

Green University Planning Committee

January 9, 2009

Meeting Notes

8:30 to 10:00 am

Conference Centre 6-305

Attendees:

Mark Dale, Provost (Chair)

Allan Berezny, Executive Director, University Advancement

Annie Booth, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management

Eileen Bray, Vice President Administration and Finance

Leslie Burke, Buyer

Balbinder Deo, Assistant Professor, Business

Gail Fondahl, Vice President Research

Arthur Fredeen, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management

Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management

Danielle Smyth, Graduate Student

Mark Thompson, Molecular Genetic Support Specialist and CUPE rep

Rob van Adrichem, Director, Media and Public Relations

Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies

Gavin Chung, NUGSS

Robyn Ocean, PG PIRG

Nadia Novak, Students for a Green University & Go Beyond

Regrets:

Charles Jago, Interim President

Ian Hartley, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs

Bill McGill, Dean, College of Science and Management

John Young, Acting Dean, College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences

Recorder: Stacey Linton, Office of University Advancement

1. Approval of Agenda

- Approved

2. Approval of Minutes – November 28, 2008

- Approved

OLD BUSINESS:

3. UNBC Green Strategies

- S Rennick said that the information would be incorporated into Rob's workshop materials

4. Green Committee Undergrad Representative

- Representatives from NUGSS, PG PIRG, and Go Beyond attended (see names above)
- Members made introductions around the table

5. Rationale for Parking Increase & Fee Implementation for Disposable Cups

- A Booth said the group met and recommendations are in Item 6

NEW BUSINESS:

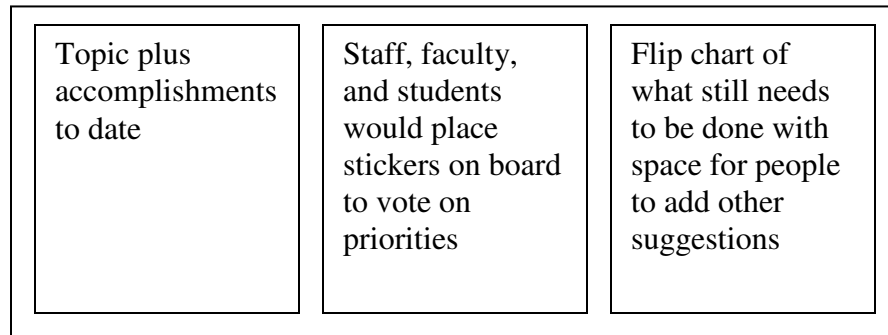
6. Green Fund: Green University Committee (GUC) Budgetary Rationale for Green Fees

- A Booth expressed the need for full transparency in fees, show how funds are going to green initiatives rather than a general fund
- M Thompson suggested instead of a fee for disposable cups to provide a discount for being green
- R van Adrichem responded asking why should the cafes lose money, is the fee voluntary?
- M Dale reminded everyone that there are two points to consider – providing an incentive to be green and raising money for green initiatives. Disposable cup discount does one but not both
- A Booth said research on the psychology behind encouraging people's behaviour suggests trying to balance positive and negative incentives
- N Novak commented both can work, for example NUGSS card which works out to a discount after 10 cups
- M Thompson reminded the group that we are wanting to make in-roads to being green so a reusable cup discount may be easier to put through
- S Rennick was not sure how we would account for the soft revenue generation
- A Fredeen said we need proper documentation and is working on a disposable cup paper with Danielle
- E Bray said there hasn't been a parking increase since 1994, can ensure transparency by showing increase would go to transport-related initiatives
- R van Adrichem said that at last year's Green Day every student surveyed was willing to pay something, the median was approx \$30 per semester. The whole point of Green Day is to get UNBC priorities then act and acting requires money. This year's Green Day was pushed up so it is ahead of the budget deadline; this is very public and transparent. Agreed with need for parking increase

7. Green Day Agenda

- R van Adrichem reviewed the agenda:
 - In the morning hold workshop with Jamie including two major presentations – where we've been and where we're going
 - During lunch have launch of Go Beyond involvement
 - Through the day and beyond have five of the rolling blackboards giving people the opportunity to vote on green priorities

- Blackboard (4' x 8') layout:



- Explained each voter group will get different coloured voting stickers, so result will show not only what people care about but which groups care most about which initiatives
- A Booth asked what about adding parking tax
- R van Adrichem said talked a lot about revenue generation and in the end the Board sets fees, what we need public input on is their priorities and the committee and president decide how to pay
- M Dale suggested the idea of a separate board asking what willing to pay
- K Wilkening said Dr Jago asked specifically about parking so maybe a board about parking specifically, which would fold into recommendations to Dr Jago
- R Ocean commented NUGSS used to have a ride share board, maybe could have a carpooling website
- A Booth asked if people know of external places to receive funding, could this be a way to involve students?
- D Smyth said Students for a Green University have two activities on Green Day – car counting and carbon footprint
- M Thompson suggested options for a green meeting e.g. overheads instead of printing out materials
- L Burke suggested we could incorporate the practices suggested for holding a green conference
- A Booth suggested the incentive of a door prize to get people to vote e.g. coffee and mug
- R Ocean said they could donate fair-trade coffee and T-shirts
- S Rennick said she will give Rob more details about what's already happening
- K Wilkening suggested posting online what green initiatives we're progressing with
- R van Adrichem said we already have a vehicle in place online so want to get the language right so we can then show progress every year
- Various members agreed with having online repository of what done/doing
- M Thompson commented on biodiversity loss and suggested adding that item within #10 Water & Campus Grounds because he knows this is an issue students are interested in
- R van Adrichem said biodiversity could also be in #9 and that we also need to include forest diversity

Return to Discussion of Item 6

- Various members discussed the report to Dr Jago and how to incorporate the information from Green Day
- M Dale suggested a board with willingness to pay and mechanisms preferred, then add results as an appendix to the Green Fund report

8. Info Exchange

- No discussion

Next meeting will be post-Green Day