



CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

April 12, 2021

2:00 p.m., Virtual Meeting

Committee Members Present: Alonzo, Blackwell, Chastain, Crosswhite, Goodsell, Guzzi, Kuintzle, Matiasek, Rider, Ross, Saseen, Sistrunk, Wentz.

Committee Members Absent: Daley, Decker, Dishman, Millard, Simmons.

Others Present: Brambila, Koontz.

Agenda Items

1. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes from 3/1/2021 approved.
3. This Way to Sustainability Conference update (Chastain):
 - 1,349 participants registered for this year's conference, with 80% of the attendees as students from across the globe. 17 different CSU campuses participated, and 36 other university, college or school districts participated. The reach of the conference continues to spread geographically, and this is an important benefit of it being a virtual conference. The team hopes to continue to generate local support from our campus community.
 - The team is working to review, edit and post the presentation recordings including the keynotes and breakout sessions.
 - The student leads for the conference Cassidy Giorgi and Sara Johnson did a great job coordinating and executing throughout the event.
 - The most popular tracks this year were the agriculture and social justice and policy tracks. The land management and natural environment track and the built environment track were also popular for submissions and participation. The entrepreneurship, marketing, and supply chain track did not have as many submissions or as much participation.
 - As a result of the conference, there is a CSU movement to create an open-source journal (The Journal of Sustainability and Climate Change). Dominguez Hills and Humboldt are spearheading this initiative and the Chancellor's Office is helping move it forward. Those who presented at the conference have already been invited to contribute.
 - If you participated in the conference, please consider providing feedback through the follow-up [survey](#). The conference team is working to determine if participants would prefer to keep a virtual format. Many have expressed interested in remaining primarily virtual and encouraging each campus to have their own in-person workshop or activity.
4. End of year report (Chastain and Guzzi): Subcommittee leads can now submit their end-of-year updates for our annual report for the committee. A template has been created which includes names of subcommittee participants, goals, achievements, and other information. The information should be

filled out and submitted to Cheri (cchastain@csuchico.edu) before the May meeting so that the report can be wrapped up during the summer and submitted to Academic Senate in the fall.

- Link to template: [Box folder](#)
- Link to last year's [annual report](#)

5. Subcommittee updates

- **Curriculum – Tim Sistrunk:** The Green Curriculum Advisory Committee, now sometimes called Green CAT, has written an EM to define the subcommittee, how people can interface with the group, and what its goals and initiatives are. The EM details green leaf symbolism for sustainability courses in general as well as the new climate change and climate resilience symbolism and emphasis. The subcommittee wants to launch green leaf in the fall and get campus involved in talking about what they want the Student Learning Outcomes to be. The subcommittee will be presenting at the next Academic Senate meeting.
- **Research – Sandrine Matiasek:** Spring semester challenges have made it difficult to make progress with faculty on this subcommittee. Efforts continue for creating a product from the December survey on sustainability research on campus, and the STARS report work is nearly complete. The subcommittee is also working towards the long-term goal of creating an inventory/database of sustainability research—the two current leads are through Jennifer Rotnem with the Center for Water and the Environment, and through Ann Schulte in Education.
- **Student Engagement – Kendall Ross:** A campus tree tour will be held on April 30th. Alonzo is co-hosting the tour as part of involvement for Arboretum committee and a student will also co-host. The tour includes information about native grasses and trees and will include 25 in-person spots as well as streaming through Instagram and/or Zoom. The group is doing a trial run this Thursday and will then begin advertising and registration sign ups. Stay tuned for a flyer to be sent out.
- **Transportation – Cheri Chastain:** This subcommittee is currently working on a contract for the bike path and waiting on an estimate for a bike parking secure enclosure in parking structure 1.
- **Zero Waste – Bri Saseen:** This subcommittee is currently working on a purchase order for a substantial purchase of newer trash cans and recycling cans which have bright blue lids. The bid is approximately \$117k for 20 sets. We are asking about a partial delivery in time to replace and update lids in the stadium prior to commencement, and the goal is to have all the new sets in place by summer in preparation for fall semester.
- **Procurement – Tom Rider:** The subcommittee is still waiting on the sustainable procurement policy to officially be released by the Chancellor's Office. We are looking for ways to train campus requesters in light of whatever the policy says. We have a draft copy and we are working on linking departmental requesters to policy sections. For example, if someone needed to purchase chemicals for cleaning, the link would send them to a website with more information about the policy before they go to make a purchase. We are also looking for ways to customize the CSU Buy menus like for Staples, in order to create a list of green choices that are easy to find. Right now these items are 3 or 4 clicks deep. Rider and Sistrunk discussed possible methods of communicating with the CO about creating a plan, including talking to Tamara Wallace who coordinates sustainability programs, raising concerns to the President or at Senate, or talking to Sara Rumiano who is on the subcommittee.

- **Natural Environment – Eli Goodsell:** The subcommittee recently launched the Environmental Resiliency Collaborative (ERC) and the group is meeting every other week to identify projects to collaborate on. Committee members are encouraged to review the website: <https://erc.csuchico.edu/>. The group is working on a plan for the additional 4000 acres for the ecological reserve, collaborative grant writing, and project development for fire mitigation for forest health. The ERC will also be presenting at the North State Economic Forum on Thursday.
- **Water – Mike Alonzo:** The subcommittee is working on condensing accounts with CalWater and using software to gather aggregate numbers for the year including utility data, electricity, natural gas, water, sewer, solid waste. The goal is to have all of the water data viewable on a monthly basis. There will be both an administrative platform as well as one that is public-facing which students, faculty, and staff could use for information for their classes or work on campus. We are in the final stage of getting the system up and running and it will be a useful tool for where we can identify savings, troubleshoot problems more quickly, and train staff.
- **Agriculture – Cindy Daley:** No update
- **Built Environment and Energy – Mike Guzzi:** Our campus is preparing to demolish the old science building. Since there were many fixtures in the building in great condition, our plumbing staff went through and pulled all of the usable toilets and fixtures and replaced them in other buildings that did not have them. Due to the upgrades, there will be significant water savings (~128,000 gallons saved annually) and there was a cost savings of ~\$4700. There will also be an upcoming project in housing to replace low flow toilets for another huge water savings.

Below are the estimated savings due to the upgrades based on a normal academic year.

Water savings:

PAC: 7 toilets at 3 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 210 gal. saved/day
 AJH: 8 toilets at 3 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 240 gallons saved/day
 1 urinal at 2 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 20 gallons saved/day
 YOLO: 4 urinals at 2 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 80 gal./day
 GLNN: 2 urinals at 2 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 40 gallons saved/day
 1 toilet at 3 gal./flush at 10 flushes/day = 30 gallons saved/day
 *620 gal. of water saved per day / roughly 128,000 gal. of water saved annually!

Cost savings:

- approximately \$4,700 saved by not having to buy fixtures,



- Additionally, the strategic energy master plan draft completed by Marie Patterson is now under review by Guzzi and Chastain. We also recently kicked off the new Butte Hall design process and hosted a town hall meeting for campus to share updates about the project. Our contract specifies our goal for net zero energy in that building and our team is excited to see what the contractor comes up with; it is not an aspirational goal but one confirmed by the contract. New technology will be incorporated to produce as much on-site renewable energy as possible. We are looking to maximize solar on the roof or possibly install glass panels you look out of that are solar generated power.

6. Announcements

- Vidal and Chastain are working to finalize the STARS report and send to AASHE as soon as possible. Members of the curriculum subcommittee can submit their relevant data to the [spreadsheet](#) being used to collect information. This is a report we submit every 3 years.
- Rider: There was another piece of good news for zero waste initiatives on campus. Housing approved the installation of reusable Ozzi Clamshells resulting in less waste coming out of Housing.
- Matiasek: One area the committee may seek to pursue improvement on campus is with the Registrar's office and the process for requesting transcripts electronically instead of on paper. Students have experienced problems with delays in requests for transcripts. Ross confirmed she will reach out to Mike Allen, the registrar, to ask about this.
- Chastain: You're invited to join one of the three upcoming [recycling 101 trainings](#). These workshops are happening on April 14th, 23rd and 29th and will teach campus users the ins and outs of recycling and which materials go in which bins. Most people are better wishcyclers than they are recyclers meaning they wish things are recyclable when in fact they aren't. Wishcycling actually does more harm than good so learn how to NOT be a wishcycler with the Recycling 101 training.
- Sistrunk: The California Faculty Association (CFA) divested from fossil fuels recently, which is a sustainability win for the entire CSU.

7. Meeting was adjourned.