

Green University Coordinating Committee

December 12, 2007

Meeting Notes

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Conference Centre 6-307

Attendees:

Dr. Don Cozzetto, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Bill McGill, Dean, College of Science and Management
Dr. Annie Booth, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Rob van Adrichem, Director, Communications and Public Relations
Mark Thompson, Molecular Genetic Support Specialist and Graduate Student (CUPE rep)
Dr. Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies
Dr. Arthur Fredeen, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management (by telecom)
Danielle Smyth, Graduate Student
Dr. Balbinder Deo, Assistant Professor, Business
Dr. Jim Randall, Acting Provost
Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management
Dr. Gordon Martel, Acting Dean, College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences
Allan Berezny, Executive Director of University Advancement

Regrets:

Marissa Balahura, PIRG
Colleen Smith, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Ian Hartley, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies
Godfrey Medhurst, Director, Campus Planning and Capital Projects
Dr. Ron Thring, Vice-Provost, Research and Graduate Programs

Recorder: Sandra Earle, Office of Communications and Public Relations

Don Cozzetto welcomed Allan Berezny, Executive Director of University Advancement to the Green University Coordinating Committee.

1. Approval of Agenda

- Addition of Item #10 Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS)
- Addition of Item #11 BC Sustainable Campuses Conference

2. Approval of November 14, 2007 minutes

- Approved

3. Business Arising

3.1 Master Plan

- Nothing to report.

3.2 Green University Committee Structure (revised diagram)

- Revision No. 3 has been accepted as the official structure of the Green University Coordinating Committee (attached to minutes).
- Ensure that the "Green University Coordinating Committee" is used consistently on all committee materials.

3.3 Status of funding request for Feasibility Study (Bio-energy)

- The federal government has 35M available in its pine beetle recovery program.
- Deadline is this Monday for a proposal to do a feasibility study on implementing a biomass energy project at UNBC in 2008/09.
- This funding would directly relate to Item #3 in the *Canada's Green University* brochure.
- The study will provide a tool for potential funders.
- The pilot project will result in the installation of a pellet boiler and a comparison of pellet vs natural gas emissions.
- Don Cozzetto and Allan Berezny will be meeting with UNBC Vancouver Advisory Committee and will speak on UNBC's green initiative with the hopes of gathering additional ideas for funding.

3.4 Green University Coordinator Position Update

- Jim Randall presented a brief position description for the position (distributed and attached to minutes)
- Position will be titled Coordinator, be under contract, and be funded by the Provost office for the first six months. The position will then be made permanent with budgeted University funding.
- A potential visiting professor has been approached to fill this position for six months. This person has expertise in "greening" and will be strategic in this bridging position.

ACTION: Jim Randall to draft a contract for the position.

4. New Business

- No new business.

5. Green Day

- It was suggested that a Green Expo (involving community) and a Green Day (UNBC community) be combined to create a professional and quality event that the community will want to attend. Booths could be set up where employers could highlight their sustainability practices and promote jobs within their companies. UNBC could present green food, etc. This event could possibly take place in Sept/Oct 2008 on a ProD day to enable high school students to attend. It was also suggested that the Green Day/Expo could be part of the responsibilities of the new Coordinator of the Green University Initiative. Perhaps a "green" keynote speaker and government officials could be invited.
- It was decided to go ahead with a smaller university event in the early spring and perhaps a bigger event in the fall. It was suggested that a class be involved in the planning and outcomes as part of a class assignment. The new coordinator and PIRG would also be involved.

ACTION: Ken Wilkening and Art Fredeen to determine if class involvement is feasible and exactly what it would entail.

6. Methodology for waste audit and transportation study

- Report distributed and attached to minutes.
- Feedback was requested.

7. Preliminary results from a pilot transportation study

- Report distributed and attached to minutes.
- Feedback was requested.

8. UNBC's position as a Talloires Declaration Signatory

- Report distributed and attached to minutes.

9. Petition to clear sidewalks of snow

- The committee was advised that a petition has been circulating to clear sidewalks of snow, as many students would like to bike to campus.

10. Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS)

- UNBC has been invited to join a pilot project test from The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).
- Information attached to minutes.
- December 21, 2008 is the deadline to commit to participate.

ACTION: Annie Booth to send information to committee for consideration of participation.

11. BC Sustainable Campuses Conference

- The Sustainable Campuses Conference will be held February 8 - 10th at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops. The conference is an opportunity to learn about how a campus can integrate sustainability into its curriculum, culture, and operations and to develop skills needed to run a successful student group, initiative or campaign and to collaborate with other universities.
- Suggested that Danielle Smyth and a representative from PIRG attend.

Next Meeting: January 14, 2008, Room 6-305, 10:00 am – 11:00 am.