

## Sustainability Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 11am-12pm @ Metolius 214

Attendance: Jennifer, Joe, Laura, Owen, Paul, Rebecca, Sara, and Wesley

### 1) Committee news

- a. The amazing Julie Mosier is leaving COCC! We will miss her dearly, but wish her luck on her new career path. Thanks for everything, Julie!
- b. Though no one can truly replace Julie, we talked about possibilities. The decision was made to ask Vickery Viles first, then consult with Jenni Newby if need be.
- c. Wesley Noone joined the committee as a new student representative. Wesley is the president of the COCC Garden Club and a perfect addition to the committee. Welcome and thank you, Wes! The remaining student position is yet to be filled.

### 2) STARS updates

- a. Owen acknowledged that slow, but steady progress has been made on the STARS project. Thanks to everybody for your continued efforts on this project. Here's where the STARS credits currently stand:
  - i. AC 1,2 (Curriculum): Jessie and Owen will work with Vickery Viles this term to craft a faculty survey to determine how many "sustainable" courses and learning objectives are taught at COCC. We will use this opportunity to update (and perhaps improve) the Oregon Community College Green Initiative (OCCGI) database.
  - ii. EN3 (Student Life): Paul and Ken are working on it.
  - iii. EN4 (Outreach materials): Sara reported last term that despite many sustainability-related initiatives at COCC, there was very little public outreach with regard to news updates, searchable event calendars, etc. This stimulated a drive to create new and improved Sustainability Committee website. This website will also serve as the repository for STARS data.
  - iv. EN 11 (Continuing Education): Laura completed this credit last term; data are waiting to be posted to the new website.
  - v. OP 6,7 (Dining services): Owen is working on it.
  - vi. OP 2, 8 (Building Operations, Energy Consumption): Joe has worked with Johnson Controls to post quarterly energy audits (OP2); this information is ready to post to our new website. The next step will be to decrease campus energy consumption (OP8) by leveraging the energy audit data via campus-wide "energy conservation competitions".
  - vii. OP 12-15 (Purchasing): Jennifer completed OP12 last term; we need to follow-up with Julie to determine progress in OP13-15, then post to the new website.
  - viii. OP22, 23 (Waste minimization, diversion): Emily had to step down from the committee; these credits are "on hold" for the time being.
  - ix. PA 4-8 (Diversity and Affordability): Owen is working on it.
  - x. PA 9-12 (Health, Wellbeing, and Work): Rebecca is working on it.

### 3) Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (<http://ohesc.org/>)

- a. A poll was taken to determine who wants to attend the conference.

- b. At this point in time Sara, Jessie, and Owen plan to attend. Owen advertised the conference to various other faculty and members of ASCOCC, but none are available to attend.
- 4) Healthy Climate Bill (<http://350deschutes.org/who-supports-the-healthy-climate-bill>)
  - a. Permission granted by members for Owen to endorse the Healthy Climate Bill on behalf of the committee.
  - b. A political rally is planned for Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> on the steps of the state capitol, but no committee members are available to attend.
- 5) Earth Day Celebration proposal (April 1<sup>st</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>)
  - a. This is a collaborative effort between the Sustainability Committee and the Central Oregon Environmental Center. Together we are organizing a month-long series of lectures, workshops, tours, and films in related to environmental conservation. The goal is to raise awareness and engage the local community. All events will be free and open to the public.
  - b. Here is a link to our working Google Doc for event details:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lp-Y59uWDhg-E741t0CzxRmzb1a2oHkth9i1M\\_Zym9U/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lp-Y59uWDhg-E741t0CzxRmzb1a2oHkth9i1M_Zym9U/edit?usp=sharing)
- 6) Garden Club Farm and Food Faire
  - a. This is a collaborative effort between the COCC Garden Club, Central Oregon Locavore, and High Desert Food and Farm Alliance. The goal is to provide an opportunity for community members to meet local farmer/ranchers and sign up for CSA memberships.
  - b. The date has been changed to April 2<sup>nd</sup> (instead of March 5<sup>th</sup>). This will coincide nicely with the Earth Day Celebration.
- 7) Farm-to-Work program
  - a. Owen asked for feedback about the FTW program. All in all, our first year was a successful pilot with Fields Farm! The most common complaints were lack of diversity at times (it's called seasonality, folks) and occasional forgetfulness with weekly payments. Wesley recommended contacting Agricultural Connections; this would address both complaints. Owen will touch base with the Fields and Agricultural Connections before our next meeting.
- 8) Blue Sky fund
  - a. Before ending the meeting, Joe mentioned that the Presidential Advisory Team (PAT) recently reviewed a proposal from Matt McCoy that would re-direct Blue Sky monies to the Sustainability Committee.
- 9) Updates
  - Owen spoke with Vickery after our meeting; she has too much on her plate right now to join the committee, but recommended Chris Eggertson from the Institutional Effectiveness team. Owen will follow up with Chris next week.
  - Owen contacted Kathy Smith, chair of College Affairs, and requested presentation time with at their March or April meeting. He will use this opportunity to present the STARS data, share what we've been up to over the past year, and ask for increased administrative and financial support moving forward. Other committee members are welcome to attend! At minimum, Owen will ask for load release/recognition over the next three years in order to more effectively drive campus sustainability initiatives.
  - Sara and Owen met with Scott Donnell, COCC web guru. A new Sustainability Committee website is in development; we should have a working draft to show the rest of the committee at our next meeting.