

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

April 16, 2007

Alsea Room, EMU

Attendees: Jim Blick, Kelly Hansen, Cathy Soutar, Ken Boegli, Paula Staight, Robyn Hathcock, Karyn Kaplan, Chuck Kalnbach, Anne Forrestell, Bob Jones

Announcements

President Frohnmayer has signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. He will speak on April 18th at 2:00 p.m. during the Earth Day celebration.

Earth Day

Kelly announced that many student and community environmental groups will have tables and displays set up by 9:00 a.m. In the afternoon President Frohnmayer, the ASUO President Jared Axelrod, Mayor Kitty Piercy, and Mary Wood will speak. On April 19th Bill Bradbury is scheduled to present an *An Inconvenient Truth* slideshow.

Subcommittee Reports

CASL: Cathy said that the ASUO will meet today to discuss the prospect of providing the financial and administrative assistance that CASL needs.

Smoke Free Campus : The subcommittee presented a revised draft of the faculty/staff smoking survey. Additional suggestions were made and Jim will e-mail a final draft to the committee within the week.

Paula said it's been three years since the UHC has conducted a student health survey. This spring they will be sending out a survey developed by the American College Health Association. Campuses are using this instrument across the country which will help with benchmarking. The survey has some questions about smoking and the UHC has added three more.

Old Business

Anne had asked Frank Sharpy about the use of 30% recycled content paper in the copiers in Lillis. He said that many copiers in the offices can only handle 30%, but was very receptive to testing 50% this summer. Frank also said that when LCB purchased copiers they were not allowed to buy ones that could handle 100% because the professional grade copiers would compete with campus copy. Karyn shared that Cannon has been working with Facilities Services to retrofit machines so they can handle 100% recycled paper.

Ann also found that there is some willingness to consider signage in the Lillis building, but there is concern about aesthetics. If sustainability kiosks existed in other buildings, such as the EMU, it would provide an incentive.

Karyn shared that during her recent travels, she found an impressive amount of education and signage at the O'Hare airport. There are prominent recycling bins and also touch-screen displays providing education about their green city initiative, green buildings, and energy conservation. Also University of Colorado provides an exemplary model of good use of signage.

Recommendations

In order to help save paper and money, the committee would like to recommend that Francis Dyke send out a campus-wide message to promote the recycled paper policy.

Karyn expressed concern about the need for a full-time campus sustainability manager. Chuck thought that the job duties could now be expanded to include attaining goals set out in the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. The committee agreed that this recommendation should be made in the year-end report. Jim pointed out that Arizona State feels this is position is so critical they have appointed a vice president in charge of sustainability.

The next Environmental Issues Committee meeting will be held from 10:30 – noon in the EMU Alsea room on Monday, May 21, 2007