

**SUNY Institute of Technology Utica****Green Team** (AKA SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2013, 2 PM Student Center Multipurpose Room

**STANDING MEMBERS:**

Linell Machold, absent

Phil Sweeney, absent

Lynne Browne, present

Elizabeth Rossi, absent

Ken Mazlen, absent

Carson Sorrell, present

Mark Bremer, chair, present

others in attendance: Bernie Leis, Deb Howard (SUNY Central), Chris Landy (student), Megan Gargas (student), Glenn Van Knowe (MESO), Eric Paul (Rome Fish Hatchery)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Facilities Staff Carson Sorrell and Bernie Leis gave a virtual tour of our campus Building Management System (BMS). Bernie Leis is a certified Energy Manager through NYSERDA. The BMS was designed by Automate Corp (ALC) as a direct digital control (DDC) system. Multiple sensor systems feed into a single control system. Buildings on campus, like Donovan Hall and parts of Kunsela Hall, have limited pneumatic controls. Newer and renovated parts of buildings have upgraded DDC. Donovan air handling system is viewable on the BMS but only 8 sensors for 125,000 sq ft. Measurements include temps going in and out of the system. A real-time view showed temps of 12 deg F and the outside air damper only open 10%, or the minimum allowed. Adjustments to system air temps are made automatically through sensors in the building and logic systems in the BMS computer. The Student Center has 2 air handlers, each with a heat wheel to recover heat in exhaust air. Incoming air is fresh outside air which is preheated by the wheel. The temp setpoints and logics are programmed for occupancy of day, and events. Temporary overrides are available to the controller. Older buildings have reheat coils to moderate 55 degree conditioned air during summer cooling. New buildings don't have reheat coils (more efficient). Control systems in new buildings are all from different companies and require their own training and expertise. There is learning with errors - during its first winter, a coil froze and cracked in the field house system and had to be replaced. Most street and parking lot lights are controlled on a sunset to sunrise setting, calculated by latitude, longitude, and date. Some outdoor LED lighting has been installed and more is on the way as a scheduled upgrade. Also induction lamps are being run as a trial.

Glenn Van Knowe mentioned the BMS visuals are similar to graphics he and a team of SUNYIT researchers are developing as a teaching tool for the [IITG Case Study Project](#). He is seeking student evaluators for his beta test.

B. Sustainability Director, Deb Howard talked about Governor Cuomo's recently announced 20% increase in energy efficiency by executive order 88 for state facilities. An additional 10% is sought by the SUNY Chancellor. She 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 HVAC motors to variable speed drives, and installing the BMS. Options for further efficiency gains are being explored by the Sustainability Committee made up of campus Sustainability Coordinators and Facilities Staff. Some solutions already suggested include additional sub-metering, seasonal scheduling changes (later spring semester start date), scheduling events in buildings with more precise controls, better communication and coordination with registrar, event planners, and other campus facilities.

Deb Howard also talked about recently selected awards from her small grant sustainability fund., SUNYIT received...

grant for creating a "Sustainability Path" along the creek between Donovan, Kunsella, and the Campus Center consist of renewable energy demonstration devices for wind, solar, and microhydro power along with educational signage. The design and construction will be conducted by engineering students this semester.

#### C. Spring 2013 planning

1. Campus Conservation Nationals dorm energy and water competition will run April 1-22, 2013 (Mark). Weekly electricity, gas, and water meter readings will be provided by facilities for 7 weeks and uploaded to Lucid Build Dashboard by Mark. Special screen wallpapers with logos will be deployed on all campus lab computers. Bulk some flyers will be the major means of communicating with participants. Prizes for winning dorms need to be purchased ahead of time (ideas include ping-pong table prominently displayed during the contest). We are seeking building captains to help lead each residence hall. Activities for student participation during Green Week need to be explored: one will be a building waste audit/trash autopsy, the other will be local food day, both to be held on April 22/13.

2. Work on the Smart Growth Plan for Regional Sustainability has begun (Genesis Group & Ecology and Environment). Two meetings of the Waste Management Group were conducted at SUNYIT 11/6/12 and 12/6/12. The next and final working group meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan 30, 2013 in Kunsella hall 9am-1pm.

3. NE Campus Sustainability Consortium Conference will be held in Rhode Island in April, 2013. Mark plans to attend. This will be another chance to network with other Sustainability Coordinators and Facilities Directors from other SUNY campuses and learn from each other's best practices.

4. Mark has developed LEED building talking points for campus tours. He will provide notes and possibly training sessions for Admissions and Development Office campus tour guides.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

A. 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, worked on this last semester under advisement of Mark. Several mitigation strategies were researched including solar hot water, solar photovoltaic, offsite wind electricity purchases, purchasing managed forest land as carbon sink, and purchasing carbon credit offsets. More work will be done this semester, possibly including more hired GA help. He is looking for additional help for those interested.

#### OTHER DISCUSSION:

A. 511NY Rideshare is running pilot beta-tests for upstate NY versions of the successful downstate system. SUNYIT participated in the launch last April and recently updated the login portal and some features. The system needs more users to register and use the system.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS & STRUCTURE (currently not active due to low membership):

Academic Chair: Linell Machold

Energy Chair: Carson Sorrell

Outreach Chair: Mark Bremer

NEXT MEETING: tentative Monday, April 8 @ 1 PM in Donovan G175.