

WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee

Meeting Minutes

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION: Friday, February 5, 2010 2:10-3:10pm, Lighty 405

ATTENDANTS: Chad Kruger, William Budd, Terry Baxter-Potter, Dwight Hagihara, Terry Ryan, Skuyler Herzog, Leif Moon-Nielson, Jamie Bentley, Marty O'Malley, John Reed

1. **Call to Order - Dwight Hagihara *Committee Interim Administrator***
2. **Approval of January 15, 2010 Minutes - Dwight**
Minutes approved as corrected.
3. **Climate Action Plan Update Process / Sustainability Website - Dwight, Kathy Kok**
Due to technical difficulties Kathy Kok was unable to call into the meeting. Another phone bridge will be set up for the next meeting.

The Climate Action Plan update process was discussed. Section Coordinators were identified for each section of the CAP. The coordinators will be given a word document for their section. They will receive updates, changes or additions for their section, then draft the changes in a Word document, and present the document to the committee for approval. Once the proposed changes are approved the coordinator will change the word document to a PDF file and send it to Kathy Kok to post on the Sustainability Website. After some discussion, a decision was made to process the proposed changes as they are presented by the section leaders to the committee. The coordinator who has updates can call or email and request a line item on the agenda to discuss updates. Regulatory deadlines will also generate update deadlines.

4. **Climate Action Plan Presentations**
[Please use a maximum of 5 minutes per section (5 minutes x 03 sections = 15 minutes)]

1. **Greenhouse Gas Inventories - Marty O'Malley**

Marty gave a synopsis of the GHG projections and emissions inventory. He discussed categorized breakdowns of CO2 emissions based on total emissions. The Clean Air Cool Planet Model was used for the calculations which were recommended by the President's Climate Commitment. The only deviation from the model was the purchased electricity calculation. Marty used a tool from Department of Ecology to calculate GHG emissions from purchased electricity. Using 2005 as the bench mark, WSU must reduce emissions by 15% by 2020 and 36% by 2035. WSU is required to present the 2009 emissions to the President's Climate Commitment by September 2010. The data is complete with the exception of a compost number. Thanks to Marty for all his hard work.

2. Energy Conservation – Terry Ryan

Our energy use on campus is primarily electricity and natural gas. WSU purchases \$10 million dollars worth of electricity a year from Avista which is 160,000,000 kilowatt hours annually and \$8-\$10 million dollars of natural gas / diesel for the steam plants annually. When the new steam plant came on line WSU stopped burning coal but because it was done in 2004 and the GHG baseline is calculated on the 2005 usage, we do not get credit for that very significant reduction in GHG emissions.

The Housing and Dining Group did a good job working on energy issues. One example was installing high energy clothes washers which lowered energy and water consumption. WSU has utilized energy services performance contracting the last 8 years and approximately \$40 million of energy improvement projects on campus have been completed. Projects include the retrofit of T12 ballast to T8 in older buildings. There have been heating, ventilation, air conditioning (chilled water) and greenhouse lighting and control upgrades too. In 2008 the cumulative effect was a reduction of emissions by 10,000 metric tons per year.

The future possibilities include bio-fuel steam plant, optimization of space utilization, consolidation of summer classes and LED inside and outside lighting. Renewable energy credits can be purchased to help meet mandated goals. Photovoltaic is not cost effective for WSU to use right now.

Older non-historic buildings could be demolished for more energy efficient spaces or green spaces on campus. Energy conservation is a combination of many projects added together to make a difference. Focusing on the elimination of waste is the preferred approach. Terry will help get Jamie in touch with Den Bowker to review some IT concerns for possible energy conservation.

3. Tracking CAP Progress – John Reed

The American College and University President's Climate Commitment Program put out some guidelines for CAPs. One of the things they want the University to accomplish is the development of a project tracking mechanism to track significant CAP related projects. Using their guidance, John created a tracking form which includes name of the project, a brief description, which of the 4 CAP Strategies does it fit under, project/budget, expected emissions and actual emissions. At the bottom of the form there is an area for the person in charge to log information as the project proceeds. Marty has graciously volunteered to help with those who are working on the forms with emission reduction goals and calculations. The drafts could be distributed to the section coordinator and they could keep them and update them over time.

There has to be a progress report submitted to ACUPCC at the end of 2 years. The decision about frequency and maintenance of the forms will be discussed at the next meeting. John created 10 of the forms. Forms need to be created for Terry Ryan and Terry Baxter-Potter.

4. Regional Campus - Chad

The presentation was tabled until next meeting.

**5. Presentation for consideration of the Cougar Green Fund Committee -
Leif Moon-Nielsen**

Leif presented a proposal requesting that the Sustainability and the Environment Committee help with Cougar Green Projects. The Green Fund would allow students to donate an optional \$5.00 fee per semester to support the Cougar Green Fund Projects.

The draft proposal will be sent to the Sustainability and the Environment Committee Members with the meeting minutes.

6. Open Discussion -

- Dwight will be at training and unable to attend the March SEC Meeting but Rich will fill in as SEC Meeting Facilitator.
- The Climate Action Plans are active on the Sustainability Website. Thank you to Kathy Kok for getting them on the website. If you have articles, ideas or links you want to post on the Sustainability Website please contact or email Dwight and Kathy.
- Achille has resigned from the ASWSU Environmental Task Force. Contact will be made with Achille to inquire about his replacement for the Task Force.

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2010 – Lighty 405 – 2:10-3:10pm