leave a few open slots for participants that show up on the day of the event
- Solicit people directly providing incentive to participate
- Use a strategy during the event for evaluating presentations in real-time
- Send out AASHE/Stars sustainability definitions in advance to faculty members to encourage participation

It was agreed that the PUSC members would need to assist in the promotion of NCSD by offering class discussions on sustainability. Committee members discussed how the PUSC and the Office for Sustainability can support and facilitate the development of un-scheduled events on NCSD via distributed, self-initiated (by staff, faculty, students) "teach-in" style events throughout campus. The possibility of future events such as an organized semi-annual universitywide faculty sustainability conference was generally supported.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

**Next Steps**
The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 17, 2013 at the Office for Sustainability from 3-5 p.m.