

WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee

AGENDA

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

ATTENDANTS: Chad Kruger, Nicholas Lovrich, Terry Baxter-Potter, Dwight Hagihara, John Reed, Rich Heath, Terry Ryan, Skuyler Herzog, Leif Moon-Nielson, Marty O'Malley, Rick Finch, Jamie Bentley, Jessica Gigot

1. Call to Order - Dwight Hagihara *Committee Interim Administrator*
2. Approval of October 1, 2010 Minutes - Dwight Hagihara
3. Mount Vernon R&E Center's Sustainability committee overview - Jessica Gigot
 - a. Dr. Lindsey du Toit is chair of the Mount Vernon R&E Center's Sustainability Committee; while she is on sabbatical Jessica Gigot is the interim chair. The committee was formed in 2005 when a need for a recycling program and an energy conservation plan was found. The committee developed an all-in-one recycling program with the county. Developing a compost system is the current main project. In 2009, the farm began an above ground compost pile. The Farm Management Committee has taken responsibility for day to day tasks: road dust control, a demonstration farm, farm rotation for 180 acres, incorporation of cover crops and organic matter. Results of the Energy Conservation Plan include motion sensor lights, energy survey, and education component with brochures and other documents. The Mount Vernon Sustainability Committee is comprised of Dr. du Toit, Fac Ops Manager, one Tech, and Jessica Gigot. The committee meets every few months and is looking into the potential of publishing a quarterly newsletter, which would have a tie-in potential with the SEC. Terry Baxter-Potter asked about Community Supported Agriculture for the farm portion. The county extension office in Mount Vernon has a by-the-acre farm rental program. Terry Ryan will contact Mt Vernon after the new year to set-up energy audits with them.
4. AASHE membership surveys - John Reed
 - a. John walked the committee members through a renewing membership survey. The survey and SEC's response is attached as a pdf. Dwight moved to place the AASHE logo on the SEC's website. The motion was seconded by Chad. The AASHE membership also gives WSU the opportunity to submit stories and unrestricted photos sharing WSU sustainability news. E-mail suggestions to Dwight for discussion at the January meeting.
5. AASHE 2010 Conference - Jamie Bentley
 - a. Jamie Bentley attended the AASHE 2010 Conference October 10th-12th, *Campus Initiatives to Catalyze a Just and Sustainable World*. She participated in a poster session,

and a 15 minute paper presentation. Jamie has the conference program for anyone who would like to read more. Over 2,000 people, including coordinators, students, faculty, CPD, waste managers, and university presidents attended the event. SUNY EHS presented information about a carbon offset program using their forestry faculty. Another program of interest presented was about game day waste reduction. Next year's meeting is in Pittsburg, PA, and Jamie would like WSU to have more of a presence at the 2011 Conference. Everything presented at the conference is at the AASHE website. Nick invited Jamie to present to CEREO about her impressions and experiences at the 2010 Conference.

6. Open Discussion

- a. Terry Baxter-Potter brought in an Evergreen article "[Harsh grade for WSU on sustainability](#)." He pointed out that WSU only has one LEED certified building on Pullman campus, the CUB, with one other that is pursuing certification, Olympia Avenue Student Housing. The Undergraduate Student Classroom and the Applied Technology Classroom buildings on the Vancouver campus are also seeking LEED certification. A discussion was held about who should complete sustainability related surveys for the university. Further discussion is needed before a decision is reached.
- b. Nick Lovrich brought the "Student of the Month" article from the Pullman Community Update. Natasha Wollkind's high school senior project is to research sustainable campuses and use the information she collects to choose the college/university she will attend after graduation. For part of her senior project, Nick would like her to present her findings to the SEC in the spring.
- c. Terry Ryan gave an update on Round 2 of the Energy Conservation Project. WSU was awarded about \$1.5 million in grant money between the two projects, an in-vessel compost system and an upgrade to the chilled water system in the IT building, proposed. The in-vessel compost system is cutting edge. WSU's system would be one of the first enclosed systems of its kind in the world. The end product of the enclosed system would be used locally.

NEXT MEETING: December 3, 2010 – Light 405 – 2:10pm-3:30pm