TO: CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FROM: Campus Sustainability Committee Staff – Institute for Sustainable Development
SUBJ: CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes
DATE: December 10th, 2013  3:00 – 4:30 pm
LOCATION: Kendall 209

In Attendance: Wei, Hoffman, Pushnik, Alexander, Goodsell, Haley, Kilcoyne, Miracle, Patterson, Rankin, Sistrunk, Wymore, Banks, Herren

Introduction of Committee Members

Welcome to guests from Chancellor’s Office:
Michael Clemson and Meaghan Smith from the Capital Projects and Planning attended the meeting.

Introduction Item: CSU System-wide Sustainability Policy Draft. Mike Clemson discussed an update to the proposed system wide sustainability plan (EO 987). Clemson indicated that this policy addressed campus energy consumption and green building policy. The goal of the updated version of the policy was to reduce the policy to only goals that the Chancellor’s Office would like the campuses to achieve in a non-prescriptive way, with wording like “the campus will pursue energy reductions with consideration with local conditions” rather than designating specific targets.
   i) Sistrunk asked if this new version was stepping back from the previous proposed goal 80% reduction by 2030 to a new date of 2040?
      a. Clemson responded that on a system wide implementation scale the 2030 date was consider too ambitious given the diversity of campus conditions. He indicated that there were several campus that were older and had greater challenges than other campuses.
   ii) Clemson indicated that this has been an ongoing process that was initiated at the first Climate Summit that was held on this campus 4 years ago.
   iii) Hoffman asked how much onsite generation currently existed on the campuses?
      a. Clemson indicated that system wide 34.5 MW generation, which included 11.5 MW renewable and 23 MW of onsite cogeneration. The goal was to increase onsite generation from 30 to 100 MW.
      b. Hoffman asked if there was a plan for this increase. She indicated that our campus only uses about 5 MW.
      c. Clemson responded that is part of the directive; in that campuses would not be expected have an equal share.
   iv) Hoffman asked a follow up question, as to whether the policy would include travel. Clemson responded at this point they were only considering commute emissions at this point, but he anticipated that academic travel would eventually need to be tracked as well. Hoffman indicated that we were already doing so
   v) Wei shared that on our campus we were exploring integrating sustainability in our curriculum, with options ranging a sustainability degree program to increasing minors degrees. Another emerging idea is the implementing a project in common, which would be a culminating activity engaging students in an interdisciplinary approach to address local or regional issue related to sustainable development.
      a. Smith indicated that was precisely the goal of the “Campus as a Living Lab” program. She said that Chico State was their gold standard for sustainability curriculum development. She said she would be very interested in following the progress of that project, Her hope was to be able to continue to fund collaborative project between the Facilities operations and Academics.

Information Item: Update on STARS Report & GHG Emissions Inventory. Pushnik reported that after some careful review we achieved a cumulative score of 67.3 solidly place in the gold status. The report was randomly reviewed by the AASHE staff and they have asked to showcase our report as a model, largely because of the broad engagement of different campus stakeholders in the assessment rather than being conducted by a few individuals.
   i) Harmon asked if there would be any publicity release on the gold rating. Pushnik responded that Joe Wills would be working on a public announcement.
In reviewing our most recent greenhouse gas inventory (2010-2011 26,868 MTCO₂e) which includes all sponsored travel we are within 13% of reaching our 1990 emissions baseline level (23,660 MTCO₂e) which did not include the travel. These reductions put us seven years in advance of our intended GHG emission reduction target date. The reductions have been accomplished through thoughtful conservation and purchasing decision, and a change in power provider. Another are which showed large reductions was sponsored travel, which may be attributed to the economic downturn.

   i) Clemson ask when travel was included in the inventory. Pushnik responded that it was part of the 2008 inventory and that we were in the process of conducting another inventory to verify these results.

Information Item: Campus Sustainability Plan/Workshop Feedback and Draft Midterm Objectives: Alexander addressed the status of the Campus Sustainability Plan and reported that each of the affiliate committee of the CSC were in the process of drafting a mission and visions statement. He described the workshops that were conducted as part of the Campus Sustainability Day asking for campus stakeholder input on the initial draft statements. Approximately 70 individual contributed to the further development of the statement. Alexander also indicated that a second round of workshops would be conducted at This Way to Sustainability. He then ask each affiliate committee chair to discuss their current draft of the vision statement.

   i) Sustainability Education & Research Committee – Sistrunk
   “Whatever their disciplinary focus, students will understand how sustainability principles necessitate that they become wise stewards of their environments so that they can be passed down to future generations. Faculty will cultivate an awareness of the sustainability dimensions of their own fields of inquiry, and conduct research and scholarship that advances local and global sustainability goals. And staff, along with the rest of campus, will participate in fostering community and preserving the environmental resources of Chico State, which nurture the intellectual and physical health of its members.

   ii) Campus Conservation Committee – Wymore
   “The Campus will move toward zero waste by reducing the volume of trash sent to landfill. This will be accomplished by further reductions, reuse and recycling of waste materials.”

   iii) Transportation Advisory Committee – Hearne
   “The Campus will move toward zero waste by reducing the volume of trash sent to landfill. This will be accomplished by further reductions, reuse and recycling of waste materials.”

   iv) Campus Energy & Utilities Committee – Patterson
   “Our vision is to construct and operate the campus to reduce energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions by improving efficiency, increasing on-site renewable generation, and continuously educating and engaging campus occupants on conservation practices.”

   ii) Sustainable Food Services Committee – Rankin
   “By 2030 the use of local and community based, third party certified – organic, fair trade, humanely raised, ecologically sound – and nutritionally whole food products will be optimized. Operationally, opportunities to continue to expand recycling and composting efforts and to increase efficiencies in energy and water consumption will be explored and maximized. Outreach and education for the campus community related to these initiatives and their importance will continue to be expanded.”

   iii) Procurement – Alexander / Clemson

Information Item: AS Environmental Affairs Divestment Campaign – Haley, as an AS representative presented a student led campaign to have the University Foundation divest from investments in fossil fuel companies. She suggested that it seemed backwards that our campus that prides itself on sustainability efforts was investing money in companies that were adversely impacting the environment. The students have drafted a resolution that they hope to present to the University Foundation divestment committee this spring. She indicated that she was representing 16000 student and they believe that social responsible investment was very important them. She hoped that the CSC would support this effort.

Information Item: This Way to Sustainability Conference – Pushnik indicated that central theme would be Food and Food Security and discussed the keynote and featured speakers that had been confirmed for the conference. These include Michael Dimock from Roots of Change, John Ikerd an Agricultural Economist, Anya Fernald CEO of Belcampo foods, California Secretary of Agriculture Karen Ross and Dyane Baumeister co-founder of the Biomimicry Institute.

Other Updates: none

Adjourn