

Sustainability and Learning Group Notes

February 22, 2007

Tammie reported meeting in Science yesterday. Tammie, Roger, Claudia, Sarah, etc. Everyone recognizes sustainability needs to be interdisciplinary. Two tracks. Susie talked with Sonya about this too. She has a the grant guy working on it. Science can give Susie material. Sonya would like help writing this grant.

Challenge: How to get the word out to everyone who wants to be involved, and when.

Another: Where will sustainability program land? Tammie: Can't land in one program. Susie: We all agree on this. Brought up with Sonya. She sees it as not landing in one dept.

An opportunity: Distance education. Could offer sust program distance ed. A barrier: tuition outside our bordering states, out of state tuition.

Susie: Maybe hey don't get the whole program, maybe a certificate, maybe one year certificate, part of program.

Tammie: Handed out water conservation technician program. Beginning to develop. A lot of it will be distance ed.

Sonya: Energy mgt. We could have numerous certificates under that program, each of which would have a little different take. Sonya: Professional technical would be one area, grant would be written for an AAOT with an emphasis. E.g., sustainability coordinator certificate, maybe one year, which is first step toward two year degree. You can't have a two year degree in this state. Here, we have to get a technical program which doesn't have to transfer, and often doesn't transfer.

College is considering creating true emphasis areas. Currently not allowable, but could be. If have a way to put emphasis just on our program, could do that. Just not allowed by the state.

(Make grid: Grid for initiatives: Three columns, OUS, Lane, Community, all options)

How Lane can help governor make this happen. Mary will go directly to governor with this. Originally: will meet with global leadership team. Susie: Why do that, when she can go directly to the governor.

Sonya realized that was right. Hand him something: This is what we're currently able to do for you; get some money.

The Grid:

OUS: 3, 4, 8

Lane: 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17

All options: 6 (LRAPA), 11 (DEQ), 15

1. Lead the way to Sust Future with Renewable Energy. Lane

Energy mgt program. Wind energy.

2. Stimulate renewable energy production and use. We train energy mgt people. Governors office could hire people from our program; only program like it in the region. Could be a workshop in the future, helping businesses finding the right credits. Energy mgt students well positioned to help with tax credits. (Larry: think a lot of these incentives will be channeled through the utilities. Susie: This is a competitive thing.)

3. Wave energy. OUS.

4. Is already a partnership with OSU, UO, PSIU, OIT. We are already doing LEED here, so maybe a little bit. More diverse; green chemistry, biodiesel.

5. Install solar energy demo projects. We could offer that we could help, because of energy mgt. Show awards that Mary can have for governor. We could actually help schools. Last year in SBI, schools open to setting up a center here at LCC, but not happening currently. Talk of this in energy mgt programs. Talked with people with successful experience doing this with schools. Or, train the trainer.

Larry: Direct connection with our energy tech program; this is the only program in the state that does this. We are unique, and we can contribute there. Similar to AmeriCorps Green Lights. Had students traveling around state doing energy audits; they had the skill to do it. Energy audits; that's what they train to do. They are offering funding for a demo program, to have a demo center. We have the program to do it. Collaboration: Have the center here, with DOE name on it. Work to implement this in K12; they are willing to do that here.

Tammie: Not only new Math-Science bldg. Could install some projects here.

Larry: Ties into Roger's idea of a demo building.

Tammie: One of the things in his bldg plan is a PV farm.

6. Promote retrofitting o fight global warming.

Larry: This is Sharon Banks project that she has going with LRAPA. Will probably tap into a lot of that state money.

7. Ensure progress toward conservation. DOE would need students from our program. Esp. if we could tell them we could give them some of our students for free. Larry: Not for free. We already have students doing this with the DOE and they are getting paid for this.

8. Support biomass and other renewable energy.

9. Bolster state assistance for developing renewable energy projects.

10. Improve air and water quality, provide water for the future. Good for our overall sustainability coordinator certificate program. Can say we are in the process of creating. (Can argue: If you want this to go forward, give us some money to help it go forward.) Pending: resource conservation certificate, too.

Larry: Projects faculty, staff, students are involved in. People already out in the community working.

MR: wetlands north of 30th Ave. Fact that we spent capital to buy it indicates we are already working on it.

Learning garden, Grassroots garden, Food for Lane County. We work with them.

10 and 13 need to be linked. Are not that different. Both related to clean air. This one has health drinking water.

Mention kitchen. Sustainability program.

11. Restore past losses. Targeted to DEQ. The fact that we are taking sewage lagoons offline and replaced by package plant indicates we have addressed this issue.

12. Monitor toxics to protect water. Class projects, field trips to wetlands. Work closely with DEQ to help monitor water.

Roger: Interesting connection here. Have group of people working with him on their own initiative. They have direct ties to governors office. Workforce Devt. Latest email: setting up meeting with sec treas of AFLCIO who is direct advisor to Kulongoski. If both they and Mary go to governor, then it's all about LCC. Roger should connect with Mary before going forward, so they are coordinated.

Discussion yesterday was about type of program it should be. Roger: Should be professional technical.

Susie: Majority of people want it to be multidisciplinary. All programs would have equal opportunity to be a part of it. What if it didn't site in energy mgt, but you were a part of a council that had input. Could still those benefits even if it wasn't housed there. Reason for not having it housed one place?

Larry: Organization structure is not nec same as conceptual structure. Comment; Start thinking about sust as a discipline. Now we have all these disciplines, going to add it to this discipline. But what makes science a discipline? There are constructs that are unique enough that makes it a discipline. Don't put it in silos; that will direct how it develops politically. Hope leaders are aware of a decision they made 5-7 years ago, to cut energy mgt program, and where college would be now with this initiative (governors) if that program had actually gone away. 1997. Important that programs stay above the politics.

Susie: What if it were an advisory group. Roger: Worried about access. Will be a lot of interest in money. Who's the protector?

Larry: In terms of leadership, connections

Susie: Does it have to be one person? Look at the planet and mimic it. If its' one person, it becomes a human dominance factor. Claudia: Like your idea that it be a group of people.

Susie: All remember that we are not trying to eliminate anything. Want energy mgt to be funded, want more money to go to it. All of those things that would make it more solid happen. Advisory committee, many groups represented.

Back to number 12...

12. Monitor toxics to protect water. Tammie: Water in Society class should be included.

13. Protect Oregon's air quality. Using biodiesel, has better particulate picture. Enhancing our biofuels program. But we don't really have something; is something we would have to develop. Will Klausmeir, chemistry, is ready, just looking for funding. Have small scale equipment set up in bldg 12. Would want to access some of that money to increase the size of that program. We have conversation of cafeteria fats, about 50 gal a month. We have bits and pieces. We have a close relationship with Sequential fuels. Will works for them doing research. Both this one and the global warming one, when a building becomes more efficient, ... We could have a biodiesel demo project. We need to make connections for acquiring biomass.

14. Particulates. What about us working with community programs to help retrofit chimneys, become more renewable energy. Program in Cottage Grove, with LRAPA, getting rid of wood stoves. We could work with LRAPA on this. We had about five students working on that. A couple continued to work with Lane Electric.

What about a program added to energy mgt that's about air quality monitoring. Roger: Should be in resource conservation. Could be a certificate. Working with communities on strategies. Add it, for the education piece that's in it. Partner with LRAPA, other agencies.

15. Clean Diesel. That's Columbia Gorge.

16. Clean up toxic sites. Susie planning to move forward with a sanitary (?) program. Is OUS, too, they already have it set up. Susie has a meeting with public health up there; would love us to be a feeder program.

17. Meet future need for water. Water conservation technician program. Have funding from EWEB to start developing. Will be working up contract with Water Works Assoc, Pacific section. Want to make a certification program.

Also Water and Society class does talk about storage and conservation.

(Maybe Susie will put this list out to us, and we can help prioritize.)

18. Watersheds and salmon. Same thing; it's a stretch. We have aquatic environments class. Any conservation of waters impacts rivers in a positive way, thus impacting salmon in a positive way. Think this money is going to be earmarked for watershed councils, etc. Susie suggested Tammie write something up. Tammie agrees that one's a stretch.

19. Resolve water rights in Klamath Basin.

Page 17 of the budget document: Under Develop a First Rate Workforce, Target investments to high demand occupation, last bullet point: ... and emerging industry training programs.

On page seven of executive order, number 4. Includes green building and forest products, water systems and mgt, and renewable energy. Sounds like we have most of the parts of that one. Sanitation, conservation,

Just include program synopsis for the water program. They'll get it.

We will prioritize these by email. Will send an attachment, and will add number 20, the one we added. When you're prioritizing, it's not the one you want the most, the one that has the best chance of success.