

UA Sustainability Council

Minutes



Arkansas Union 503
Tuesday April 12th, 2016
3:30-5:00

Minutes

1. Call to order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 3:34 Pm with a round of introductions.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The minutes from the previous meeting minutes were approved.
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. No changes were made to the agenda for the current meeting.
4. Co-chair updates
 - a. Executive Director, Office for Sustainability *Marty Matlock*
 - i. The OFS 2015 Annual Report is now available online; a PDF will be distributed with these minutes; print copies are available upon request.
 - ii. The OFS and Facilities Management have begun preliminary planning for implementing a pollinator program on campus. Oregon State University has a certification program called Bee Friendly Campus that we would like to apply for. The next step is engaging the Natural Systems workgroup and other campus experts.
 - iii. The OFS has assembled a list of self-identified sustainability-affiliated faculty. This list is available in our annual report as well as [on our website](#). If you or someone you know should be on the list but are not, please let us know and we will add you/them.
 - iv. We are looking at hosting a Sustainability Research Symposium in the fall for U of A faculty to present the research they are working on.
 - v. Bob Munger of SUMO is closing up shop and has withdrawn his GRF application.
 - b. Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities *Mike Johnson*
 - i. There is an opportunity for us to document energy savings in our construction projects and receive tax rebates. Some of the funds could potentially be directed into the GRF. Currently the GRF is at \$50,000 but this could present a substantial increase.
 - c. ASG Representative *Yvonne Wema Ngome*
 - i. There are many events planned for Earth Week, a collaboration between various student organizations, the Office for Sustainability,

and others. An overview of the events was given. A full schedule of the Earth Week events can be found [on our blog](#).

- ii. The City of Fayetteville will be holding Earth Day events on Saturday, April 23rd.
- iii. The Botanical Garden of the Ozarks is having a big Earth Day Festival on the 26th and 27th (?) and could probably use volunteers to work with kids.

5. Common Cents

- a. An overview from Kenneth Hamilton
 - i. Common Cents is a proposed program that would be similar to the GRF but more accessible to the students to help turn good ideas into reality with a lower threshold to funding. Common Cents would be funded through a \$1 student fee. Details can be found in the proposal which has been circulated with the agenda.
 - ii. ASG and RIC have already voted in favor of this program, and the representatives are presenting it to the UASC to receive feedback on next steps.
 - iii. The council provided a variety of feedback for the student leaders to further refine and improve their proposal. The council would like to see the proposal again after it has more clarification on the application process, who makes up the oversight committee, and an alternative to the student fee option.

6. Green Revolving Fund

- a. Updates to application process
 - i. The OFS sent out a document that has updates we have made to the GRF protocol. The GRF has so far funded one \$10,000 project, but we are still working out some of the finer process details. Applications can be downloaded from our website and must be submitted to the OffFS (sustain@uark.edu), which will work to develop them further if needed. The application will then be reviewed and voted on by the Managed Systems workgroup. Applications are now being accepted on an ongoing basis.
 - ii. The council would be willing to entertain allocating some of the GRF funds to the type of student projects that Common Cents is aiming at—projects that do not necessarily have a monetary ROI.

7. Earth Week

- a. Schedule of events
- b. What other events do you know of?

8. Workgroup Co-Chair Updates

- a. We are looking for new co-chairs for most of the workgroups. As established at the previous meeting, workgroups will no longer have regular meetings but will instead be convened when there are concrete projects to be worked on. Co-chairs have the responsibility of being the point of contact for the OFS and for organizing the meetings of the workgroup.
- b. Built Systems
 - i. none

- c. Managed Systems
 - i. Theresa Ehrlich
 - ii. Keaton Smith
 - iii. Both are no longer U of A students and are seeking replacements
 - d. Social Systems
 - i. Will Gisler
 - e. Natural Systems
 - i. none
 - f. Academic Systems
 - i. The Sustainability Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) fills this role.
9. Good-of-the-Order
- a. Rob Stagni asked whether anyone knew of a policy, ordinance, or law regarding balloons or balloon sculptures being released into the air, only to deflate and land where they will. Nobody was aware of one, but the Sustainability Council would be in favor of recommending such a policy.
 - i. The OFS can coordinate research of existing policies, drafting of a policy to be sent for legal review and then on to the administration for approval and adoption. The issue could also be approached through buy-in from Student Activities and Panhellenic Council and through cooperation from student groups. The OFS can also make it a criteria for zero waste events.
 - ii. We will put it on the agenda for the next meeting and in the meantime will work to explore options.
 - b. In January 2016 the committee recommended the adoption of a new resilience commitment. That commitment will be signed by the Chancellor this week.
 - c. The Gamer4Good Go for the Green competition is currently underway.
10. UASC Scheduled Meetings
- a. June 28, 2016, 3:30-5:00 Pm, Location TBD
 - b. September 13, 2016, 3:30-5:00 Pm, Location TBD
 - c. December 13, 2016, 3:30-5:00 Pm, Location TBD
11. Adjourn
- a. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 Pm.