

Sustainability Committee  
Monday, October 22, 2012, 3:30-4:30 pm, Building 4, Room 105

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Present: Susie Cousar, Jennifer Hayward, Brian Kelly, Jim Lindly, Jyoti Naik, Claudia Owen, Russ Pierson, Margaret Robertson, Paul Ruscher, Anna Scott, Wendy Simmons, Stan Taylor, Toni Timmers.

### 2. Updates and Announcements

- *Take Back the Tap:* Jennifer announced that Lane took back the tap! Foodservices and the Bookstore have stopped selling bottled water. There are still a few bottles in the vending machines, but once they run out, they won't be replaced. This was a "soft" roll out without a lot of promotion. We will collect data from Foodservices and Bookstore for fall term and have a more celebratory roll out winter term.
- *Policy: Classrooms: Food and Drink:* Jyoti reported that the classroom food and drink policy is currently being revised and suggested that the committee consider recommending that water in refillable containers be allowed in classrooms. Committee agreed to make this recommendation. Jennifer will forward the committee recommendation to the Facilities Council who is in the process of approving a revision to the policy.
- **EVENT:** *Presentation by Chavannes Jean-Baptiste:* Jennifer announced that Haitian leader and Goldman Environmental Award Winner, Chavannes Jean-Baptiste, will be presenting at Lane on Thursday, November 8 from 1:00-3:00 pm in Building 19, Room 226. His talk is sponsored by the Institute for Sustainable Practices, the Peace Center, and the Diversity Strategic Direction group. Jennifer distributed a flyer and encouraged committee members to attend. She asked attendees to put up flyers around their work area and for faculty to encourage students to attend.
- **EVENT:** *Invisible War:* Stan announced that the Peace Center will be screening the documentary, *Invisible War* on Thursday, October 25 from 1:00-3:00 in Building 17, Room 309. This film is about the rape epidemic in the military and suggests policies that could make a difference.
- **EVENT:** *The Myth of the Muslim Tide" Panel:* Come hear UO Professor Irum Shiekh ( <http://ethnic.uoregon.edu/profile/shiekh>), author of "*Detained Without Cause: Muslims' Stories of Detention and Deportation in America after 9/11*", among others discuss the Fresh Air interview with Doug Saunders, author of "*The Myth of the Muslim Tide*". Sponsored by Lane's Peace Center and the Diversity Office in partnership with the Community Alliance for Lane County (CALC).
- **EVENT:** Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference: This conference is January 31-February 1, 2013. Jennifer proposed that all Committee members attend. Presentation proposals are due October 26, 2012.
- *Cascadia Green Building Council Net Zero Workshops:* Anna reported that she attended the Cascadia Green Building Council *Achieving Net Zero* workshop last week. Cascadia is offering workshops related to each of the "petals" of the Living Building Challenge (<https://ilbi.org/lbc>).

Anna suggested that the Institute for Sustainable Practices host Cascadia's wrap up Living Building Challenge event. Sustainability Committee generally agreed that this was a good idea and requested that a longer discussion be on the next meeting agenda.

- *Ballot Measures for Sustainability:* Stan and Jyoti briefly reviewed City of Eugene ballot measures 20-197 & 20-198. Measure 20-197 is for bonds to fix streets, fund bicycle and pedestrian projects. Measure 20-198 calls for City Councilors to advise Oregon's federal legislators that money is not speech. (<http://www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?NID=1199>)
- ***EVENT: Town Hall on Measure 20-198:*** We the People Eugene will be hosting a town hall on Measure 20-198 on Wednesday, October 24 at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church (1376 Olive Street).
- *Building 30 LEED Gold!* Jyoti announced that Building 30 has officially received LEED Gold certification and the plaque is in the mail. Committee commented that celebratory and promotional activities should be planned.
- *Work Orders Go Paperless:* Jyoti announced that FMP has gone paperless with its work order system and has issued ipads to trades for tracking work.

### **3. AASHE Conference Report**

Margaret, Jennifer, and Mike all attended the recent Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference in Los Angeles and reported on some highlights from the conference.

Margaret toured the Ballona Discovery Center which is a riparian restoration and model watershed park. The park contains different sorts of surfaces and models water behavior on those different surfaces. Margaret also reviewed the George Washington University Sustainability Action Plan. George Washington University is an urban campus in Washington, D.C. and has framed their Sustainability Plan around restoring ecosystem services.

Jennifer reported for Mike that colleges and universities are moving to a "zero waste" model for solid waste management. This means that programs are continuing to focus on recycling, but are also branching out to try to affect purchasing and construction. Interestingly, the EPA defines "zero waste" as 90% diversion.

Jennifer reported on University of Wisconsin Oshkosh general education requirement for sustainability including their faculty professional development program. 2.61% of courses at UW Oshkosh are sustainability-focused and 6.68% are sustainability-related and all students take one of these courses. Jennifer also reported on a workshop on interpretive signage that stressed the importance of telling a story and connecting the item that you want to explain to something in the audience's life (i.e. children).

### **4. 2011-12 Year in Review**

Members discussed Committee accomplishments from last year. We:

- Took back the tap!
- Tabled at the Health and Wellness Fair.

- Tabled at fall inservice.
- Planned and conducted a successful Earth Day event.
- Hosted a Strategic Direction Sustainability Conference.
- Offered breakout sessions at the spring and fall conferences.
- Held a Sustainability Plan Visioning Session.
- Developed a solid outline for our sustainability plan with input from the visioning session and inservice breakout and developed next steps and content area teams.
- We also maintained strong committee participation throughout the year!

## 5. 2012-13 Plan

Attendees reviewed the Strategic Direction Implementation Plan and discussed which projects to work on for 2012-13. Ideas were:

- **Sustainability and spirituality (Strategic Direction Goal #1):** This could be a workshop led by Lane's religion instructor or others who are particularly educated in this issue.
- **Climate Action Plan (Strategic Direction Goal #3):** Jennifer noted that staff work will be required prior to climate action planning being ready for committee input.
- **Create a "tool box" with easy to implement sustainable practices from which departments can pull (Strategic Direction Goal #4)**
- **Sustainability-focused course workshop (Strategic Direction Goal #1):** Hold a workshop for faculty who are interested in applying to have their course considered "sustainability-focused." The workshop would provide assistance with and answer questions about filling out the form.
- **Promote sustainability degree programs (Strategic Direction Goal #1):** Attendees discussed various promotional strategies including:
  - Flyers
  - Faculty promoting programs in their classes.
  - Discuss promotion of program with advisors. Toni said that they meet every Thursday.
  - Social media – Facebook, twitter, etc.
  - Lane main page – rotating banner, highlight a graduate.
  - Talk to the clubs – Start with the Council of Clubs.

Attendees indicated that top priority projects are the "tool box" and the climate action plan. Committee chairs will put the tool box on the agenda for the next meeting and the climate action plan on the agenda for the meeting after that.