

Sustainability Committee
Wednesday, February 25, Building 16, Room 219

Notes

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Michael Boutette, Volunteer, Institute for Sustainable Practices
- Marv Clemons, Cooperative Education
- Jennifer Hayward, Institute for Sustainable Practices
- Patty Hine, High School Connections
- Brian Kelly, College Services
- Russ Pierson, Facilities Management and Planning
- Wendy Simmons, Wellness
- Becky Thill, Institute for Sustainable Practices
- Kathy Thomas, Grants Office

2. Updates and Announcements:

- *New Interim Director of Florence Campus:* Kathy announced that committee member, Russ Pierson, has been promoted to Interim Director of Florence Campus. Attendees congratulated Russ and agreed that we should try to video or teleconference Russ in so he can still be on the Committee.
- *Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education proposals due 3/2/15:* Jennifer said that AASHE extended their due date for presentation proposals to 3/2/15. She will be submitting a proposal on one of the items discussed at the last committee meeting. Russ and Margaret are still planning to submit a proposal titled, "Sustainability and Faith: The Language of Transcendence as Common Ground."
- *EPA Environmental Education Grant Proposal:* Jennifer updated the committee that she, Margaret, Kathy, and Brian have been working on an EPA Environmental Education Grant proposal that is due on March 6. The grant would pay for a faculty coordinator and curriculum development funding for 7 Lane instructors to receive training, to infuse one of their courses with concepts related to protecting water, watershed health, and ecosystem services, and to work together with the other participating faculty to have their students do a capstone project at the end of the term of installing a bioswale. Kathy noted that EPA requires grantees to include subgrants to non-profits or other educational institutions in their proposal. We included Long Tom Watershed Council, Coast Fork Watershed Council, Oregon Environmental Council, and Northwest Youth Corps Outdoor High School. We are still looking for one more high school partner. Patty recommended Kalapuya High School in Eugene and Kennedy High School in Cottage Grove.
- *UO Divestment Campaign:* Patty reported that the UO Divestment campaign is gaining momentum. There was a day of action last week at which Patty spoke. Patty's comments at the day of action included an announcement that Lane is also considering divesting and will be sending administrators to a workshop on this topic in the spring. Divestment, in this context, means eliminating fossil fuel and coal industry investments from one's portfolio and reinvesting in renewables.
- *Dietary Guidelines may include sustainability:* Wendy announced that the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee is considering environmental impacts from diet in development of the guidelines that would be released in 2020. For more information see: http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5902/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1321557.
- *Healthy Event Guidelines include sustainability:* Wendy announced that the Wellness Committee recently released "Healthy Meetings and Events Guidelines"

(<http://www.lanecc.edu/wellness/healthy-meetings-and-events-guidelines>). That include sustainability-related recommendations like, “buy food locally, seasonally, and/or with minimal packaging” and “offer a vegetarian option at meals.” Becky suggested that the guidelines also include a statement about buying compostable service ware from the cafeteria rather than regular disposable service ware that has to go in the trash. Wendy said that she would clarify this in the guidelines.

- *Sustainability Principles and Practices Presentation*: Brian said that Margaret’s Academic Colloquium last week titled, “Sustainability: Surviving and Thriving in a Changing World” was wonderful and well attended. Brian noted that one of Margaret’s suggestions was that one quick and relatively easy way to make a huge difference is to reduce or eliminate meat intake. Jennifer noted that others have suggested adding a point to the Green Office Certification if everyone in the department agreed to do a “meatless Monday.”
- *Public Interest Environmental Law Conference*: Patty announced that the annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference is happening at the UO March 5-8. It is the biggest environmental law conference in the world and it is free, you just have to register. Keynote speakers this year include Bill McKibben and Amy Goodman. www.pielc.org.

3. Core Themes: Debrief 2/24/15 All Campus Conversation; Next Steps?

Jennifer, Brian, Kathy, and Marv all attended the event and provided brief summaries. The core themes flow from the mission statement and inform the strategic direction. At the Core Themes meeting, people divided into groups and brainstormed about potential core themes for Lane. Event organizers are collating ideas generated during this meeting for consideration in the development of new core themes.

Sustainability was brought up as a suggested core theme by several of the small groups at the core theme meeting. Becky asked if green purchasing guidelines were brought up. Jennifer said no. Green purchasing likely would not be included specifically in core theme language, but if there were a core theme addressing sustainability, then green purchasing could be one of the ways that the core theme would be fulfilled.

Jennifer asked Sustainability Committee members to continue advocating for sustainability to be a core theme by e-mailing institutionaleffectiveness@lanecc.edu. For more information regarding the process, see: <http://www.lanecc.edu/institutionaleffectiveness/core-themes> .

4. Transportation

a. Transportation Vision Session at Inservice: Jennifer reviewed the Committee’s idea to involve the campus community in the development of a transportation demand management plan by holding a transportation vision session that is modeled after the Rainforest Action Network’s *Change the Course: People Powered Strategies for a Stable Climate* vision session agenda. Attendees agreed that we want to try to hold this vision session at spring inservice. Jennifer reported that she found out from Lane’s Professional and Organizational Development Officer, Donna Koechig, that the theme for spring inservice will be Assessment or Diversity/Equity. Committee agreed that transportation options can play a huge role in Diversity/Equity and supported continued advocacy for having the vision session at spring inservice. Jennifer will e-mail Donna back with this idea.

b. Earth Day: Committee agreed to focus on doing the Bike/Walk/Bus to campus event for Earth Day this year and also to look into having a booth promoting Lane’s Institute for Sustainable Practices at Eugene’s Earth Day event that takes place at EWEB’s River Edge Plaza on Saturday, April 18. Jennifer noted that we have a really nice Institutional for Sustainable Practices display that could be used at the City of Eugene event. Jennifer will bring the display for the Committee to see at the next meeting.