

Environmental Issues Committee Meeting

March 9, 2009, 1:30-2:30pm, Umpqua Room, EMU

Attendees

Jill Forcier, Steve Mital, Art Farley, Alden Gray, Mary Wood, Sarah Douglas, Terrie Scharfer, William Cresko, Lynn Giordano, Jeff Scroggins, Fred Tepfer

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions and approval of February Minutes
2. Approve Carbon Offset Policy Recommendation
3. Review Climate Action Plan Recommendations
4. Introduce "No Idling Policy"
5. Bus Stop Items and next meeting

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions and approval of February Minutes
 - February meeting minutes approved unanimously
 - Not enough votes were received regarding the ex-officio member voting policy. We will discuss it at the next meeting and leave it as is for now and the rest of the year. If any changes are made, they will take effect next year.
2. Approve Carbon Offset Policy Recommendation
 - A short discussion of the policy was followed by a motion by Sarah Douglas to approve the policy. It was seconded and approved with one abstention.
3. Review Climate Action Plan Recommendations
 - Emissions reductions
 - The goal of the policy is based on ACUPCC recommendations that require 10% below our 1990 emissions by 2020 and 100% reduction by 2050.
 - The state under HB 3543 requires state agencies to stabilize by 2010, 10% below by 2020 and 75% reduction from 1990 levels by 2050.
 - In the next meeting we would like to discuss if the trajectory of emissions reductions is strict enough. It was proposed that we should be more aggressive and use the Union of Concerned Scientists' recommendations. We will go into more detail at the next meeting.
 - Classification of Emissions
 - The emissions classifications have changed based on the OUS Climate Action Planning process which is based on the state classifications (?) Steve, is this correct?
 - We are accepting responsibility for all classes except 3c.
 - Opportunities for reductions
 - Is there a way to use the financial crisis to promote the reduction of energy waste through financial incentives?
 - Can there be incentives for departments to reduce their emissions?
 - Currently OUS is reviewing RFPs for someone who will do an evaluation on all seven campuses of the demand for energy and make recommendations on how to reduce energy usage. We will have recommendations for investments in June.
 - The goal is not to make recommendations on specific action, the action plan delineates what we should take responsibility for as a university and how much we should reduce
 - Boundary issues
 - An unfinished topic from last year, what should be included, only buildings on campus, buildings we lease, houses owned by UO

- Recommendations in the revised draft are starting points to discuss issues.
 - Do we accept responsibility for properties UO leases?
 - Complications with calculating emissions when we don't pay the bill.
4. Introduce "No Idling Policy" – policy was handed out, but there was no time to discuss, it will be put off till the spring. Committee members should read it as soon as possible.
 5. Bus Stop Items and next meeting
 - Meeting dates- April looks like it will be a difficult month, but otherwise it seemed that the best day/time will be Fridays from 12-1pm. Heather will schedule all the meetings before the end of the term.
 - We have been asked to review the campus paper policy and make recommendations at our next meeting