

**Minutes**  
**Sustainability and Learning Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 26, 2009**  
**3:30 – 5:00 pm**  
**Building 5, Room 240**

**Attendees:**

Susie Cousar, Jennifer Hayward, Albert Pooth, Margaret Robertson, Stan Taylor, Robbie Wolford

**Notes:**

**1. Announcements**

- *Sustainability Course of Study:* Margaret announced that she submitted a sustainability course of study to Mary Brau to be included in the 09/10 catalogue. Stan noted that the Peace Center would also like to do a peace studies-related course of study.

ACTION: Margaret will e-mail the course of study to the sustainability and learning group.

- *Application for Sustainability Course Status:* Attendees discussed promoting the application for sustainability course status that has been approved for use by the curriculum committee.

ACTION: Susie will send a notice to the Weekly and to all faculty alerting people that it is now available and if they want their course to be promoted as a sustainability course they need to fill out the form and get it to the curriculum committee.

ACTION: Jennifer will put the form on the S&L website.

**2. Peace Conference**

Stan announced that Lane's annual Peace Conference will be held May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The theme is the Pacific Northwest and there will probably be a couple sustainability-themed workshop tracks. Jennifer and Susie provided Stan with the following list of possible workshop presenters:

- Mary Wood <http://www.law.uoregon.edu/faculty/mwood/>
- Bob Doppelt <http://www.ecospeakers.com/speakers/doppeltb.html>
- Josh Proudfoot <http://www.goodcompany.com/about/team/jp.htm>
- Jensine Larsen [http://www.worldpulse.com/wpm/pdfs/Jensine\\_Bio\\_Media\\_Kit.pdf](http://www.worldpulse.com/wpm/pdfs/Jensine_Bio_Media_Kit.pdf)
- Dick and/or Jeanne Roy <http://www.earthleaders.org/about/staff>

Stan noted that Mary Wood is already scheduled to be a workshop presenter. Stan asked to see the DVD of Jensine Larsen's presentation from the 2005 Oregon Bioneers Conference.

ACTION: Jennifer will provide Stan with a copy of the DVD of Jensine Larsen's presentation.

Stan requested ideas for local speakers who could present about community self-reliance, local foods, ecovillages, and transition cultures. Attendees discussed people/organizations like Mary Bradley, who runs the grass roots garden, Approvecho, and Jan Spencer.

ACTION: Committee members to send additional workshop presenter ideas to Stan.



### 3. AAS Sustainability Coordinator Degree

Margaret reported on the history and current status of the AAS degree. A subcommittee of the Sustainability and Learning group:

- Developed a set of outcomes.
- Matched outcomes with courses on campus that already exist.
- Found existing classes that match all outcomes except for a small number of outcomes that could be covered in a 1 or 2 credit “Sustainability Coordinator” seminar.
- Filled a Notice of Intent with the State.
- Filled an Labor Market Information report with the State.
- Passed an adverse impact period during which the State determined that the proposed degree wouldn’t conflict with other community college programs.
- Put together a two year schedule.

Actions on which the subcommittee are still working include:

- Filling out a program application form that needs to be submitted to the State.
- Obtaining a final college decision on which department will house the program.

Margaret noted that it is too late to have the new program printed in the college catalogue for 09/10. However, the program can still go live next year. It can be included in the online catalogue and promoted in different ways. Bert suggested having a presence at the Lane Preview Night. It is too late to get something ready for the Preview Night that happens Winter Term, but the committee agreed to have a table at the Preview Night during Spring Term.

### 4. SUST-Curriculum Questions

Susie presented a document that she prepared titled, “Questions and Concerns about the use of the SUST prefix.” Attendees discussed the questions that are posed in this document. Margaret noted that she is concerned about academic rigor when an SUST prefix is used. What qualifications do faculty need to have when teaching a SUST course? Stan asked if dual designations is a possibility. Robbie said that a dual designation would make it easier for students to find the classes they want to take. Bert noted that the SUST prefix moves sustainability away from being interdisciplinary. Stan agreed and noted that the designation seems to silo sustainability which is the opposite of what we are working towards. Susie reported that she has been researching whether other schools use a SUST prefix or something similar and she hasn’t been able to find any and she has looked in the U.S. and all over the world and all groups seem to agree that this topic cannot be placed into its own category. There are sustainability degree programs but they are all built out of an interdisciplinary nature. The committee agreed on the following recommendation:

- Having the SUST label without a department designation is not workable and contradicts the interdisciplinary model of sustainability.
- We discussed that the SUST prefix could be added to any department prefix but only for classes that have been approved as sustainability classes through the application for sustainability course status. The group was not really in favor of this idea as it would create a cumbersome system and has it has own set of potential problems.
- Sustainability should be listed as a category of classes in the course catalog. We would want to list classes that are both focused and infused with Sustainability (infused courses would need also to fill out the course application status). This would advertise to students the interdisciplinary nature of our sustainability classes and show how they are a part of every division/dept. in the college.

5. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, March 19 from 3:30-5:00 pm. Location TBA

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Hayward- Thank you Jennifer!