

Sustainability Fee Council Minutes

Meeting Title: February Sustainability		Date: 2/19/16	Time: 1:05 pm
Location: Herty 251	Committee: Sustainability Fee Council		Chair: Mutiti
Attendees: Sam Mutiti, Will Hobbs, Doug Oetter, Mark Causey, Josefina Endere, Lori Strawder, Lewis Steele, Emma Brodzik, Mary Plache, Andrew Wright, Matthew Floyd, Kierra Brown			Guests: None
Recorder: Will Hobbs		Recorder Email: will.hobbs@gcsu.edu	

Agenda Item: Approval of Agenda and minutes	Presenter: Mutiti
Discussion: Agenda: Steele motions, Plauche seconded Minutes from January: Brodznik motions, Steele seconded	

Agenda Item: Budget Report	Presenter: Strawder
Discussion: Strawder reported approx. \$23K left in the budget. Significant donation to Foundation account from Sodexho received - \$1668.19. Current Foundation total: \$10,376.69. Oetter reminded that \$3000 is allocated for Maldonado fund.	
ACTION: None	

Agenda Item: Composting Project Update (and Garden Club)	Presenter: Brodznik/Wright
Discussion: Ribbon cutting event last week attended by upper administration including Ms. Susan Allen, Juawn Jackson (SGA Pres) and Dr. Dorman. The first run of the composter was successful. Strawder mentioned kudos to the Gardening Club for tidying up the campus garden site in advance of Dr. Dorman's visit. Signage is coming from Ms. Allen's office for the garden. There is the possibility of a mini-grant for solar power for the composter. Hobbs asked if this was really just an addendum to the current project (yes). Oetter asked when the collection from Sodexho will start. Strawder responded that this is on hold due to staff changes at Sodexho (Brian Lee's departure). Wright noted the plan for additional plots to begin at the garden.	
ACTION: None	

Agenda Item: Solar Power Charging project	Presenter: Brodznik
Discussion: The proposal to install charging stations around campus is stalled waiting for direction. A powerpoint will be shared in the March meeting. Oetter noted that a previous student's work seemed to indicate that these stations were more "gimmicky" than practical. Hobbs noted interest from an outdoor education student to develop a solar project for safety and security needs at East Campus. Proposal expected later this semester.	
ACTION: A powerpoint will be shared in the March meeting.	

Agenda Item: Symposium	Presenter: Brodznik
Discussion: Began with the question of keynote speaker. Dr. Tobias had been previously mentioned, however, there is a sense of saturation. There is concern of diluting student participation by offering too many events/showings, etc. Oetter noted that combining Dr. Tobias' efforts with the symposium and EarthFest is important. The viewing of Dr. Tobias' local documentary can go hand-in-hand with the week's events. Mutiti noted that an outside speaker would be preferred. Causey asked about the showing of the purchased film, <i>This Changes Everything</i> . Oetter/Brodznik suggested Wed evening of that week after the ENSC Club meeting.	
ACTION: None	

Agenda Item: ENSC Club Update	Presenter: Floyd
Discussion: Live events for EarthFest are still being planned. 6-8 students attending the Next South Conference in Atlanta Feb 26 th . Brodznik noted that there needs to be more emphasis on recycling at athletic events.	

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ACTION: None

Agenda Item: Other issues	Presenter: Various
<p>TREES: Volunteers are needed to help plant trees this semester (10 per week) until National Arbor Day in late April.</p> <p>RECYCLEMANIA: Brodznik inquired about new blue bins and allocation – is Bell Hall included? (yes). Currently just allocated for residence halls. Hobbs noted that ODED students are available to help with distribution. Oetter noted the new colors to help with trash sorting (orange is trash, black is trash, clear is recycling). Others noted that students are still unaware of recycling efforts on campus and rumors of “no recycling” still persist. Strawder noted that new signs are coming (or already in place) to increase awareness. Oetter called for a social media blitz when containers are placed.</p> <p>STUDENT ASSISTANT: Strawder introduced Kierra Brown as her new student assistant.</p>	
<p>ACTION: Volunteers needed to plant trees with university grounds. Contact Susan Daniels.</p>	

Agenda Item: AASHE STARS 2.0 Report	Presenter: Oetter
<p>Discussion: The report is in need of updating for 2016. Much information has been uploaded, however, much has changed both in the university and in the report criteria. GC is listed as a Green School in the system, but with a STARS score of 0.0 due to incomplete report. Susan Allen has agreed to continue to fund this report. Hobbs asked who can add to the report (lots of council members can contribute). Strawder suggested a meeting of stakeholders to share successes and vision for the report.</p>	
<p>ACTION: Strawder will call a meeting of stakeholders to discuss reporting to STARS.</p>	

Agenda Item: Sustainability Certificate	Presenter: Oetter
<p>Discussion: A syllabus was passed out for the Intro course in Area C – the intention is to focus on the ethics of environmental justice as the driver for sustainability. The University of Michigan Sustainability Institute is a good model. Mutiti and Hobbs will continue work to define the certificate capstone course requirements.</p>	
<p>ACTION: Review the syllabus draft and comment via email.</p>	

Agenda Item: Announcements	Presenter: Strawder
<p>CALL FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS via email to Strawder (lori.strawder@gcsu.edu). For faculty positions of Chair and Recorder. Mutiti noted that he will likely be not available (i.e., not in country) next year.</p> <p>SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN: cost estimate received. The basic report will run approx. \$60,000. Any more beyond basic will require significant, multi-year contributions from the Fee Program. Hobbs suggested that the master plan project be undertaken in-house as master’s project, or graduate seminar project, etc. Oetter asked if other schools in GA have plans. Mutiti suggested inviting contributors from across campus to assist.</p>	
<p>ACTION: Send nominations for officers to Strawder ASAP.</p>	

Meeting adjourned 2:10 pm.