

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes, February 7, 2022

Joel Tonyan, Nanna Meyer, Alex Remillard, Aviel Fitch, Carol Michael, Christine Biermann, Cindy Norton, David Havlick, Jaymee Collins, Jeff Spicher, Jon Brown, Kimberly Reeves, Michael Kisley, River Gassen, Farida Khan

- **Welcoming New Members of the Committee**
 - Introductions from everyone, including returning and new members of the committee
- **Announcements**
 - *Nominations open for 2022 Campus Sustainability Award*
 - Received one so far, nominations due February 22
 - Send nominating materials to jtonyan@uccs.edu
 - *Office of Sustainability Updates*
 - CU President's Sustainable Solution Challenge <https://sustain.uccs.edu/pssc>
 - DIY Sustainable Hygiene Workshops (last Wednesday of February, March, April)
 - Clean the Stream | Friday, April 29th | Time TBD
 - New transportation survey
 - Bringing back Zip Cars
 - Adding more EV chargers on campus
 - PIPs, trying to figure out funding for additional three years
 - 20 percent of students have downloaded and engaged in some way
 - *Green Action Fund Updates*
 - Grant submissions
 - Notification of Intent to Apply for Funding | Monday, March 14, 2022
 - Large Grant Application | Monday, March 20, 2022
 - Small Grant, Research Seed Grant, Conference Grant Applications | Monday, March 28, 2022
 - *Sustainability Minor Updates*
 - Requirements for the minor, adding courses where possible
 - Students have had difficulty fulfilling some of the pillars
 - If faculty think that a course should be considered as credit, reach out to Christine
 - *SWELL Updates*
 - Working on the cookbook
 - Finish it by spring semester, send to print
 - Hopefully launch in December
 - SWELL students are funded each year, cost about \$40,000
 - Funding was cut for faculty, but remains for students
 - Grant projects
 - Working with Dining and Hospitality Services on recipe development, Grain School Test Kitchen, scaling of the recipes for other institutions, including hospitals
 - Potential for SWELL team to release products to market
 - Submitting research seed grant to GAF, protein flip is the focus in male athletic populations
 - Made real impact in athletics, environmentally sustainable plates

- Bringing the farm subscription back, with the goal of relaunching in summer 2022
- **Draft Sustainability Strategic Plan Current Status and Next Steps**
 - Full draft of the plan (See attached)
 - Presentation to the Cabinet
 - Discuss Next Steps
 - Committee can begin taking inspiration from the plan and starting to pursue some of these goals
- **Co-Chair Nominations for Term Beginning Fall 2022**
 - If you are interested in serving or want to nominate someone, please reach out to Joel and Christine
 - For anyone who is nominated by another committee member, Joel and Christine will reach out to the individual to see if they're interested in serving
 - Plan is to hold vote at our April meeting
- **Discussion: What should the committee work on this year?**
 - *Recycling campaign/Waste literacy*
 - I Don't Know Bins campaign in the library
 - Could we increase this campaign across campus?
 - Bringing composting back to the library
 - Messaging campaigns
 - Composting is difficult to roll out across campus because of the extra burden it puts on facilities
 - Composting currently in the UC, Ent Center, dining halls, Café 65, etc.
 - Work with Dining to compost on catered meals
 - Procurement, Alissa
 - Everything is compostable, including cold and hot coffee
 - Working through current inventory, getting rid of coffee sleeves
 - [Community Composting — Food to Power \(foodtopowerco.org\)](http://foodtopowerco.org)
 - *The Sustainability Minor*
 - Students aren't as aware of the minor as they were pre-COVID
 - Not as many in-person events advertising minor
 - Help promote minor
 - Maggie Gaddis is teaching Capstone course this semester
 - Perhaps invite her students to the sustainability committee to discuss their projects
 - Maybe advertise on the digital marketing signs, and through Alumni relations highlighting recent graduates, Communique, social media
 - *Efforts to reduce meat consumption on campus, plant forward diet*
 - Meatless Monday program in dining halls?
 - Perhaps have meatless Monday at one of two dining halls as a compromise?
 - Perhaps focus on plant-forward diets and not "meatless"?
 - Menus of change
 - Harvard carbon calculators that would educate students about menu choices
 - ULCA climate focused class that focuses on food systems and climate change
 - How can people on the committee become part of the Menus of Change organization
 - Could we incentivize this behavior in PIPs?
 - Can we get back to offering the SWELL meals in Café 65?