

Green University Planning Committee

February 17, 2012

MINUTES

10:30am-12:00pm

Senate Chambers

Attendees

Rob van Adrichem, Vice-President External Relations (Acting Chair)
Alex Lautensach, Assistant Professor, Education, Terrace Campus
Arthur Fredeen, Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Belinda Larisch, Renewable Energy Academic Advisor
David Claus, Energy Manager
Daniel Ryan, Dean, College of Science and Management
Danielle Smyth, Sustainability 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
Nadia Nowak, NUGSS
Sarah Foot, Alumni Representative
Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management
Trevor Fuson, CUPE

Regrets:

Cam Bell, NUGSS
George Iwama, President
John Young, Dean, College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences
Sarah Boyd-Noel, PGPIRG
Mark Dale, Provost (Chair)
Raman Deep Kaur, Graduate Student Representative

Recorder: Danielle Smyth, Sustainability Manager

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved with the following addition:
9. Presentation by Enbridge

2. Approval of Minutes (January 20, 2011)

Minutes approved without additions (G Fondahl/K Wilkening)

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Sustainability Manager Position (information) – D Smyth

- Effective February 24 the Sustainability Manager, Danielle Smyth will be leaving the position for a 10 month term

4. Green Fund

- a) Recommendations** (action) – K Wilkening

- The Green Fund Sub-Committee has reviewed the two proposals submitted during the January 2012 intake: The Childcare Centre Proposal and the Electric Car Proposal
- GUPC members discussed the Childcare proposal and brought up the following comments:
 - o A mechanism for determining if the Green Fund can or should support administration labour must be created; the Childcare Centre Proposal appears to be heavy on administration staff time versus students (i.e. roughly 50% of the funding being requested is slated to go towards staff time)
 - o The university pays for the Childcare Centre utilities therefore any savings in energy and water will be reflected at the University level

Motion: That the Childcare Centre Proposal be funded for \$3000 under the understanding that student labour be eligible for funding but staff time will not. Carried (A Fredeen/G Fondahl)

- GUPC members discussed the Electric Car proposal and brought up the following comments/questions:
 - o Will the car absorb large amounts of staff time to manage?
 - o Aside from management, what hurdles exist in relation to liability, insurance and taxable benefits?
 - o The logistics of booking the vehicle may be challenging
 - o The benefits of having an electric car on campus include optics and the ability to demonstrate and experiment with the operation of an electric vehicle in a northern climate
 - o Comments were made about the beneficial use of the vehicle in the IT department and for Student Recruitment trips

Motion: That the Electric Car Proposal be sent back to the Green Fund Sub-committee to summarize the outstanding questions related to the proposal and articulate those back to the GUPC for the March 9 meeting. Carried (D Ryan/G Fondahl)

b) Geodesic Dome Greenhouse (action) – C Bell

Motion: That the conditions attached to funding the Geodesic Dome Greenhouse have been met and therefore will be forwarded to PEC for the release of funds. Carried (D Ryan/K Wilkening)

5. Green Communications Assistance Fund (action) – D Smyth

- GUPC members discussed the creation of a fund to support sending members of the UNBC campus community to conferences.

Motion: That the GUPC approve the creation of a Green Communications Assistance Fund that will provide funding support for members of the UNBC campus community presenting at conferences and events to promote UNBC's green initiatives. Carried.

6. Renewable Energy Update (information) – All Members

- Students with the NAMP program are working on an energy systems study at Ness Lake Bible Camp
- PhD Student is working on renewable energy options for student housing
- A pellet trial is planned for the Bioenergy Plant; all safety and testing requirements are being considered

- Two members of the GUPC will be traveling to Italy/Austria as part of the CanBio Trade Mission on Bioenergy

7. Report on Sub-Committees/Working Groups (information) – Subcommittee Chairs

- *Transit Pass Working Group*: no updates
- *Green Fund Sub-Committee*: Provided above.
- *Energy Sub-Committee*: no updates.
- *Green Day Sub-committee*: The GUPC Alumni Representative, Sarah Foot, has taken a lead roll in coordinating Green Day 2012 in Danielle's absence; all inquires should be directed to Sarah.
- *Carbon Neutrality Sub-committee*: The second meeting is being planned.

8. Roundtable (information) – All members

- UNBC has been asked to participate in the Youth Climate Project
- A suggestions was made that the roudtable be turned into a public session at the beginning of GUPC meetings to improve communications and transparency; the session could be 15minutes long and we could resume meetings following this.

9. Enbridge Presentation – D Smyth

- The NRESI asked if the GUPC would be interested in hosting a talk on renewable energy technologies by Enbridge (in the case that the talk is not research intensive and suitable for the NRESI Colloquium)
- The GUPC agreed that once the NRESI has made a decision on whether or not it will host the talk, the GUPC will make a decision.