

## Sustainability Committee Meeting February 26, 2018

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### Minutes

1. STARS report (Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System)
  - a. Submitted recently for review to AASHE, increased academic research credits and adding it to digital measures was a great success! The overall report score shows 75 points, which indicates gold (65-85 points), which is higher than the previous score (65.5). And, this score is higher than CU Boulder's score. Final score will be announced when evaluation by AASHE is complete. The STARS report includes all operations, academics and research, engagement, affordability, wellness, diversity, and investments. UCCS can be proud with such an accomplishment over a relatively short period of time.
2. Library Guide Update
  - a. Lib-guide, Sustainability Research guide with articles, books, book chapters (sorted by department), live links to articles, faculty's work, great tool. See here: <http://libguides.uccs.edu/c.php?g=426906&p=4988904>
3. Sustainability Office Update and Position Funding Request
  - a. Staffing reduction in the office has forced a reduction in activities, initiatives and events, including Sustainnovate, Green Labs, Greening of the Office, Campus Conservation Nationals, fewer zero waste initiatives, Mt. Trashmore, and some of the Pedal Perks Programs.
    - i. Due to this shortage on staff and project coordinator Julie Galusky's departure, Sustainability Office proposes a new hire to return to 3 FTEs in the office. New hire would focus on both office activities and academic/extracurricular projects. Letter was sent in support of this new position to Chancellor Reddy and Provost Tom Christensen.
  - b. The Green Action Fund is up for renewal. We hope for positive news such that this program can continue.
  - c. Metro Bus ridership is steady at about 1000 riders per week. More riders are wanted. There is a referendum to change the language of the Safety and Transportation Fee from 1998 to be able to include paying for the Metro Bus College Pass. If this does not pass, the bus pass will go away.
  - d. ENT center and Village at Alpine Valley received LEED Gold
  - e. Search for Operations Engineer is under way. This hire will help alleviate some of the energy efficiency and new building design work.
  - f. Office of Sustainability has recalculated local food procurement on campus. The 18% local food on campus shows a lower figure of 10%. A large part of this local food percentage is comprised of beer and wine.
4. Continued communication of sustainability activities
  - a. Academic council breakfast confirmed at Farmhouse May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9-11am
  - b. Recruiters, advisors, counselors, tours (TBD)

- i. Compass curriculum committee...are classes really integrating sustainability? What are the criteria? Potential online resource (CANVAS) that provide a brief introduction to sustainability. Intra and inter-departmental mentorship may be needed.
      - 1. Steve Jennings – on sabbatical (Nicole can replace), David Havlick, should have input, Kimberly to share initial resources
    - ii. Advisors (through Student Success would also be a good target population)
    - iii. Should materials be developed to inform about sustainability on campus?
- 5. SEAS: “We are still in”: demonstrations and petition going around in March
  - a. Advertised through SEAS Facebook page
  - b. Martin Drake Power Plant in downtown Colorado Springs: pollution monitoring, camera time relapse
- 6. Farm Updates from Kelley Jennings
  - a. Plant sale, now with seeds saved
  - b. Farm Stand Tuesdays on Plaza from 11am to 1pm starting in June
  - c. Butterflies, Bees and chicken (perhaps) at farm!
  - d. Additional resources for staffing, one grad assistant and students
    - i. Help with farm processes
    - ii. Data collection and analysis
- 7. Others
  - a. SWELL website is under construction. Will become major Food Literacy landing page for campus, community, and educators/teachers with interest in local food literacy, cooking, and TrueFood/ethical choices in nutrition for exercise and sport.
  - b. Cross-collaborations/Transdisciplinary research
    - i. Grain work: Tom Wolkow, Brewers’ connection, UCCS biotech center <https://www.uccs.edu/biology/centers>
    - ii. Other sustainability and food areas such as sociology, anthropology, global office and international courses
    - iii. Curriculum ideas, next steps?
      - 1. BI information was provided by Nina Polok. More info here: <http://innovation.uccs.edu/>
      - 2. BI in Sustainability may gain great interest (Nanna to reach out to Joel)
      - 3. Other options: graduate, online, certificate program?
  - c. Campus Award
    - i. Send to Nanna (Nominations to sustainability are due NOW!). Campus Award ceremony is scheduled in Berger Hall on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm. Winner must be submitted by April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Next Meeting March 19<sup>th</sup> at UCCS Farmhouse, 11.30am-1pm!