**Environmental Issues Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, June 12th, 2014 1:30pm to 2:30pm**

**EMU Alsea Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**Bitty Roy

Caroline Attanasio
Doug Brooke
Eric Beeler
Steve Mital
Christine Thompson

**WELCOME AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

Christine Thompson introduced herself and said she was chairing the meeting, at Erin’s request, to cover her absence. The committee then introduced themselves and approved the May meeting minutes.

**REVIEW of UO Endowment presentation by Jay Namyet**

Steve summarized the key points made by Jay Namyet at the May meeting, given the large number of absences and the keen interest in the subject. Key points were included in the May minutes.

**VAUX’S SWIFTS**

Steve shared reported the information he had collected, including a 1999 consultant report on seismic concerns. A recent email exchange with the consultant showed that, despite some seismic improvements completed in 10+ years ago, a complete seismic study needs to be undertaken in order to fully appreciate the potential cost to make the chimney seismically stable. It is estimated that the study will cost $2500. Based on this, Steve recommends that the EIC formally recommend that UO fund the study.

The following discussion included concerns that once a study is conducted, UO may then be required – for liability reasons – to upgrade the chimney. Additional concerns about how to precisely describe the value (ecological, critical, sustainable, etc.) of chimney as habitat. Suggestion was to consult with ODFW for proper language.

EIC members then voted unanimously to recommend that the study be funded.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

* Doug suggested that EIC consider a name change to more clearly distinguish it from EH&S (Environmental Health and Safety). Perhaps call it the “Sustainability Council”
* It was noted that the Jaqua Parking Lot for student athletes is consistently empty.

**NEXT MEETING**

TBD. It will be scheduled in mid to late October.