

University Sustainability Committee
2-18-16 (11 AM to 12 PM)
President's Conference Room

In attendance:

Marvin Pyles	Jeff Downes	Karen Olmstead
Amy Hasson	Dave Gutoskey	Julia Howell
Eric Berkheimer	Kevin Mann	Wayne Shelton
Jeff Canada	Gaylord Robb	

1. Solar Parking Canopy Projects Update
 - a. Designs and pricing received
 - b. Evaluation not completed
 - c. No status yet for grant for Fulton lot – grant will affect final price

2. Student Intern in Sustainability Office
 - a. Steven Rogers – shared between USC and U-ASC projects
 - b. Will modify carbon footprint calculator to SU features and include graphs/dashboard
 - c. Website updates
 - d. Tours for classes and Earth Day possible

3. LED Lighting Project update (refrigerators & water heaters)
 - a. See attachment for list of projects – the list is significant! Many thanks to LED project manager Jim Miller and the Physical Plant team for these installations. Also, our thanks to Jeff Downes' team for the energy efficient equipment upgrades around campus which have driven our electricity consumption down.
 - b. Henson is undergoing a LED re-lamping project. The color of the light is not working well with the colors in the hallway so the contractor will try to find an acceptable alternative.
 - c. Hadco pole lights 2014 (125 installed), 2016 will include 238 more
 - i. Once installed, only Sea Gull Square and Perdue Hall will not be LED
 - ii. Both non-LED areas are presently dark sky friendly

4. Zipcar Program Update
 - a. Julia & I met with reps on the 11th
 - b. Discussed promotional opportunities
 - c. Zipcar will hire a student ambassador (paid SU student with perks such as free Zipcar use)
 - d. Posters with SU logo will be printed for campus
 - e. Flyers with SU logo will be sent to incoming students via admissions

5. Green Fund Update – Karen Olmstead
 - a. Feb 29 submission deadline
 - b. Fund balance for Spring \$43,647
 - c. Next year budget will go from \$43,000 to \$128,000

- d. Fund will top out at nearly \$200,000 in FY19!
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- 6. University Academic Sustainability Committee (U-ASC) update
 - a. U-ASC is participating in a poster session at the Teaching and Learning Conference on Friday. The session will highlight our current events including the building of a bank of resources providing snapshots of faculty addressing sustainability issues in classrooms across the disciplines.
 - b. Upcoming events: Spring workshop series on teaching sustainability - April 8, 15, and 22 from 3-4:15pm in the Curriculum Resources Center (TETC 226). The Office of Innovation is supporting our efforts (by providing food!). Topics include Creating an integrative assignment (workshop), a discussion of the complexity of addressing environmental problems, and conclude with a session facilitated by Mark Stewart (UMD sustainability coordinator) discussing where we as faculty may want to go from here. Sessions will be open to students as well.
 - c. DPR radio spot series: Looking for people to draft 60 second radio spots on teaching, research, outreach, student activities, or local sustainability related topics
 - d. Working with UARA to collect Princeton Review survey data. Will likely conduct a more extensive survey of the faculty later in the semester. We will compile the Princeton Review survey results today.
 - e. Our work is supported by our intern, Steven Rogers.
 - f. Karen attended a meeting of the AAAS which included a discussion of a Nitrogen Footprint calculator. Nitrogen is associated with detrimental reactions in air (NOX) and water and may be another tracked or regulated item in the future.
 - o The Chesapeake bay Foundation has a link <http://www.cbf.org/news-media/multimedia/nitrogen-calculator> for personal tracking
 - o Summary - <http://phys.org/news/2013-05-nitrogen-footprint.html>
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- 7. SGA update – Julia Howell
 - a. Earth Week Plans
 - i. Monday – Recycle Madness (RSO competition)
 - ii. Tuesday – Top Sustainable Chef competition using local produce and SU Chefs, winner’s dish will be featured in Bistro
 - iii. Tentatively recycled materials art and solar displays with cycle generator/solar cooking/smoothies
 - iv. Zipcar and Red Square activities
 - v. Native Species plant installation by the Link of Nations with a storyboard along with a build your own terrarium project
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- 8. Open discussion
 - a. Kevin Mann discussed food waste management
 - i. When Blue Hen Organics advised they were ceasing composting, the loss caused 300 tons of food to go to the landfill annually
 - ii. As a short-term measure, the Commons has installed food waste digesters which liquefy food using enzymes and allow it to safely go down the drain.
 - iii. The first equipment was installed January 20th and, once fully operational, will be able to process up to 2,000 lbs per day.

- iv. Since January 20, the equipment has digested 10.5 tons of food waste.
- v. Dining Services is taking measures to reduce food waste which will lead to further reductions
- vi. Future initiatives will include customer education and trayless dining