

Sustainability Council meeting notes; July 8, 2009

Present: Terry Hogan, Pat Geadelmann, Gloria Gibson, Rebecca Schultze, Joel Haack, Jim Walters, Adam Haselhuhn, Tom Schellhardt, Jan Hanish

- Minutes of the May, 2009 meeting were approved.
- Tom reviewed the April 14, 2009 Campus Conversations report and focused on some of the action steps recommended. The council talked at length about the need for a person to serve as “sustainability coordinator”. Joel suggested that we may want to develop a one year interim position (for the coming academic year) and use that time to further develop the job, job description, office function, etc. Council agreed that the interim position should report to Tom’s area – but will need to work closely with Academic Affairs to insure communication and synergy with whatever curricular opportunities are there. Tom will take this recommendation to the Cabinet retreat for further discussion/action. Interim job description will need to be approved by the Council. Tom will send a draft of a job description to the Council for discussion at the August meeting.
- Updates:
- The Green House Gas study is nearly complete. Tom has read the draft and has asked the consultant for an executive summary. As it is now, it is quite technical in nature and he thinks a working summary will be helpful. The final report is scheduled to be completed by the beginning of the fall semester.
- A second wind study is being conducted (wind resource, size of turbines, detailed financial modeling). This will be used to determine how UNI can use wind energy in utility planning.
- FTA funded the addition of solar panels on the parking deck; will be installed as part of that project.
- UNI renewed membership in AASHE. It was suggested that Rebecca develop a communication (after classes begin) to let the campus know that any faculty, staff or student is eligible to access and use the site.
- UNI has been nominated to be a model sustainability university. The deadline to submit information is July 11th. Tom indicated they are working to meet that deadline.
- UNI is working on grant submissions to the Iowa Energy Program for solar water heating (WRC), and lighting retrofits for Rod Library and the UNI Dome. Christy Twait, Morris Mikkelsen, and Kamyar Enshayan are working on this.
- Jim distributed the revised mission statement for the Energy committee. He would like this approved by the Council. Council will review and consider this at the August meeting. Terry suggested that the Energy Conservation Committee name might be changed to the Sustainability Advisory Committee. This better reflects their efforts and function. Jim indicated the committee would be very supportive of that. This will be taken to the President as a recommendation.
- Joel reported that there are 3 research projects being funded by the Iowa Power Fund. Also the Iowa Energy Center is revising their mission (with a new director). With that Joel feels there

may be opportunities for us to be involved in energy projects/curriculum as it pertains to K-12. This will need some vision and leadership but he sees real opportunities for UNI in this arena.

- Coop Intern: with responsibilities for SIS, Jan indicated that she will not have time to give good supervision to the Coop intern scheduled to start in the fall. The student should work with Rebecca, Jim and with the coordinator (once he/she is hired). Rebecca will talk with DeWayne about possible work space in their area. Since communication is her focus this seems logical. We need to be sure she has a quality internship experience.
- Greenhouse Quarterly has contacted UNI about being featured in their Winter (Nov. 09) edition. A conference call will be held with them later in the month. This is a good opportunity to showcase university efforts. Tom will include a variety of people in the conference call.