

Green University Planning Committee

October 26, 2011

AGENDA

2:30-3:15pm

8-160

Attendees

Alex Lautensach, Assistant Professor, Education, Terrace Campus
Arthur Fredeen, Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Cam Bell, NUGSS
David Claus, Energy Manager
Danielle Smyth, Green University Research Project Manager
Eileen Bray, Vice President Administration and Finance
Gail Fondahl, Vice-President Research
Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies
Kyle Aben, PICS
Leslie Burke, Purchasing Agent
Mark Dale, Provost (Chair)
Rob van Adrichem, Vice-President External Relations
Sarah Boyd-Noel, PGPIRG
Trevor Fuson, CUPE

Regrets:

Daniel Ryan, Dean, College of Science and Management
George Iwama, President
Nadia Nowak, NUGSS
John Young, Dean, College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences
Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management

Recorder: Danielle Smyth, Sustainability Manager

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved with the following addition:

7. Alumni Representative on the GUPC (action) – D Smyth

2. Approval of Minutes (September 21, 2011)

Minutes approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Presentation on Bio-Electricity Proposal (information) – D Claus

- UNBC has submitted an Letter of Intent to the Federal government ECO Action Funding program
- The proposal involves the generation of electricity from Bioenergy; the project would demonstrate electrical generation for remote communities and make UNBC electricity self-sufficient
- Biochar would be produced through the process which could be used as a soil amendment and for carbon sequestration

- A large amount of excess heat would be used to heat a large commercial greenhouse on campus (further serving as a demonstration for remote communities) and other sources could be identified through research
- The project would allow for the demonstration and testing of multiple technologies for electricity production
- The NSC would be excluded initially due to the cost of piping; however as the campus develops in the future this may become feasible

4. Green Fund

a) Sub-committee recommendations September Intake (action) – K Wilkening

- The Green Fund Subcommittee did not recommend funding any proposals that were submitted during the September intake
- Three proposals were submitted and all three have been asked to be revised and resubmitted
- The GUPC acknowledged that sending a positive message to the proposers was critical
- It was noted that one group has submitted three proposals and have yet to receive funding; this kind of initiative and leadership should be recognized while balancing the need to maintain a high standard of proposal evaluation.
- Concerns were raised that groups and individuals may become reluctant to submit proposals for funding if they are always being rejected
- It was suggested that perhaps the process may need to be tweaked (i.e. groups could be given a small amount of money to develop their proposals, the guidelines may have to be revised to reflect what the Green Fund Subcommittee is looking for, etc.)
- The Green Fund could be marketed better to get the word out to the UNBC campus community; perhaps a presentation on Green Day could help.

MOTION: To accept the Green Fund Subcommittee's recommendation to request all three proposals from the September intake to be re-submitted. Carried (A Fredeen/G Fondahl)

5. President's Award for Sustainability Leadership (information) – D Smyth

- A new award has been established to recognize staff that demonstrates leadership in sustainability in their respective departments.
- Deadlines for submitting nominations is November 2
- It was suggested that the statement referring to "social, environmental **and/or** economic sustainability" should be changed to "social, environmental **and** economic sustainability"

6. Report on Sub-committees and Working Groups (discussion) – Chairs

- The Chairs of each subcommittee and working group gave the following reports:
 - Transit Pass Working Group: the group has met twice; the Transit Analyst from the City of Prince George has not responded to the Chairs request to follow up regarding the transit pass.
 - Green Day Subcommittee: the group has set a date for Green Day 2012 – March 20; several ideas have been discussed including hosting a "Dragons Den" Green Fund activity
 - Carbon Neutrality Subcommittee: the group is being built and they will hold their first meeting before Christmas
 - Energy Subcommittee: the priority related to energy is submitting the Bioelectricity proposal; the group preparing the proposal will act as the Energy Subcommittee for now
 - Green Teaching Subcommittee: there are two groups focused on "green teaching" activities at UNBC – an informal one and a formal one; a meeting is being scheduled to determine how these two groups will function together or what a merger might look like.

7. Alumni Representative on the GUPC (action) – D Smyth

- The Alumni Relations Office has requested that a new position be created on the GUPC to represent Alumni

MOTION: To establish a position on the Green University Planning Committee for an “Alumni Representative”. Carried (A Fredeen/G Fondal).

8. Roundtable (information) – All members

- Tabled

Adjourned 3:15pm