

**Sustainability Committee**  
**20 April 2015 Meeting Minutes**  
**12-1:30 pm • EPC 304C**

Attendance: Joel Tonyan, Matthew Driftmier, Carole Huber, Steve Jennings, Tom Huber, Cindy Norton, Dena Samuels, Janice Gould, Daphne Greenwood, Linda Kogan, Kevin Gilford, David Havlick

Announcements

- Joy Harjo reading, Thursday, 4/23, 6-7:30 pm Kraemer Family Library 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Apse
- CC today: "Chasing Ice" (3:30-5 pm Cornerstone Screening Room)
  - o The Art of Chasing Ice (James Balog talk): 6-8 pm Armstrong Hall
- Gary Snyder talk, CC Wednesday: 4/22, 7-9 pm Celeste Theatre, Cornerstone
- UCCS Campus Sustainability Award results: Kraemer Family Library was the top vote-getter, congratulations! Congratulations as well to nominees Kelley Jennings/UCCS Greenhouse, and Andrea Brehm, Senior Instructor of German, who also received a significant number of votes.
  - o Awards ceremony April 29, 4-6 pm Berger Hall
- Friday, May 1, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Sustainability Seminar presentations, Dwire 204
- Sustainability House open house, Office of Sustainability Open House, at the Patterson House, Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4-6 pm
- Earth Day, Beat the Hill events, April 22
- Ecological Economics course, offered this fall – course satisfies a requirement for the Sustainable Development minor
- Regents recently voted 7-2 not to divest CU System from carbon intensive holdings
- Knapsack Institute: LAS Dean is offering 50% scholarships to attend – apply soon while spots remain available – June 11-13, 2015
- Student employee needed for Sustainable Transportation position w/ Campus Safety:
  - o Please direct interested students to Matthew Driftmier or Jim Spice (25 hrs/wk position) – mdriftmi@uccs.edu

Voted unanimously to simplify the process for nominations for future UCCS Sustainability Awards to a single formal nominating letter, with option to include additional supporting materials.

- Cindy Norton agreed to create a Sustainability Committee website under Faculty Assembly website where we can, among other things, post announcements for the Sustainability Award.

Compass Curriculum Sustainability courses: Steve Jennings provided an update, asked committee members to volunteer to serve on a committee to decide upon Sustainability-flagged courses, Steve J. to chair the committee; Daphne Greenwood and David Havlick also offered to join. Carole Huber did as well, but would like to defer to allow non-LAS faculty to participate if they wish.

- o Process will occur via email, Steve expects a fairly low volume of new courses to be considered each cycle.

- Contact Steve ([sjenning@uccs.edu](mailto:sjenning@uccs.edu)) if you are a faculty member interested in participating on this committee!

#### Green Stoles/Sashes for Commencement

- This is included as a goal in the UCCS Sustainability Strategic Plan – to provide green sashes to graduates who were active in promoting sustainability while at UCCS.
- How to allocate and fund these?
  - \$21/each, source of funding outside of Sustainability Office needed: GAF, Climate Advisory Board? Off-campus donor?
  - Perhaps provide a green cord for SUDV minor and stoles for bigger contributions, maybe a pin that represents they've taken the Graduation Sustainability Pledge
  - What ought to merit these?
    - Emphasis should be on-campus sustainability efforts
    - Taking the Pledge also required
    - SEAS and GAF officers
    - Self-registration also an option – but requires a description of what the student did
      - Could be an online form posted to Sust Office and other UCCS Sustainability portals
    - Need to somehow publicize the availability of these
    - Sustainability Office will try to draft an initial proposal to circulate to Sust Comm

Per the UCCS Sustainability Strategic Plan: campus water use/lawns, campus transportation are particular concerns – what specific steps can the Sustainability Committee pursue to help address these?

- How do we make progress on these fronts?
  - Committee suggests we try to set up a meeting, invite Susan Szyrka, Mary Coussons-Read to join us for a fall 2015 meeting, ask them how we can best activate the Sustainability Strategic Plan in a manner similar to that of the UCCS Diversity Plan
  - GAF could possibly fund water-smart approach, xeriscaping
    - UCCS is not meeting its water goals
    - We need to elevate the waste of water on campus as a visible concern
    - Try to encourage campus-based research on water use and (in)efficiency
  - Create an information portal to post research ideas for students, and for Sust Comm faculty to sponsor [another use for the Sust Comm website]
    - Could the Sust Comm work directly with students throughout the year to supervise research on 1-2 key projects we're attending to (water and transportation, for example)?

Private dorm developments: is this property part of the N. Nevada Urban Renewal Zone? If so, UCCS does have a formal role in this process... there may be a number of zoning issues that need to be sorted out.

Succession Plan for Sustainability Committee Chair [wasn't discussed, but the current Chair would like to extend an open invitation for a coup d'état].

1:35 Adjourned