

SUNY Institute of Technology Utica
Green Team (AKA SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 27, 2012, 2 PM Donovan G175

STANDING MEMBERS:

Linell Machold, absent
Phil Sweeney, present
Lynne Browne, absent
Elizabeth Rossi, absent
Ken Mazlen, present
Carson Sorrell, present
Mark Bremer, chair, present
recruiting new members!
others in attendance:
Steven Wei (ESM)
Rahul Reddy Katanguri (GA)
Ameya Pethe (GA)
Michael Lyons (Student Assoc)
Robert Clemente
Michael ? (standing in for Chris Rutledge)

1. OLD BUSINESS:

- "Lights Off" switchplate stickers - should we expand trial deployment to other buildings on campus? Stickers can be given to Resident Advisors to distribute to residents. Beyond stickers, send blog messages targeted to students (Michael L.), staff, faculty (Ken) thanking and reminding them to turn off lights when not in use. Continue messaging focused on energy conservation during peak hours, especially during EcoChallenge Oct 1-15.

Campus Conservation Nationals dorm energy and water competition ran April 1-22, 2012 (Mark). Weekly electricity, gas, and water meter readings were provided by facilities for 7 weeks and uploaded to Lucid Building Dashboard by Mark (presentation of data). Special screen wallpapers were deployed on all campus lab computers. Prizes for winning dorms were arranged, but there were issues in delivering prizes to winners through Res. Life. Activities for student participation during Green Week were arranged through Res Life and other prizes were given out then (SUNYIT logo drawstring bag, t-shirt, mug, LED light). Lessons learned will be applied to the next competition in Spring 2013.

- The NE Campus Sustainability Consortium meeting was April 2-4 in Syracuse. Mark attended. It was a good chance to network with other Sustainability Coordinators from colleges around the NE and learn best practices from presenters.

- LEED Green Associate training was April 16-18 at Morrisville State College (MSC). Mark attended and became LEED accredited as Green Associate (Level I) in May. Mark intends to get project experience and further training to become LEED Associated Professional in Building Design and Construction (Level II). Mark was also able to meet three professors at the Renewable Energy Training Center and Science Dept. while at MSC and learned about their current sustainable curriculum & research.

- Climate Action Plan document creation (Mark) Mark is working on this based on 2011 GHG inventory. Two Graduate Assistants (GAs), Rahul Reddy Katanguri and Ameya Pethe,

have been hired to work on this and other green projects under advisement of Mark, including completion of a campus STARS report.

- Curriculum additions i.i.i. BIO 106 / SUS 101 "Intro to Sustainability" created by Mark (no news). i.i.ii. SOC 290 "Sustainability and Society" created by John Ossowski (offered fall 2012, cancelled due to low enrollment). i.i.iii. Green Technology Certificate created by Mark and John (no news). i.i.iv. Sustainability BA created by Walter Johnson, Maarten Heboyer, Daryl Lee (syllabi being created by Walter).

Sustainability Research Workshop was held at SUNY ESF in May. See report link <http://www.esf.edu/outreach/pd/2012/sunysenate/>. Mark participated in the Campus Sustainability group and has since been assigned the Facilitator role for the group. Steven Wei participated in the Waste Reduction group. Research on trends in SUNY campus STARS reports (9 campuses) is being evaluated with Alfred State College Sustainability Coordinator Julian Dautremont-Smith (former STARS developer), and funding is being sought for a larger analysis of the SUNY system (64 campuses).

ii. NEW BUSINESS:

- Fall 2012 planning

I. USGBC Green Apple Day of Service: Campus LEED Building Showcase, Sept. 29, 2012. Campus tours being conducted Noon - 3:00 pm by students working in the Development Office who will be trained to highlight campus buildings' LEED features and benefits.

li. EcoChallenge focusing on Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation, October 1-15. Now accepting individual registrations and commitments. Blogs will be sent out regularly in the coming weeks to encourage participation and educate about strategies to conserve energy and water.

III. SUNY Sustainability Conference was held in Syracuse September 19-20, 2012. Mark attended. This was another chance to network with other Sustainability Coordinators and Facilities Directors from other SUNY campuses and learn from each other's best practices.

IV. SUNY Sustainability Council formed in May and is comprised of Sustainability Coordinators from several campuses in the SUNY system. The overall objectives are to network and share best-practices. The current thrust is to explore ways our campuses can achieve 30% additional energy efficiency by 2020, 20% per executive order for state facilities, additional 10% SUNY-driven mandate. Carson reported that in a previous round of efficiency improvement goals, SUNYIT was one of only two SUNY campuses to meet the goal. Our campus gained efficiencies by lighting upgrades, replacing motors, and installing Building Management Systems (BMS). Carson offered to give a tour to our Green Team for part of a future meeting.

V. Green Local 175 show airs Tuesday evenings 7:00 - 9:00 pm on Utica College radio WPNR and streaming online (Richard Morris). Host Richard is attempting to get a sustainability student council organized to connect like-minded students at local area colleges & universities. His main thrust this year is to encourage Presidents to sign the ACUPCC.

VI. The Genesis Group has secured funding from NYSERDA Cleaner Greener Communities program to develop a Smart Growth Plan for Regional Sustainability (Ray Durso).

- Open to topics by those present:

Mark brought to the attention of the group a new SUNY Sustainability Fund that is currently seeking applications for innovative or experimental ideas to improve the way SUNY uses energy. There is \$60,700 available, most grants will be in the \$5000-\$7500 range. Mark discussed his mobile biofuels lab proposal idea. Mark also asked if a building dashboard system/meter monitors for the Building Management System would be appropriate for this type of grant. Carson replied that he already has plans for upgrading the BMS in the next few years with meter monitoring capabilities using capital funds, but this grant would be more focused on innovative/experimental approaches to energy management.

Mark also brought to the attention of the group the DEC Environmental Leaders designation (via Linell). We need to determine whether we are going beyond compliance in any areas before we can apply.

Michael Lyons asked if we have considered composting food waste on our campus. Phil responded that yes we already donate pre-consumer food waste to local farms. Carson mentioned that he and Phil investigated an off-site composting facility and other campuses' composting systems. There are some difficulties with operating these systems. Bob Clemente commented that pre-consumer catches a majority of food waste and that post-consumer food waste is particularly difficult to manage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & STRUCTURE:

- Academic:Chair: Linell Machold
- Energy:Chair: Carson Sorrell
- Outreach:Chair: Mark Bremer

· OTHER DISCUSSION:

Faculty should be encouraged to grant extra credit for allowing students to attend green team activities, like Earth Week global warming video series and discussions (Ken).

511NY Rideshare is running a pilot beta-test for Upstate versions of the successful downstate system. SUNYIT participated in the launch in April and is accepting new users.

Should the Green Team host a table at open house/club expo day??

Guest speakers should be invited to share their green experiences with our green team. Mark will work finding speakers.

- NEXT MEETING: tentative Thursday, November 8 at 1:30 PM in G175.