

Sustainability Committee Meeting

March 19, 2018

Attendees: M Scott, J Spicher, C Huber, J Tonyan, R Saunkeah, N Juhl, C Norton, K Reeves, G Cheney, L Kogan, K Jennings, N Meyer

Guest: S Svette

Minutes

1. Foodshed Forum (Sean and George)
 - a. Feb 24, day event at UCCS. Opening key note by Rebecca Jewitt, Palmer Landtrust reported on the risk of the Arkansas Watershed and its farms to be gobbled up by developments, and farmers selling water rights off with the result of eroded land, poverty, and food insecurity. Foodshed forum included a moderated session supported by the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union and SWELL. Breakout sessions included several topics, including food access, market access, food literacy, to name a few. Communication department's George Cheney supported the Foodshed forum with his students. There is urgency in the Pikes Peak region to save and strengthen the local food system.
 - i. Linda mentions Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance as an example on how to get stakeholders on board with a few key facts that target health and economic growth. Visit: www.ppora.org for more information
 - ii. Students must speak up for local – 10% currently (beer and wine especially); CC students ran an independent audit of the food system at CC. Could students coming from family-owned farms speak up? Assembly of students in a student club. Currently, we have a local food club and a nutrition club but it is mainly nutrition students in both. Especially the local food club could take on a mission of helping to engage students.
 - b. One team from George's class (COMM 4290: "Communication, Sustainability and Social Responsibility") is continuing to work with Sean (and Jeff King, a Foodshed Forum co-organizer and UCCS student) on next steps for the Forum, including ideas for communications, a new member survey and planning for the 2019 event.
 - i. Local food councils, cooperatives, structures for nonprofits, etc.: In addition, George is especially interested in cooperative and other alternative/creative structures from his applied research since the early 1990s and is participating in discussions about the Foodshed Forum with Sean and others.
 - ii. It would likely be possible for a class project in COMM 4290-5290 in spring 2019 to continue work with the Foodshed Forum, on particular aspects of internal communication, education, and outreach. Other sustainability-related community projects may be possible during that semester.
 - iii. That same class was just approved for the Sustainability designation in the Compass

- c. September 8th: What If Festival: Celebration of Local Food & Reimagining the School Lunch hour (grad student project)
 - d. Farm-to-Institution focus at next year's foodshed forum to facilitate institutional procurement; Colorado Healthy Hospital Compact model
 - e. Procurement progress, monitoring, and reporting with S Svette and L Kogan
- 2. Field house, baseball: building perceived by many as eyesore in a sacred location
 - a. On behalf of committee, please express this issue at Faculty assembly so it can be effectively communicated before these structures go up
- 3. May 2nd planning for academic council breakfast
 - a. Cynthia, Linda, Kelley, Dave, Carole
 - b. Goal: help inform about recent changes, refresh on commitments toward sustainability, extracurricular and academic curriculum, and research; include factsheets, student spotlights, changes on campus with food, sustainability, wellness, retention, persistence, student recruitment through sustainability
 - i. Farm staff, SWELL team
 - ii. Agenda: welcome – check from before
- 4. Curricular discussion: what to do next?
 - a. Discussion with geography, BI, and committee (those interested)
 - b. Guidelines from Nina on how to establish a BI
 - c. Geography sustainability minor vs BI sustainability: needs discussion
 - d. Health Sciences graduate programs discussions/evaluations in progress
 - i. May present some options on the graduate level
 - e. What do they do with the degree, be it a BI in sustainability and/or a graduate or certificate program?
- 5. Awards due April 4th
 - a. Joel Tonyan receives this year's sustainability award! Congratulations!!
 - b. Please attend this year's awards ceremony on April 25, 4-6pm at Berger Hall
- 6. Upcoming Pioneer road: Concerns were voiced regarding bicycle access. The Bicycle Advisory Committee has sent a letter with these concerns to facilities.
 - a. People need to be pro-active and be included in the design process to make UCCS bike and pedestrian friendly.
 - b. Catering needs are also critical along this route.
- 7. Summer opportunities for students
 - a. **Health Sciences opportunities** this summer: contact Nanna Meyer at nmeyer2@uccs.edu
 - i. Farm-hub-market internship
 - ii. Farm to Institution Research project
 - iii. Community Supported Agriculture drop off at Farmhouse
 - iv. Cookbook work with students
 - v. Grain trials and field work on farms
- 8. New Committee chair needed
 - a. Bylaws show that chair commitments are over 2 years
 - b. Nominations or self-nominations for chair successor requested!