

## Sustainability Committee Report

Date: April 8, 2013

Members Present: Linda Kogan, Kevin Gilford (Office of Sustainability), Tom Huber, Carole Huber, David Havlick (Geography), Cynthia Norton (Environmental Health and Safety), Pamala Sawyer (School of Public Affairs), Tracy Gonzalez-Padron (College of Business), Daphne Greenwood (Economics), Miriam Haas (Student, Sodexo) and Janel Owens (Committee Chair, Chemistry and Biochemistry)

Meeting topics:

### I. Welcome

### II. Campus Sustainability Award

Jim Spice, Executive Director of Parking and Transportation Services, was selected as the 2013 Campus Sustainability Award winner. Congratulations!

### III. Office of Sustainability News

#### A. Earth Week planned for the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

1. Monday, 4/22, Earth Day Celebration (Open to all!)
  - a. Organizations: Office of Sustainability, OSA, SEAS, Green Action Fund
  - b. Where: El Pomar Plaza
  - c. When: 4/22 from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm
2. Wednesday, 4/24, Finding Nemo
  - b. When: 4/24 at 8:00 pm, West Lawn
  - c. Open to all! Bring a blanket.
3. Friday, 4/26, Adopt-a-Waterway clean-up (open to all!)
  - a. Meet from 11 am – 1 pm
  - b. Where: Lot N by UCCS University Hall

#### B. UCCS has been nominated for a Greenie Award

1. **Info:** UCCS has been nominated in the school category for an Earth Month Veda Greenie Award for our sustainability efforts and successes. We need your help to win. Please go the following site (through the Independent) and vote for UCCS. Voting will only be open until Earth Day, April 22 (Monday). The award will be announced at the Veda Fashion Event on April 28<sup>th</sup> with proceeds going to Rocky Mountain Field Institute to help with restoration efforts in Waldo Canyon. Thank you for your vote!

2. Link to vote: <http://csindy.upickem.net/engine/Votes.aspx?contestid=87147>

#### IV. Green Action Fund

A. The reinstatement of the GAF (which is set to sunset this semester) is on the student ballot. Voting will occur between April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

B. Info: In Spring 2011 students approved an amendment to the \$5.00-per-semester student solar fee, expanding the purpose of the fee to include a broader range of campus sustainability-related projects and shifting the decision-making power about how those funds are spent to the Green Action Fund (GAF) committee composed of students, a faculty representative from the Faculty Sustainability Committee and a staff representative from the Office of Sustainability.

The aim of GAF is to reduce the ecological footprint of UCCS and promote sustainable environmental, social and economic values through selected campus projects. Any UCCS student, faculty or staff member may submit a project proposal. Fourteen projects, ranging from hydration stations to wind purchase to a good food project and totaling more than \$230,000, have been funded since spring 2012.

The student fee is up for renewal this year; the special election is scheduled for the week of April 22. If passed, the referendum will extend the \$5 green fee for another five years. For more information about approved projects and how to submit a proposal, go the GAF webpage: <http://www.uccs.edu/gaf/index.html>

C. More students are needed on the GAF! If you know of students who might be interested in serving on the committee, encourage them to email [greenfun@uccs.edu](mailto:greenfun@uccs.edu).

#### V. New business

A. General Education Task Force is set to begin phase III: implementation.

1. David Havlick has asked the interested committee members consider joining in the process by serving on ad hoc subcommittees. Please email co-chairs Jeff Ferguson ([jferguso@uccs.edu](mailto:jferguso@uccs.edu)) and David Weiss ([dweiss@uccs.edu](mailto:dweiss@uccs.edu)) if interested.

2. A document describing components of the curriculum approved in Fall 2012 is posted on the Sustainability Committee Blackboard site.

B. The STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System) Report will be due in December 2013. This may be an appropriate project for an independent study in conjunction with the Office of Sustainability.

C. Case studies from the School of Business at UCCS (Tracy Gonzalez-Padron) are available. Please email Tracy at [tgonzale@uccs.edu](mailto:tgonzale@uccs.edu) for more information.

D. Linda Kogan and Brett Botts will be teaching Freshman Seminar “Sustainable Me!” in Fall 2013. A JTA is needed for the course (lots of field trips – including camping!)

<http://www.uccs.edu/freshsem/junior-teaching-assistant-program.html>

## VI. Sodexo and Food Services

A. Sodexo will be partnering with Office of Sustainability for Earth Week celebrations.

B. Creating an iCommit placard to encourage diners to explore sustainable eating options on campus.