

University Sustainability Committee Notes
12-6-18, 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM
President's Conference Room, Holloway Hall 248

Attendees:

Amy Hasson	Jessica Hennen	Dave Gutoskey	Kevin Mann
Marvin Pyles	Jeff Canada	Sarah Surak	Wayne Shelton
Eric Berkheimer	Ken Kundell	Gaylord Robb	
Danny Ervin	Mark Muller	Brian Waller	

1. Welcome
2. Updates:
 - a. Green Fund
 - i. Roughly \$225,000 to start (funds from spring not finalized yet)
 - ii. 19 projects submitted
 - iii. 6 awarded, 1 approved with co-funding, 2 in further review
 - iv. \$69,608 committed so far; \$21,000 pending further review
 - v. The website is continually being updated to be a great resource for student applicants
 - vi. The majority of the projects involve Environmental Studies students and some of those classes require development of a GF proposal as a class project though submitting those is optional
 - b. Bicycle Friendly University – awarded bronze designation; commitments include:
 - i. Education/outreach
 - ii. Committee or club
 - iii. Connect with city initiatives
 - iv. Web page
 - v. Committee will develop a list of initiatives which will advance the BFU award upon the next review in four years.
 - c. Bee Campus affiliate – commitments include:
 - i. Education/outreach
 - ii. Committee and dedicated club
 - iii. Connect with Environmental Studies class & Bioenvirons club
 - iv. Web page
 - d. Student Government Association update
 - i. Planning a bee event this spring
 - ii. Recycle madness and other events planned for Earth Week
 - e. Graduate Student Council – no update
 - f. University Academic Sustainability Committee (U-ASC) update

- i. Continuing work on Gen. Ed sustainability initiative
- ii. Working with library to expand faculty resources for sustainability in classes
- iii. Working with Andrew Fellowes, sustainability resource coordinator for USM campuses to assist with sharing resources

3. Climate Resilience Plan

- a. Climate Resilience Plan information was presented to UASC
- b. Feedback included research and future direction
- c. Institution acting as a resource for community
- d. Next step will be a meeting with city and county emergency management
- e. Draft will be sent to committee for final comments
- f. In spring, Climate Action Plan is due for an update and will be merged with the Resilience Plan at that time
- g. CAP will complement the upcoming Stormwater Management Plan and Strategic Plan

4. Open discussion

- a. A systemwide sustainability summit was held on Tuesday, December 4th
- b. Well attended by USM representatives
 - i. First topic was sustainability inside and outside the classroom with Sarah Surak co-presenting
 - 1. Topics included curriculum, student life, experiences, masters in environmental management, sustainability intersecting with civic engagement, city/university as a classroom with real life experimentation
 - ii. Second topic was single use plastic reduction initiatives and challenges with Wayne Shelton co-presenting
 - 1. Emphasis was straw use but other plastic waste was also discussed, student outreach for education of students/campus/general public, effects of plastic waste, sample alternatives and challenges.
 - iii. Carbon offsets, renewable energy credits, and carbon neutrality was discussed by College Park representative including definitions, pricing trends and which emissions each type cancels out.
 - iv. Institutions reported on carbon neutrality progress with SU at the forefront with progress toward carbon neutrality.
 - v. Maryland Energy Administration and the Maryland Clean Energy Center presented information on funding options for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects which will be considered for upcoming projects.
 - vi. At the next session, students will be invited to attend to share their experiences, insights and projects with the group.