

Green University Planning Committee

September 21, 2011

MINUTES

1:30am-3:00pm

8-160

Attendees

Arthur Fredeen, Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Cam Bell, NUGSS
Daniel Ryan, Dean, College of Science and Management – Acting Chair
Danielle Smyth, Green University Research Project Manager
Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies
Kyle Aben, PICS
Leslie Burke, Purchasing Agent
Nadia Nowak, NUGSS
Sarah Boyd-Noel, PGPIRG

Regrets:

Alex Lautensach, Assistant Professor, Education, Terrace Campus
David Claus, Energy Manager
Eileen Bray, Vice President Administration and Finance
Gail Fondahl, Vice-President Research
George Iwama, President
Jessica Madrid, Graduate Student
John Young, Dean, College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences
Mark Dale, Provost (Chair)
Rob van Adrichem, Vice-President External Relations
Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management
Trevor Fuson, CUPE

Recorder: Danielle Smyth, Sustainability Manager

1. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve agenda (K Wilkening/A Fredeen); motion carried with the following additions:
 - 3.c) Update on Geodesic Dome Project
 - 7. Alumni Representative on GUPC
 - 8. Roundtable

2. Approval of Minutes (July 15, 2011)

- Motion to approve July 15 minutes (K Aben/K Wilkening); motioned carried with the following revisions:
 - Change the time from 2:00am to 2:00pm

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Green Fund

a) Updates (information) – K Wilkening

- 2 Green Fund project reports have been submitted to the Green Fund Subcommittee:
Residence and PGPIRG

- The Residence report was somewhat incomplete; while the PGPIRG report was exemplary
- One member suggested that perhaps the groups require a set of guidelines for submitting final reports
- The question was raised whether or not the GUPC would like to receive the reports
- The committee feels that reports should be sent to the GUPC for informational purposes

ACTION: D Smyth will provide the GUPC with the two reports and all other Green Fund reports from future projects.

- The reports will be valuable in archiving and promoting Green Fund projects

b) Compost workshop presentation (action) – S Boyd Noel, D Smyth

- A revised Compost Workshop plan was presented
- The workshop will now be co-organized by PGPIRG and the Green University Centre and will consist of a full day divided into two parts:
 1. AM: Expert Presentations provide background information for participants
 2. PM: Facilitated interactive session to exchange ideas through a World Café format.
- Following the workshop the facilitator will prepare a set of recommendations based on feedback and results
- The workshop co-organizers will present the recommendations to the GUPC and the UNBC Facilities Department.
- The results will also be shared with the broader UNBC community.
- The committee made a number of suggestions including:
 - Extend the length of the expert presentations and drop the UNBC Compost tour
 - Increase the time for questions
 - Possibly request that the presenters stay to present as a panel at the NRESi lecture the next day; Friday November 25, 2011

ACTION: A Fredeen to inquire about NRESi colloquium opening and possibility to have compost experts present.

- One member asked what commitment exists from UNBC to act on the recommendations that will come out of the workshop
- It was determined that the results and recommendations will be presented to the GUPC and the Facilities Department; it is the hope of the workshop organizers that the recommendations will be acted upon
- There were concerns that students might not be able to attend the full session due to class schedules; the organizers clarified that participants will be able to come and go as their schedules permit
- It was suggested that the President be invited
- It was also suggested that compost solutions that incorporate the use of waste heat from Bioenergy be considered
- The committee commended the co-organizers for meeting the conditions and doing an exemplary job

MOTION: To approve funding the proposal titled “Establishing a Vision for the PGPIRG-UNBC Compost Program – Building on Successes and Partnerships” for the amount of \$5000. (K Wilkening/K Aben). Carried.

c) Geodesic Dome Update (information) – C Bell

- SGU has completed a reworked budget for the dome project; all other conditions have been delegated to various individuals
- SGU requested suggestions for managing funds and indicated that they are still seeking an additional \$2000 in funding for the project; they plan to fundraise or seek additional donations (i.e. PICS)
- 2 funds will need to be set up in the end 1) Building/Construction 2) Operations
- SGU will be establishing a Greenhouse Advisory Committee with representation from various departments at UNBC (i.e. Facilities, Purchasing, Green University Centre)
- SGU will present the final conditions to the GUPC before December 2011

4. Report from Green Teaching Subcommittee – K Wilkening

- The Green Teaching Subcommittee (GTSC) was officially formed in March 2011
- The GTSC met for the first time on September 7
- Membership includes 8 faculty – 4 from each College
It was expressed that the GTSC was originally “to catalogue, evaluate, inventory of the sustainability content of academic programs at UNBC”; this statement indicates that the role of the GTSC is very STARS focused.
- One member asked what the GUPC’s understanding was of how the GTSC would function?
- All members in attendance agreed that they envisioned the GTSC to start with STARS and then focus on other broader initiatives
- One member stated that the GTSC should play a role in supporting faculty who are interested in sustainability; keep UNBC engaged with broader provincial initiatives (i.e. goBEYOND, SEAP, etc.)
- It was also noted that a Green Teaching Working Group already exists; this small group of two faculty, one staff and one student was formed following a Sustainability Education Across the Province (SEAP) workshop in May 2010; the group organized a workshop during the 2010 UNBC Teaching and Learning Conference and arrange for the VP Sustainability with Sears Canada to visit UNBC in October 2010.
- There are two groups focused on green teaching – one informal and one formal; it was expressed that both structures are good but it is necessary to determine how both will interact.
- The next GTSC meeting will be focused on clarifying the relationship between STARS and the GTSC and how both groups will work together.
- One member inquired about student representation on the GTSC
- It was noted that, Yes, a student position will be included on the GTSC

5. Sustainability Plan Working Group (discussion) – D Smyth

- The Sustainability Plan Working Group was established in March 2011 “to provide feedback from the broader University community for input to “green” aspects of the University plan”
- The SPWG has two members currently: D Smyth and K Wilkening
- It was noted that as a working group the SPWG is meant to disband at some point in time; the question was raised whether or not this is appropriate since sustainability planning will be an on-going process
- The GUPC was reminded that during our July 2011 meeting the SPWG was tasked with suggesting a definition of sustainability to the GUPC.
- It was suggested that any definition of sustainability should be developed with broad public consultation to ensure that feedback from the campus community is reflected.
- The topics of membership on the SPWG, structure as a working group vs a subcommittee and role of the SPWG require further discussion.

6. Grad Student Representative on GUPC – D Smyth

- The previous Graduate Student Representative has resigned

- The Graduate Student Society is currently developing a Green Representative on the GSS Council; once this position is filled this representative will be appointed to the GUPC.

7. Alumni Representative (discussion) – D Smyth

- The Alumni Association would like to have a representative on the GUPC

ACTION: D Smyth to develop a written submission to the GUPC that includes a description of what an Alumni Representative position might look like. D Smyth will also investigate whether the GUPC TOR requires a vote to amend and create a new position.

8. Roundtable (information) – All members

- PICS Director on campus September 22
- Electric Car vehicle proposal in progress with UNBC and two other organizations
- Barkerville Carbon Footprint Project underway with PICS
- Carbon Neutrality Subcommittee has not been formed yet; UNBC will be hiring a third-party group to collect SMARTool data however the CNSC could still complete the Carbon Neutral Action Report (as per our requirements under the GHG Reductions Targets Act)
- The University Farmers' Market has been launched weekly every Tuesday during the fall semester and bi-weekly during the winter semester
- Active Minds Green Module was very well received; congratulations to A Fredeen and N Nowak for their efforts on developing this module
- Green Day Sub-committee is seeking membership
- Compost Coordinator position has been posted
- Good Food Box will start October 15
- Eggs are on sale in the PGPIRG office on Wednesdays and the garden has produce that students are welcome to take
- Energy and Idle Free policies are on the next agenda for PC
- Residence Energy Challenge begins in November
- Student Sustainability Coordinator position deadline has closed; candidates will be interviewed next week

MOTION: To adjourn. (A Fredeen/K Aben). Carried. 2:43 pm