

Sustainability Committee

Monday, October 31, 2016 (11.30AM-1PM)

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Nancy Moore, Margaret Scott, David Havlick, Cindy Norton, Janel Owens, Daphe Greenwood, Kevin Gilford, Russ Saunkeah, Mark Hayes, Linda Kogan, Kim Reeves, Nanna Meyer

1. Sustainnovate Planning

- a. The 2017 Sustainnovate Event will highlight “Water” as the theme. Current discussions circle around whether the event itself should get larger, either expanding with an evening event for the community and/or topic related breakout sessions. If Sustainnovate increases in extent, both academically and community-oriented, it may become the main sustainability event of the Southern Colorado region. Collaborators such as UCCS per se, colleges and departments, the city of CS, CS Utilities, City’s Sustainability Office, Colorado College, PPCC, along with other groups may be interested partners.
- b. Water is linked with energy and food, and some talk about the energy-water-food nexus. Thus, this could be an interesting platform from which to develop several event tracks. Further discussions will be held on Monday Nov 7th from 11.30-1PM. For more information contact lkogan@uccs.edu

2. Updates from previous discussions

- a. Composting issues off UC sites: there is currently no composting at these locations. Issues about transporting compost in food trucks raise questions of best practice in Dining and Hospitality Services due to food safety issues. There was an interesting suggestion by Frank Kinder, Colorado Springs Utilities and UCCS Alumni of whether there could be something mounted outside of the trucks to transport compost to UCCS’s composting sites. Engineering students?
- b. Custodial parking issue: Cynthia to follow up. Waiting for call.

3. Preparing for change in leadership (Reworded here to *Sustainability at UCCS: Next Steps*)

- a. Planning session that allows for reflection on what was done since last Sustainability Strategic Plan 2012 and what needs to be done to meet goals and objectives of the plan until 2020. Linda, Kevin, and Kimberly will make a shortened document of the plan to use as a worksheet for Nov 28th Sustainability Committee meeting. We will dedicate the meeting time, apart from short updates, to this topic. This also aligns well with the upcoming STARS report and the recently obtained Green Ribbon School award. The summary of the Green Ribbon Schools, as read by Linda, may be useful for this meeting and the sustainability committee as a group to continue to communicate sustainability practices and goals on campus (Sustainability office will send this out).

- b. We would also like to invite Vice Chancellors Carlos Garcia, Sentwali Bakari, to join one of the Sustainability Committee meetings at the Farmhouse in 2017. This will promote awareness of resources and committee's long-standing history and action-oriented agenda to support campus-wide sustainability.
- c. We often wonder why diversity and culture has made it so clearly into campus processes, while sustainability has not. As a side-note, *intellectual diversity includes sustainability*, and this is perhaps one of the issues that we do not think globally enough. Getting together with *campus marketing* may be one way to develop some materials that helps remind people about sustainability practices in daily operations, including teaching, research, and service. Going to *searches* to represent sustainability is also helpful. The *new student welcome committee* should always have a sustainability person present, and UCCS used to integrate sustainability at *new faculty orientation* but this is no longer the case. There may be some other options that the committee could consider, such as *inviting new faculty to the Sustainability Demonstration House, Farmhouse, and Farm for a live tour* through this experientially-oriented educational platform. This could give new faculty ideas how to integrate sustainability into the classroom, research, and service. Nanna will consider developing a proposal for David Moon to review.

4. New Curriculum in Regional (Southwestern) Food Studies/Systems

- a. A separate working group will be called upon to work on a trans-disciplinary and cross-institutional graduate Degree or similar. If you are interested please contact Nanna Meyer at nmeyer2@uccs.edu.

5. Spring 2017 Courses with focus on Sustainability

- a. COMM 4290-5290: Communication, Social Responsibility, and Sustainability (3 credits), meets Thursdays 4.45-7.20pm, Columbine 136, Prof George Cheney gcheney@uccs.edu
- b. Grain School 2017: HSCI 4890/6170 Special Topics Course (3 credits), taught Jan 13-15th with service learning through the spring semester. Taught by Assoc. Prof Nanna Meyer nmeyer2@uccs.edu
- c. ECON 3310: Ecological Economics, 3 credits, taught Mo and Wed: 1.40-2.55pm, taught by Prof Daphne Greenwood dgreenwo@uccs.edu