

Friday September 9, 2016

10:00-11:30am

Room 6-305

Agenda

Attendees:

Alex Lautensach, Assistant Professor, Education, Terrace Campus
Amanda Drew, Energy Technician
Arthur Fredeen, Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Arctica Cunningham, NUGSS President
David Claus, Assistant Director, Facilities Management
Erik Jensen, Dean, College of Science and Management
Kate Hewitt, GSS Sustainability
Kyrke Gaudreau, Sustainability Manager (Acting Chair)
Leslie Burke, Purchasing Agent
Mark Dale, Dean, Regional Campuses
Michelle Connolly, PICS Coordinator
Robert Budde, Professor, English
Serena Black, PGPIRG
Zarrah Holvick, Alumni Representative

Regrets:

Ben Bryce, Assistant Professor, History
Daniel Ryan, Provost
Daniel Weeks, President
Geoff Payne, Vice-President Research
Robert Knight, Vice-President, Finance and Business Operations
Raychill Snider, NUGSS Sustainability
Trevor Fuson, CUPE Representative

1. Approval of Agenda
 - Approved (D Claus / L Burke)
2. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2016
 - Approved (M Connolly / S Black)

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Green Grants Review – D Claus

Canol Doc – Recommendation: Fund

- Some suggestions for additional publicity and buy-in with CBC Radio and Inspiring Women Among Us.

Community Eats – Recommendation: Fund

- Some uncertainty around the future of the Thirsty Moose Pub. Not fair to discount them for this.

- Not certain it would be financially sustainable, but for the low cost, this is a small risk.
- Suggestion to tie in with 'Survive to Thrive' funding

Zeolites – Recommendation: Not Fund

- Proposal did not justify whether ammonia and heavy metals are a problem with PGPIRG's compost, and if so, whether zeolites are the optimal solution.
- Large portion of the budget going to support wages in NALS.
- For subsequent submissions, the NALS portion should be a donation in kind, rather than the bulk of the request. Likewise, partner groups, such as PGPIRG, should be consulted with in advance.

Environmental Day camps – Recommendation: Not Fund

- There were several concerns expressed about the efficacy of the delivery method, and the limited scope of the camps. Likewise, there appears to be a lot more work needed on the proposal.
- For subsequent submissions, the proponent should secure alternate funding and partnerships, including Active Minds, and the School District. However, some of the budget was for equipment (lab coats and safety glasses), which might be a good fit for the Green Fund.

NUGSS Community Kitchen and Food Bank – Recommendation: Conditionally Fund

- The committee felt this was an important initiative worthy of support. There were concerns raised about the leasing of the space, and necessary consultations with Facilities.
- Proponent required to determine project scope in consultation with Facilities before funding will be disbursed.

Compost collection at Residence – Recommendation: Postpone

- The committee was impressed with the proposal, but recognized there is no capacity for additional compost at the PGPIRG compost site. Until a new institutional composting system is put in place, this proposal must be postponed.

Motion to accept the subcommittee's recommendations (D Claus, K Gaudreau)

4. STARS Reporting – K Gaudreau

- Would like the GUPC to consider undertaking a STARS assessment. UNBC's Silver Rating expired in 2014.
- A Cunningham – Annie Booth's class undertook aspects of STARS for a public engagement class in Winter 2016. There were many aspects of STARS that did not apply to UNBC.
- M Dale – Given the plethora of reporting groups, is STARS the best choice?
 - D Claus – With some energy managers, STARS is still a good choice.
- David – STARS is a good framework to self-assess and use to set priorities for the GUPC.
- A Fredeen – Could the institution provide funding to hire a student researcher for STARS?
- S Black – Could the Education Program be involved in the curriculum assessment of STARS?
- K Gaudreau to draw up work plan and present at January meeting.

5. Roundtable (information) – All members

- Arctica – UNBC has renegotiated beverage contract. We are now with Coca Cola starting January 1st. Would like to know who was consulted with regard to bottled water.
 - L Burke – Bottled water was discussed, but decision was made not to take it out of the next contract.
- M Connolly – PICS is undergoing a strategic review with a possible reorganization.
- A Drew – Facilities undertook a walkthrough of QRRC to winterized equipment and develop seasonal procedures.

UNBC will be paying more for electricity, even though marginal rate is going down. Will reduce feasibility of projects. We are being hit because of all the conservation that we've done.

Starting a project to figure out the controls that link bio to power plant. Try to reduce the natural gas we use in the power plant.

Lighting replacement in administration building. Roll out to other buildings in the future. The original buildings have old ballasts in them and experiencing flicker problems.
- D Claus – Environmental engineers were looking at manure of PG Horse Society. Paying \$12,000/year in trucking costs. Recommended to work with UNBC to transfer up to bioenergy plant. Could be interesting research for our gasifier. Could also burn municipal biosolids. Adding horse manure to ash feedstock makes it more viable. UNBC to build a new passive house structure. Have your building use 10% of the energy of what a code building would do.