

Sustainability Council Meeting; February 11, 2009

Present: Pernell Cezar, Rebecca Schultze, Jim Walters, Joel Haack, Jim Lubker, Bill Calhoun, Terry Hogan, Tom Schellhardt, Jan Hanish. Guest: Jack Yates

- Minutes of the December, 2008 meeting were approved.
- Jack Yates provided an overview of the Sustainability Town Hall meeting, which is scheduled for April 14, 2009. The opening session and all breakouts will be held in the Maucker Union ballroom. The program is designed to solicit faculty and staff input, with an invited number of students, on the topics related to campus sustainability. The end result will be a summary report of topics, concerns, ideas, etc that will be provided to the Sustainability Council. Online registration will be held, but walk ins will be welcome. The planning committee may also invite the sustainability coordinators at UI and ISU, as well as newly elected and current NISG senators and executives. Jack indicated that Kamyar had recently sponsored a lunch where about 18-20 faculty came together on the topic of sustainability. He hopes to use these people as a basis for personal invitations. Also, he will be contacting Jenny Brues regarding Earth Day and the possibility of setting up displays. Further planning is underway.
- Jim Walters gave an update on the Energy conservation committee activities including:
 - Classroom scheduling policy: revisions underway and to be submitted to the provost
 - Computer related technology: looking at reducing the # of servers, eliminating older, less efficient equipment.
 - Rebecca suggested looking at the URL and seeing if this can be shorted so that the energy website can be more easily found and used. Bill asked about whether or not this could be a major home page link. Need to investigate this further.
 - Engagement: meetings with various departments to discuss how individual areas can help with efforts (Gilchrist, Health Center and PLS). Tom indicated that policies regarding thermostat settings, office equipment, etc. is currently being disseminated.
 - Residence Hall: Continuing to work with individual halls, but are looking at ways to expand, which would require more funding.
 - Green procurement: has not met yet; Tom indicated that there is a BOR group working on this component as well.
 - Tom inquired as to how we can inventory and keep current the list of practices and activities regarding sustainability. This should be an activity worth pursuing.
- Energy Engineer position: Tom reported that the person who accepted the energy engineer position resigned to accept another position in Ames. UI and ISU have "coordinators". Tom met with Kamyar to discuss how Kamyar sees the role of CEEE with regard to leadership in this area. Kamyar's proposal indicated a need for approximately \$100,000 to function in full leadership capacity. Other individuals have expressed an interest in serving as a Sustainability Coordinator. The group did agree that a central, lead person with broad responsibilities is a desirable idea. Committee discussed the CEEE and RRTTC roles and responsibilities. Committee decided that we should see how we can/should develop a plan for a Sustainability Coordinator.

- Tom updated the Council on the BOR sustainability activities in 4 areas: academic, transportation, utilities and procurement. Their reports will be discussed at the March BOR meeting. Provosts provided lists of courses, research and vision.
- Tom reported that a firm has been hired to do a green house gas/carbon footprint audit of UNI. A committee is being established to work with the firm.
- Council agreed that we should put in an application for a Coop Internship; a student to work with the Council and Energy Committee for the 2009-2010 academic year. Jan will work with Tom to develop the application.
- Rebecca reported that results of the Iowa Energy Poll should be made public soon. This was sponsored by the Iowa Power Fund. They are still discussing how to disseminate the findings.
- Terry reported that he has met with department heads in Student Affairs to discuss how that division can contribute to sustainability.
- Joel reported that Bill Stigliani is developing a sustainability course that will be focused primarily for freshmen and sophomores.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:15p