

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE
Campus Sustainability Advisory Committee
October 13, 2008

Members Present: Clifford Montagne - Chair, Jeff Davis, Nancy Filbin, Brad Garnick, Anna Greenberg, Josh Jane, Todd Jutila, Bruce Maxwell, Natalie Meyer, Kevin Vilkin, Tom Wood,

Members Absent: Jodie DeLay, Ned Gall, Robin Gerlach, Jennifer Grossenbacher, Seth Kurt-Mason, Jo Oudshoorn,

Members Represented: Victoria Drummond for Walt Banziger

Guests: Rebecca Barney, Jonathan Ford, Robert Lashaway, Ian Sandmeyer

The Campus Sustainability Advisory Committee met beginning at 4:00 pm to discuss the following:

The minutes were approved.

Information and updates

Bioneers Meeting

- Northern Rocky Mountains Bioneers meeting at The Emerson, October 17-18-19, www.bornnetwork.org
- Friday afternoon workshop on how Biomimicry can be applied in the Gallatin Valley
- NECO (Network of Environmentally Conscious Organizations), the President's Office and several colleges on campus are providing scholarships to three hundred students who would like to attend the Bioneers Conference
- Hattie Baker and Natalie Meyer will be giving a presentation Sunday afternoon about what the City of Bozeman is doing

Paul Gannon, a new faculty hire from Chemical Engineering, is developing a course on energy and sustainability for next semester for sixty non-science major students

Energy Conservation Services Contract Update – Jeff Davis: The consultant contract is in place and will soon hire a Research Conservationist Specialist out of the local market

Arbor Day Foundation recently launched the new Tree Campus USA program

- Supports colleges for promoting healthy urban forest management
- Engages the campus community in environmental stewardship
- Develops a group of students to work on trees and future members who will sustain this group
- Benefits the faculty by allocating areas on campus that mimic local environments for field study in order to minimize transportation expense; Bruce Maxwell and Jon Ford would be excellent contacts for such purposes
- Goals: Funding from organizations for planting, updating lists of prohibited species of plants, and a management plan for catastrophic events
- Contact: iansandmeyer@gmail.com
- Josh and Kevin will work with Ian to come up with some proposals for the next meeting

Pine Bark Beetle infestation-Jon Ford

- Attacking mostly pines, more than 100 have to be removed on campus
- Do we replace creating an urban forest or let the environment work its way back to the way it was originally?
- NECO provides trees free in April
- Any replacement has to coordinate with the Master Plan
- Watering in the rain is not wasteful-HAL (computer controlled irrigation system) monitors watering and knows how many gallons are flowing per minute, calculating evaporation; it is not city water
- Josh and Kevin can get the word out to students through NECO; they want to learn about water issues; also, the sustainability web site would be a good place for water irrigation information

- When you water turf grass, you water trees
- Students want trees on their campus for their aesthetic value as opposed to a treeless campus
- Facilities Planning, Design and Construction is now looking at setting up a Landscape Master Plan to enhance the campus environment; tree plantings can improve the teaching and learning environment and give favorable impressions to students and their families; this will be a multiyear process in which the Sustainability Committee can be involved
- To prevent further spread, Facilities will start to remove the worst trees in a month
- To do “no removal” would be hazardous because they will start falling over
- Jon will report on the Pine Bark Beetle Recovery Plan periodically at the CSAC meetings

Membership

Cliff acknowledged Jennifer Grossenbacher as an addition to the group, representing Extension

Ongoing Items

Subcommittee/working groups topics

- MSU Sustainability Website: Nancy Filbin reported that several members of the subcommittee met at the library; what is needed now are people’s comments and if there is anything that should keep us from going live; a picture and bio from the committee members would be desirable; www.montana.edu/sustainability the user name is sustain and the password is green; email Seth pictures, bios, and comments at seth_kurt_mason@hotmail.com
- Gallatin Earth Celebration, April 2009: Natalie Meyer reported that around Earth Day, the city works with MSU and other groups in town to do a city cleanup and a sustainable fair which will include films, a national conversation on climate change-an open forum or brainstorming where the community comes up with policies and a way to implement them; an e-waste event will occur a week before Earth Day
- Student Activities: ASMSU Josh Jane, Sustainability Coordinator, reported that the students passed the sustainability fee, so funding for the recycling program and a full time employee will be in place pending approval from the BOR

New Items

Committee Strategy

- Address ‘Charge’ item by item, determine member interest
 - University framework to coordinate/advise starts with the formation of CSAC
 - a. Which items go to the committee
 - b. Which items are tackled by Cliff and Seth as adhoc members
 - MSU Vision: energy conservation, new construction, water, transportation, purchasing, recycling, educational outreach, baseline energy inventory, timeline/goals; plan for 20 x 10 and P’s CC; set of measures/indicators for campus; student involvement; strategic planning for MSU governance groups; guide coordination for university system/state government efforts
 - a. It all falls under the broad umbrella of sustainability
 - b. Jeff and Jo worked together on a plan, timeline, and resource loaded schedule; the P’s CC and the 20X10 plan by definition have discreet activities that are supposed to be completed in a certain amount of time; Jeff and Jo would like to come up with an overall plan that tackles each one of those segments soliciting input from the group by email and reporting back at meetings; it could then be parceled out to the people who are most suited or interested in those particular areas
 - Guide communication strategy for campus, community, statewide
 - a. Web site for annual progress report
 - b. Look at end of spring semester for due date of annual or biannual report
 - c. Everyone needs to report back to their constituents
 - Student involvement
 - a. Some ideas should come back from the Bioneers conference
 - b. Josh can report back periodically to the ASMSU
 - Strategic planning for MSU governance groups
 - a. This group, as the campus strategic vision begins to use terms like sustainability, should be informing what that should mean in those documents
 - b. To be effective, we may need our own Mission Statement and ongoing vision of what the campus community values are for living here and the kinds of activities that allow us to

- produce those values like walking along an ideal campus environment between classes, etc.
 - c. What is the resource base physically, financially and in the human dimension that will support those ways of wanting to be on a campus
 - Guide coordination for university system/state government efforts
 - a. Develop some of this thinking and get down on paper where the university is and where we want to go; we will be in a better place to react
 - b. Identify the most important components and work with the appropriate people within MSU on action plans
- The web site is addressing the need for an inventory document of people, programs, products

Other

Josh reported that the interest in Sustainability Curriculum discussions Spring 08 is still there, everyone agreed to address the seminar classes US and CLS as being that outlet to increase education on sustainability and sustainable initiatives

The next meeting is the 10th of November at 4 pm.

This meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Abel, Administrative Associate
Planning, Design and Construction

pc: Geoffrey Gamble, President
ASMSU President
Al Bertelsen, Director, Strand Union
Patricia Chansley, Assistant to the Provost
Cathy Conover, Vice President, Communications & Public Affairs
Lisa Duffy, Assistant to the Dean of Agriculture
Victoria Drummond, Associate Planner
Joseph Fedock, Senior Vice Provost
Heidi Gagnon, Assistant to the Vice President, Administration & Finance
Mandy Hansen, Financial Aid Officer
Linda LaCrone, Assistant to the Vice President for Research, Creativity and Technology
Donna LaRue, Assistant MSU Chief of Police
Glenn Lewis, Assistant to Vice President for Student Affairs
Shari McCoy, Assistant to the President
Becky McMillan, Administrative Associate, Auxiliary Services
Charles Nelson, Registrar and Director of Admissions
Robert Putzke, Director, MSU Police
Jennifer Joyce, Assistant to the Vice President for Planning and CIO
Jody Barney, Budget and Fiscal Director, Office of Agricultural Experiment Stations