

**Green University Planning Committee**

**September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Minutes**

**1:30 to 3:30pm**

**Conference Centre 6-306**

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**Attendees:**

George Iwama, President  
Mark Dale, Provost (Chair)  
Kyle Aben, PICS  
Eileen Bray, Vice President Administration and Finance  
Leslie Burke, Buyer  
Balbinder Deo, Assistant Professor, Business  
Gail Fondahl, Vice President Research  
Arthur Fredeen, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management  
Bill McGill, Dean, College of Science and Management  
Nadia Nowak, NUGSS  
Shelley Rennick, Director, Facilities Management  
Danielle Smyth, Graduate Student  
Alexie Stephens, goBeyond  
Mark Thompson, Molecular Genetic Support Specialist and CUPE rep  
Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies  
John Young, Acting Dean, College of Arts, Social, and Health Sciences

**Regrets:**

Rob van Adrichem, Director, Media and Public Relations  
Ian Hartley, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs

**Recorder:** Kathryn Rinaldi, Office of University Advancement

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**1. Approval of Agenda**

-agenda approved with additions

**2. President Iwama - introduction**

- New to all groups – very eager to hear about the work of the various groups
- interested in the Green University committee – what they do/don't and their plans
- it appears to be a large diverse group – wonders why there are so many on committee
- are there projects in the classroom? Are there courses that all students get with regard to green initiatives?
- UBC/Acadia/Carleton – Dr. Iwama has had experience with green initiatives at these Institutions
- he's eager to learn about all initiatives and the bio-energy plant that's coming
- there are those that challenge the cost effectiveness of some initiatives – pros/cons
- wonders if the ideas be in the academic realm
- is there a concerted and well defined effort to make this work
- noted the impact on transit – 20 new buses coming – ridership has increased 70% in 5 yrs
- students initiatives on U-Pass has impacted these results
- committee member noted that there needs to be curricular content. Green is a new morality and if its part of curriculum – has to be critical thinking - not just cheerleading

### **3. Current Membership**

- Health and Safety Committee want to know what this committee is doing in regards to Environmental Health
- email for Mark Dale to be given to the representative for clarification

### **4. Coordinator Position/ Research Manager**

- feedback received & web survey of other universities
- previous Green Committee Manager – now Research Project Manager
- Mark is encouraging member of the committee to recommend potential candidates
- this is a Term position
- member asked: is the research as identified by the Provost in the posting to be physically brought in?
- Who is on the selection committee
- Mark replied: research background helpful to assist in writing grants  
Not necessary for candidate to do their own research  
No selection committee formed yet
- Bill McGill noted that as this is a Term position it may not attract the best candidate and wonders how this will impact if person transitions into a full time position.
- Ken W. noted that the posting appears to him to be 180 degree different than what was planned for the posting – feels that obtaining research in less than a year is going to be difficult
- other members agreed that posting leans toward – too much research and not enough ‘doing’
- Art Fredeen wants to know if the ‘Coordinator’ design of position was rejected because experience at other universities
- Mark commented that this posting was the best of each aspect they were looking for

### **5. Progress**

- Shelley R. spoke to what has been accomplished:
- Received good info from bicycle riders
- Concerns about bicycle containers – costing on storage containers to come
- Question about bike containers disappearing – will be bolted down
- There will be a fee for renting container
- No bus shelter expected to be built at the bus stop
- Has there been any discussion with transit with regard to bike racks on buses? Need to be more of them
- Showers for riders – plumbing contractor has been in – proposed area for showers
- Possibly current washrooms renovated to add showers – 1 per building – awaiting cost

### **6. Recycle Bins**

- almost all are deployed – they are being used well
- getting good feedback
- concern with dumping fluid into bins – holder needs to be emptied
- comment from member that there is no composting with the 3-set paper bins
- Shelley commented that she’s working with PERG for disposing of compost
- Mark asks if there is any movement to educate/research/purchasing around waste knowledge – are there numbers being kept
- Where there is ‘problem based learning’ in classroom students tend to take ownership
- Need for more advertising about recycle bins at the NSC but waiting until after the company that empties them to see how they are being used – then advertise

## 7. What does the future hold?

- Mark spoke to this topic:
- What is the future?
- There is a budget
- Is it past its prime?
- Need for smaller groups?
- There are different balances between faculty/staff/students
- Given where we are now is the committee as current as it should be, should it be made bigger – smaller – or disband?
- These questions have been deferred to the next Green Committee Meeting
  
- It was noted that the original committee was founded by the President – not Senate
- there was a lot of good ideas but did not have a budget
- Shelley commented the need to make people aware of what the committee is doing and what the impact of studies show
- Bill McGill notes that the parking fees are paid for by the students/staff/faculty so they should have the opportunity to submit ideas and proposals. – he also noted that if there are others who want to join the committee he would step aside - but that was rejected by the rest of the committee – Danielle feels that Dean's are important for the academic side of the committee
- Gail commented that small focus groups would be beneficial
- Ken wants to see all levels retained on the committee
- Mark wants to see that the information is out there

## 8. Green Strategy Report

- **defer to next meeting**
- wasn't on the agenda so not enough time for members to review and discuss.

**Adjournment - 3:20 pm**

**Next Meeting: TBA**