

**COMMITTEE:** University Environment Committee

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, February 25, 2016

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Eban Bean

**SECRETARY:** Lauren Gunter

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Eban Bean, William Hill, Tony Capehart, Carolyn Willis, Njinasoa Randriampiry

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Bill Koch, Lauren Gunter, Paul Gares, Gregory Kearney, John Gill, Scott Lecce

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** N/A

### **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

Agenda Item: Minutes approved once we had a quorum.

#### Old Business

Agenda Item: AASHE STARS Report

Discussion: The report summarizes the university's sustainability and efforts. There are 4 rating levels: bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. There are 5 areas to collect points in and 17 subcategories; the area we are most correlated with is Academics, with two subcategories: Curriculum and Research. Just within Academics, there is the potential for 58 points to be earned. If interested, this Committee would be the body that collects the data for credits AC 1-11 in the report. Targeting AC 1 first, Academic Courses, we can update the previous effort to inventory the courses on campus that directly and indirectly cover sustainability. There are different criteria and required reporting fields for this effort. The Committee is willing to assist Griffin Avin in these efforts, but there wasn't much support. It was asked what the outcome/value was or what made it worthwhile to complete the report. The program can be a very prestigious award for the University, and it advances the ability to enhance our programs and efforts on campus. This project also goes along with the mission and purpose of this Committee.

Action: Eban will take a first shot at updating the previous spreadsheet, and coordinate with faculty in Committee to divvy out the relevant schools, colleges, and academic departments. He will follow-up in a few weeks.

#### New Business

Agenda Item: Storm Water at Gateway Hall.

Discussion: Scott Lecce brought pictures of Gateway Hall regarding the storm water management system. It is discouraging that most of the water runoff is not retained, but returned to the storm water system. There is no cistern, as it was value-engineered out when it came down to the budget. John Gill, Bill Koch, and Eban Bean all contributed to the discussion regarding the storm water retention, project design, budget, parking, and future projects. The Gateway project was funded with mostly housing funds, but future capital projects have cisterns in the project design for irrigation use. The new student union center will have cisterns, large retention and treatment area, and additional parking. For all campus projects, the budget must be approved by legislature, and you must not exceed that budget. Eban asked if there was anything this Committee could do to add any weight to future decisions regarding environmental sustainability, or if there were any other opportunities for funding that can be tapped into for future decisions / projects. John Gill recommended following-up with Facilities Services Engineering & Architectural Services for more information if appropriate. No actions were taken at this time.

Agenda item: ADA Study at Jenkins Art.

Discussion: A recent ADA student was completed at the south facing ramp of the Jenkins Art building. It was found that the ramp was not compliant. Because they will need to rip out the concrete in the plaza area to construct a compliant ramp, Eban is working with Facilities Services to design a pervious pavement solution. The water would go into treatment, be stored, and excess would go to storm water system. This is a 1300 ft<sup>2</sup> area, and they are also adding a shade tree to the plaza area. This led to additional discussions regarding impervious covers, new construction, losing green space, and other projects that have been value-engineered out due to budget constraints. John Gill recommended that this Committee could request Facilities Services Engineering & Architectural Services to be a guest speaker during a future UEC meeting. No actions were taken at this time.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 24 at 3:30 Rawl 142