WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee Minutes

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION: Friday, April 1, 2011, 2:10-3:10pm, Lighty 405

ATTENDANTS: Nick Lovrich, Dwight Hagihara, Bridgette Brady, Skuyler Herzog, Robi Nilson, Jason Sampson, John Reed, Justin Hougham, Natasha Wollkind, Ade Snider

1. Call to Order – Dwight Hagihara Committee Interim Administrator

2. Approval of 4 March 2011 Minutes – Dwight Hagihara

3. Education for Sustainability – Justin Hougham
   a. Justin completed his PhD at WSU. He is an adjunct faculty in Teaching and Learning. Dwight saw Justin’s presentation at a CEREO meeting and invited Justin to present his information to the SEC. His presentation is attached. If you have questions or would like more information, please, contact Justin at rhougham@wsu.edu.

   a. Natasha Wollkind is a senior at Pullman High School, and is a participant in the running start program. The project being presented started three years ago with a master’s thesis idea, “Why do some cities have a very active sustainability program and other cities aren’t interested in it?” The second part is, “Do the colleges and universities mirror or lead the cities in which they reside?” Natasha approached Nick about doing a project to find a sustainable university for her to attend. Their presentation and supplemental information is attached. Nick Lovrich can be reached at faclovri@wsu.edu.

5. Chemical Waste Management Annual Report – John Reed
   a. Moved to next month

6. Green Fund Update – Dwight Hagihara and Skuyler Herzog
   a. The Green Fun has gone live. Some registering students have selected yes. Dwight and Skuyler have met with personnel from WSU Foundation to learn about setting up a separate fund for private donors.

7. Open Discussion
   a. Zimride has had 562 users. There was an expected increase in usage during Spring Break. Zipcar advertising campaign will go into effect over the summer.

NEXT MEETING: May 6, 2011 – Light 405 – 2:10pm-3:10pm
Education for Sustainability

R. Justin Hougham
rhougham@wsu.edu
• How do we build and support the student experience with sustainability concepts and solutions?

• Where in the student experience do they interact with this concept?
  – Specific courses
  – Courses that add on or address a sustainability issue
  – Lifestyle, living group or extra curricular
  – Through exposure to university practices
Opportunities to see it in action..

- Magpie Forest
- Smart Farm
- Paradise Creek
- Compost center
- LEED certified buildings; Olympia, CUB
- Facility Operations
- Eco-Adventures, Green Bike
The Landscape of Sustainability at WSU Pullman

- Curricular
- Operational
- Organizational
The Landscape of Sustainability at WSU Pullman

• Curricular/Academic
  – CEREO compiled list of courses
  – Explicitly stated course
    • ex. SoilS 345 Sustainable Agriculture
  – Implicitly addressed with course operation
    • Field trip, course readings, speaker
  – Research projects
    • ex. Clean Technologies
The Landscape of Sustainability at WSU Pullman

• Operational
  – Facility Operations
  – Compost Facility
  – Housing
  – Recycling
  – Dining Services
The Landscape of Sustainability at WSU Pullman

• Organizational
  – CEREO
  – Sustainability Coordinator- UREC
  – CSANR- Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources
• BIOAg
  – Sustainability @ WSU
http://sustainability.wsu.edu/
WSU Sustainability and Environment Committee
• How do we build and support the student experience with sustainability concepts and solutions?

• Where in the student experience do they interact with this concept?
  • Is this connected to learning outcomes related to sustainability education?
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

An example of a Place Based approach
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

Farm generated Waste

Compost Facility
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

Farm generated Waste

Finished Compost

Compost Facility
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

Farm generated Waste

Finished Compost

Compost Facility

Southside Dining Center
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

Finished Compost

Southside Herb Garden

Fresh Produce

Southside Dining Center

Farm generated Waste

Compost Facility

Food and service waste

Seeds, Starts, and Soil

Koppel Farm
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

- Finished Compost
- Fresh Produce

Southside Herb Garden

- Seeds, Starts, and Soil

Southside Dining Center

- Food and service waste

Koppel Farm

- Seeds, Starts, and Soil

Community Health & Nutrition

Palouse Pollinator Sites
Biologic Nutrient Flow

WSU Organic Farm

Finished Compost

Southside Herb Garden

Fresh Produce

Southside Dining Center

Seeds, Starts, and Soil

Community Health & Nutrition

Food Bank

Koppel Farm

Palouse Pollinator Sites

Compost Facility

Farm generated Waste

Food and service waste
Biologic Nutrient Flow

- WSU Organic Farm
  - Fresh Produce
  - Seeds, Starts, and Soil
  - Farm generated Waste
  - Finished Compost
  - Southside Herb Garden

- Southside Dining Center
  - Food and service waste
  - Seeds, Starts, and Soil

- Community Health & Nutrition
  - Food Bank
  - Students, Families and Schools

- Compost Facility
  - Koppel Farm
  - Palouse Pollinator Sites
Intellectual and Educational Flow

AFS, Organic Ag. Certificate, Research

CAHNRS

COE

WSU Organic Farm

Southside Herb Garden

Southside Dining Center

Koppel Farm

Compost Facility

Palouse Pollinator Sites

Community Health & Nutrition

Student Projects
Intellectual and Educational Flow

AFS, Organic Ag. Certificate, Research
CAHNRS
COE

Student Projects

Community Health & Nutrition

WSU Organic Farm
CCE Placement

Southside Herb Garden
Southside Dining Center

Student Projects

Compost Facility

Organic Gardening Intensive

Koppel Farm

CCE Placement

Palouse Pollinator Sites

Student Projects
Intellectual and Educational Flow

• Similar maps could be made for energy (use/reduction/alternate sources)
  – Or water
  – Or habitat
  – Or economics
  – Or climate science

• This one can go even deeper
  – Smart farm: engineers without boarders, landscape arch, organic farming, etc?
  – STEM: Nitrogen fixing, trap crops, rotation, organic methods, complimentary plantings, etc.
What is emerging, we are in a place to support, are interdisciplinary extensions of the current work and the development of new projects that meaningfully interpret and make accessible to curricular efforts the operational as well as organizational sustainability activities on campus.
Possible next steps....

• Sustainability Atlas
  – Assessment of current work
• Mapping Sustainability in Action
• Sustainability Literate Students
  – Sustainability Learning Outcomes
• Bridging Curricular, Operational and Organizational sustainability efforts towards sustainability learning outcomes
• Identifying and pursuing funding for interdisciplinary sustainability education implementation and research
• What does leadership in sustainability education look like?
  – Look like?
  – Sound like?
  – Feel like?

How would we describe what we have done together in 5 years?
Further Resources

• **Executive** Policy 24
  – **WSU Environmental Policy**
• **Presidents** Climate Commitment
• **AASHE** Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
• *Plant U: Sustaining the World, Reinventing the University* M’Gonigle and Stark (2006).
• *Higher Education and the Challenge of Sustainability* Corcoran and Wals (2004).