

UA Sustainability Council Meeting – 14 October 2014



Location

Tuesday

14 October 2014

3:30-5:00

Agenda

1. Call to order *Carlos Ochoa*
 - a. Carlos Ochoa called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM. He called for a round of introductions to begin the meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. No changes were proposed for the minutes from the last meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. No changes were proposed for the agenda for the current meeting.
4. Co-chair updates
 - a. Executive Director, Office for Sustainability
 - i. Due to travel, Marty Matlock could not attend this meeting. Carlos Ochoa gave an update on his behalf. He announced that the Office for Sustainability has recently completed a micro-project as a pilot for the Green Revolving Fund in which all of the light bulbs at the Sustainability House were changed from CFLs to LEDs. On October 22nd from 12-1 PM there will be a Green Revolving Fund proposal workshop held in the Arkansas Union (510-511). The OFS is requesting the Council's help getting the word out around campus. The workshop will be held in conjunction with Campus Sustainability Day. Following the workshop, there will also be an insect-tasting event and TED Talk screening with a discussion of insects as food.
 - ii. In November the OFS will be hosting a Zero Waste Summit to discuss zero waste strategies and initiatives. It will be an opportunity for the OFS to talk about what we have learned through our research but also to get feedback on ways to meet the goal. This event will lead into the development of a Zero Waste Plan document to complement the Climate Action Plan. The Plan will be a collaborative effort to inform financial and strategic concerns for the goal of being zero waste by 2021. We will also be working with Kessler Consulting and the City of Fayetteville to conduct a mini waste assessment of our campus. According to Michele Halsell, there is funding available to pay students to do work on this project. The plan will be divided into the sectors of FAMA, Housing, the Union, and Athletics. It will include

detailed steps for indoor and outdoor recycling receptacles around campus. Information about the Summit will be sent out no later than the beginning of next week. The Campus Sustainability Plan is also being developed and takes into consideration the workgroup projects and goals for the workgroups, in addition to KPIs to tell us what progress we are making. We will also be developing a list of social metrics.

- iii. We are currently working on updating our AASHE STARS to 2.0. This is a self-reported system to give institutions of higher education an idea of where they are in their sustainability efforts.

b. Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities

- i. Due to travel, Mike Johnson also could not attend this meeting. Speaking for him, Carlos Ochoa announced that both Mike Johnson and Marty Matlock will be meeting soon with Provost Gaber to present the Integrated Pest Management Plan to her for her approval, after which she will present it to the Executive Committee for implementation.
- ii. Nelson & Nygard consultants will be coming to our campus to look at transportation needs and strategies to reduce traffic burdens on our campus. They will be offering a survey to the entire campus on this to get a better of idea for what works and what doesn't. The Center for Applied Spatial Technologies is working on a geolocation survey to learn where traffic comes onto campus and where it leaves. Jon Johnson commented that he has met with a number of bicyclists on campus when working on the dismount zone and asked if we were still keeping bike infrastructure in mind. Carlos said that there has been talk of integrating our system with the main trail system, but he is not sure. There will be a campus wide survey launched at the end of this year or the beginning of next. Everyone on campus should receive an email with a survey link and an opportunity to give input.
- iii. The combined heat and power system is still on schedule for implementation.

c. ASG Representative

- i. Cameron Baker addressed the bike lane issue. ASG and the Graduate Senate Congress is going to be addressing the issue as well.
- ii. Last Friday at the Chancellors Ball, ASG worked to make it a zero waste event, but there were some obstacles in terms of materials used by Chartwells. ASG very much wants to move toward zero waste events as a standard in order to set an example. ASG is working on a resolution for all future ASG events to be zero waste. He said that they are trying to rebuild the Student Sustainability Council, which is an RSO that is similar to the UASC but comprised of students. The goal is to build a community for sustainability-minded students on campus to work together. They are also working to bring RazorBucks to the Farmers Market. TriCycle Farms also recently started a new Farmers

Market, and ASG will also be working with them to bring RazorBucks there.

5. Climate Action Plan Vote
 - a. Carlos moved on to the climate action plan vote, which had been initiated over email. Mike Johnson proposed it be tabled until this meeting. However, the vote was tabled again due to lack of a quorum. Carlos Ochoa will inform the co-chairs that there was no quorum and the vote could not be held.
6. Workgroup Updates
 - a. Carlos will be working with all of the workgroups in November and December to define meeting patterns for the workgroups. It will likely be based around the calendars of the co-chairs.
 - b. Built Systems
 - i. There were no updates.
 - c. Managed Systems
 - i. There were no updates.
 - d. Social Systems
 - i. Michele Halsell stated that the Social workgroup last met in December. They are working on an initiative called Unplug for the Holidays. This campaign will be launched in December and is aimed at getting faculty and staff to unplug electronics in their office before leaving for the holiday break. This will be a comprehensive media push. Avery Minor said that the cleaning staff unplug anything they come across during the holiday break that is plugged in.
 - e. Natural Systems
 - i. No updates
 - f. Academic Systems
 - i. No updates
7. Good-of-the-Order
 - a. Lynne Williams mentioned the Pepsi Dream Machines in the Arkansas Union. We are currently ranked number one compared to how much we brought in last year through the machines. Cameron Baker will be helping to raise awareness of the machines. She said that the zero waste efforts at RazorBash likely contributed to our ranking. We had a 76% diversion rate at the event, which bodes well for future efforts at making large scale events zero waste.
 - b. This is world food week and tomorrow there will be the Cultural Bites event, and Thursday there will be meal packaging of Pack Shack meals. There will be an event to benefit full circle food pantry. There will also be a film screening tomorrow at 5:30 in the Honors College, *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*.
 - c. Michele Halsell said the Applied Sustainability Center has partnered with the OFS and something to pilot an energy conservation program on campus. The Law School building, JB Hunt, WCOB, and Kimpel are piloting this with awareness-raising materials about the energy use in those buildings. The information will also be sent to building occupants along with tips for energy saving. They are gathering feedback from occupants already that is very valuable. This program should help to inform future campus-wide energy

conservation efforts. This has been going on for four full weeks now. Jon Johnson proposed that the possibility of cost-sharing in terms of monetary incentives to colleges or buildings be explored. Michele Halsell suggested that some best practices sharing among IT professionals on campus might help us to manage our energy consumption from computing better (i.e. policies regarding whether to turn off computers at night).

- d. Carlos took that opportunity to bring up Campus Conservation Nationals which is coming up in the spring. In the past we have struggled with incentives to keep students engaged, so we have come up with the idea of scholarship opportunities. We hope to raise money for five \$1,000 scholarships, and students in the winning residence hall would be eligible to apply for these scholarships. We think there are sponsorship opportunities. Jon Johnson proposed that some of the energy savings money go toward the scholarship, which would be difficult but possible.
 - e. Carlos mentioned the first annual Bike Fest that was held today in front of Founders Hall, which went very well. He encouraged everyone to visit bike.uark.edu to see all of the bike resources for campus.
 - f. Keaton Smith shared an update on the Campus + Community Sustainability Mixer held a couple of weeks ago. There were about 80 attendees present in the basement of US Pizza. There were about 20 nonprofit and community organizations tabling in the room to talk to students. In the spring they would like to flip that around and give students and on-campus folks the opportunity to share what they've been doing with community organizations to network and solicit assistance in various forms. There is no date set but if anyone knows students who would like to take advantage of that or if you would like to attend, keep an eye out for announcements.
8. UASC Scheduled Meetings
 - a. January, time date and location TBA.
 9. Adjourn
 - a. There was a motion to adjourn, it was seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 4:23 PM.