

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

May 11, 2005

EMU Rogue Room

ATTENDEES: Ben Farrell, Steve Mital, Mitch Layden, Karyn Kaplan, Robyn Hathcock, Taylour Johnson, J.R. Gaddis, Christine Thompson, Jim Blick, Paula Staight, Kay Coots, Bob Jones

Announcements

Karyn contacted Kyle Allred to request a copy of his environmental literacy PowerPoint presentation. She offered to forward it to the Sustainability Task Force and anyone on the committee who like this information.

The Willamette Valley Folk Festival begins May 20 and many volunteers are needed.

The ASUO is hiring an Environmental Coordinator next year. Taylor can e-mail a copy of the position description to the committee and would be happy to forward any project ideas. One of the job duties will be to meet with Steve Mital and Karyn Kaplan as needed.

Steve announced that electricity for the EMU is being provided by Stateline Wind.

The Earthtub is up and running. Over 350 pounds of food waste has been added and the temperature is climbing. Karyn asked Steve for a write up that she could forward to the US Composting Council.

Earth Day

Taylor said that this Earth Day was a great success. Next year Earth Day falls on a Sunday, and the UO event will be Thursday, April 20.

Transportation Survey

DPS provided the funding for a survey of faculty and staff transportation habits when traveling to and from campus. Steve distributed a handout that highlighted some of the information with graphs. He will meet with Tom Hicks, Rand Stamm, and a representative from LTD on June 8th to review the entire report; and subsequently it will be made public. Approximately 1/10 of the target population were surveyed with 404 people interviewed by telephone.

The objectives were to: 1) gauge faculty and staff knowledge of parking and transportation modes; 2) knowledge of existing alternatives; and 3) the likelihood that they would take advantage of possible incentives

The committee applauded Fumi and Public Safety for funding the study. Christine said that it is good timing, as it will assist with update of the campus plan transportation section next year.

Tallories Declaration

Ben asked for feedback on the letter he drafted to President Frohnmayer. Christine suggested that it be changed to a one-page letter with the Tallories Declaration attached.

Kay mentioned that the President had asked the EIC to review and provide a recommendation on this document. Bob recalled that it was in the fall of 2001. It would be beneficial to reference that the committee has recently reevaluated the declaration and taken into account that progress has been made over the past few years. The University is in a better position to accept the responsibilities and challenges outlined in the Tallories Declaration. Christine pointed out that President Frohnmayer's support of the EIC, environmental studies, and a wide range of sustainable endeavors across campus has helped make this recommendation possible at this point in time.

Steve shared that the person who was instrumental in developing the Tallories Declaration will be in Eugene this October. There is an effort underway to bring him to the University.

Ben will revise the letter before the next EIC meeting. It was suggested that Dan Williams be asked to review the letter as well. If the President decides to endorse the declaration, the committee suggested that he consider signing it in October.

Ben will draft the year-end report for the committee to review before sending it to the University Senate, Dan Williams, and a copy to Francis Dyke. Karyn asked that the report include a recommendation for the Vice President's office to continue funding environmental ads in the *Oregon Daily Emerald*.

The next Environmental Issues Committee meeting will be held on June 8, from 2:00 – 3:30 in the EMU Roque Room