**Environmental Issues Committee Meeting Minutes**

June 10, 2015, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Columbia, Room 249

**MEMBERS PRESENT**  
**Faculty and Staff:**

Erin Moore—Architecture

Shabnam Akhtari—Math

Holly Lynn—Biology

Marie Swarringim—Campus Planning, Design, and Construction

Brian Gillis—Art

**Students:**

Stephen Siperstein—English Department

**Ex-Officio:**

Eric Beeler—Student Sustainability Coalition

Blair Hinton—Athletics

Steve Mital—Office of Sustainability

Christine Thompson – Campus Planning, Design, and Construction

**WELCOME AND MINUTES**

Erin welcomed everyone. Committee members introduced themselves.

Christine, Blair, Eric, and Steve summarized the inaugural Sustainability Awards event.

Erin motioned for approval of both the March and April minutes. Brian seconded and they passed unanimously

**AGATE CHIMNEY RECOMMENDATIONS:**Steve summarized EIC’s 2013-14 review of the request by Faculty emeritus (and Lane County Audobon Society member) Art Farley to preserve the Agate Chimney as Vaux’s swift migratory habitat. A complete summary is contained in the 2013-2014 EIC report. He then summarized the conclusion of the recently completed seismic study (Chimney meets current seismic code). Steve then presented DRAFT recommendations for consideration. Committee members discussed the DRAFT recommendations and made several minor changes. Erin Moore motioned to approve the revised recommendations. Holly Lynn seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The approved version is included in these minutes.

**INTERNAL CARBON PRICING PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**Steve summarized the work conducted during the past academic year on the issue. He presented his DRAFT recommendations based on that work. Committee members discussed the DRAFT recommendations and added a few minor changes. Erin Moore motioned to approve the revised recommendations. Brian Gillis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The approved version is included in these minutes.

The meeting adjourned just after 1:00.

**AGATE CHIMNEY - FINAL RECCOMENDATION - 2015**

Given that the University of Oregon Agate Chimney is an ecologically significant stopover site for Vaux's Swifts habitat, including as referenced in the East Campus Plan:

1. The University of Oregon should work to enhance the educational opportunities for campus and community associated with the Agate Chimney, such as installing a webcam or working with Lane County Audubon Society (LCAS) to install interpretive signage, to be paid for by LCAS.
2. The University of Oregon commit to ongoing maintenance of the Agate Chimney on a regularly scheduled basis to insure its continued structural integrity and preservation as a roosting site.

**UNIVERSITY OF OREGON CARBON PRICING - FINAL RECOMMENDATION - 2015**

1. Become nation’s first university to have an internal carbon pricing policy. Policy will cover all UO financed air travel.
2. Set price at $30/MTC02e (metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent)
3. Central Administration places $1-2 million into UO’s existing Revolving Loan Fund
   1. Funds the program for the first 2-4 years
   2. Provides units time to prepare to absorb costs
   3. Require Travel Office and Sustainability Office to conduct annual travel audit for top 15 units
   4. Create commodity and/or account codes to improve travel data collection and enable better analysis and reporting
   5. Note: also funds Oregon Model for Sustainable Development energy efficiency in existing buildings
4. Given the complexity, create task force to develop detailed implementation plan for approval. At a minimum this should include:
   1. Faculty/Staff survey
   2. Method for estimating/measuring greenhouse gas emissions arising from UO financed travel
   3. List of affected units
   4. Timeline to transfer responsibility from central administration to units
   5. Types of projects eligible to receive funding from campus carbon tax
   6. List of current qualifying campus projects
   7. Campus Outreach plan
   8. Appropriate policy off-ramps should state or federal carbon pricing occur