

Sustainability Committee Meeting Summary
Sequoia Hall Room 318
April 11, 2008

Committee Members Present (alphabetical): Claudia Bridges, Mike Christensen (Co-Chair), Carolyn Gibbs, Linda Hafar, Bob Hitomi, Virginia Matzek, Kathleen Reynolds, Ron Richardson (Co-Chair), Georgina Stevenson, Kirt Stout, Victor Takahashi, Walter Wallace, Justine Yang (new ASI representative)

- 1. Approval of February 8, 2008, Meeting Summary - Approved with one addition as follows:**
 - A. It was noted there was no official approval to establish the Recycling and the Energy Conservation Committees as sub-committees to the Sustainability Committee. A vote was taken to make it so with unanimous approval of the Committee members.**

- 2. Update on Earth Day preparation**
 - A. Sustainability at Sac State will have presence at the Sacramento Region Earth Day event April 20th;**
 - 1) Claudia Bridges developed 9 attractive and informative posters to display.**
 - 2) Several suggestions were made for an interactive activity at the booth.**
 - 3) The booth will be located next to the University's Environmental Studies Department booth.**
 - B. ASI will have an Earth Day booth on campus on April 22.**
 - 1) Giving out free water bottles**
 - 2) Virginia suggested may want to include taste test of bottled water versus tap water at the booth**
 - C. {Secondary discussion regarding "green" versus "blue." Perelman (2007) states, "While color symbolism varies across cultures and contexts, the color blue—particularly in Western society and as a corporate color—commonly is identified with trustworthiness, security, safety, law, reliability and such. The contemporary identification of the color green with environmental and resource conservation interests are, of course, well established." M. Christensen made the comment that "green" goals and "blue" goals sometimes conflict. He stated that he keeps bottle water on hand for emergency purposes, and that it's a good idea to keep bottled water on hand for emergencies. C. Gibbs suggested that using military packaged water with a five year shelf life, rather than cycling through bottled water on a regular basis, would be more in line with sustainable practices and would achieve both "green" and "blue" goals. C. Gibbs will send email with information on obtaining military water for storage.}**

- 3. Introduction of Bob Hitomi, Sac State Environmental Specialist and Sustainability Officer - Sac State's participation in Sacramento Sustainable Business Program**
 - A. Mike announced the appointment of Bob Hitomi as Sustainability Officer; Bob clarified the designation is more of a 'coordinator' rather than 'running anything.'**

- B. Mike asked if the committee was interested in participating in the Sacramento Sustainable Business Program. There are 5 categories available for participation as follows:
 - 1) Green Building
 - 2) Water Conservation
 - 3) Solid Waste Reduction
 - 4) Energy Conservation
 - 5) Pollution Prevention
 - C. Can participate in as many of the categories as desired
 - D. Each of the categories have a check list
 - 1) Virginia noted it is more important to practice sustainability than to merely “check the boxes”
 - 2) Carolyn suggested that the campus might embrace the ideas on the lists by creating a competition
 - 3) Claudia suggested that departments be recognized for their participation in the competition; with a goal of showing improvement over the next 2 years.
 - 4) Participation will encourage goodwill with the external regulators
 - 5) Virginia offered it could encourage a culture of sustainability
 - E. {Secondary discussion - Justine suggested that students should handle the program of setting out recycle bins for events; call them the Green Team – provide T-shirts; needs a Student Coordinator; looking for a paid internship}
4. Content and preparation of the 2007 Sustainability Report
- A. Mike wants more participation and submission of relevant information
 - B. Virginia asked if Academics & governance was included in the report previously
 - 1) She volunteered to prepare that component of the report
 - C. Mike and Bob will compile the data and send out a draft for review by the Committee. They need the information now so it can be compiled and sent by the end of the month.
5. Photos for the Sustainability web page
- A. Send yours or get one taken by Georgina today.
6. AB 75 results Q & A
- A. Kathleen presented summary data from the Campus 2007 Recycling and Solid Waste report as submitted to the California Integrated Waste Management Board. The statistics are as follows:
 - 1) In 2007, Sac State recycled and diverted 83.7% (by weight) of the materials that would have otherwise gone to a landfill. This percentage includes construction and demolition materials.
 - 2) Not including construction and demolition materials, in 2007, Sac State recycled and diverted 63.4% (by weight) of the materials that would have otherwise gone to the landfill.

- B. Virginia offered that because there is a shortage of landfill space, weight is not a good measure to evaluate recycling/diversion. It is better to represent the *volume* of landfill space saved. Therefore, a better measurement of recycling/diversion would be in a unit of volume (like cubic yards). The report should have a footnote with this information.
- 7. April 25th workshop with HOK Consulting Group. Questionnaire and purpose of workshop.
 - A. Mike announced that HOK will send committee members a questionnaire in advance of the workshop.
 - B. Mike stated the purpose of the workshop is to develop at least three specific goals for the Sustainability Committee to accomplish.
- 8. Next meeting Friday May 9, 2008.
 - 9. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

This summary is a compilation of the notes taken by Linda Hafar.