

**COMMITTEE:** University Environment Committee

**MEETING DATE:** January 25, 2018

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Brian Glover

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Anuradha Mukherji, Carolyn Willis, Njinasoa Randriampiry, Carol Goodwillie, Brian Glover, Suchita Pancholi

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Lauren Mink, Chad Carwein, Tomika Williams

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Lori Lee

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## **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

Agenda Item: Paris Agreement Resolution, provided below:

Faculty Senate Resolution #17-75

Approved by the Faculty Senate: November 14, 2017

Received by the Chancellor: December 14, 2017

Resolution Supporting the Goals of the Paris Agreement on Global Climate Change, as follows:

*WHEREAS*, according to the aspirational terms of East Carolina University's mission statement, our university "Prepares students with the knowledge, skills and values to succeed in a global, multicultural society; develops tomorrow's leaders to serve and inspire positive change; [and] discovers new knowledge and innovations to support a thriving future for eastern North Carolina and beyond"; and

*WHEREAS*, the major challenges of our own generation and the next will certainly include both mitigating the already-unavoidable effects of global climate change and preventing further acceleration of the problem; and

*WHEREAS*, eastern North Carolina, a low-lying coastal region in a major hurricane path, whose economy is heavily concentrated in agriculture, fisheries, tourism, and real estate, depends for its economic well-being on survivable climactic conditions; and

*WHEREAS*, the federal government of the United States had, under the terms of the United Nations Paris Climate Agreement of 2015, pledged to lower its overall carbon emissions, before the current administration revoked that pledge in June of 2017; and

*WHEREAS*, more than 180 universities throughout the United States, as well as hundreds of businesses and cities and nine state governments, including that of North Carolina, have pledged publicly to uphold the goals of the Paris Agreement, regardless of the federal position on the issue.

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Faculty Senate asks the Chancellor to affirm ECU's commitment to the goals of the Paris Agreement by signing the open letter to the international community at: <https://www.wearestillin.com/we-are-still-declaration>.

Discussion: Lauren Mink reported for Bill Koch that he plans to reach out to the Chancellor concerning his support for the Paris Agreement Resolution. Bill Koch will report on his conversation during the February meeting.

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Agenda Item: Potential proposal to ECU patron Mike Bunting

Discussion: Anuradha Mukherji presented projects developed by students in a capstone course in Urban and Regional Planning and suggested that these might be presented to Mike Bunting for support to implement them. Two promising projects concerned the Brewster Bldg courtyard and the Science and Technology Bldg bowl adjacent to 10<sup>th</sup> St. Proposed projects were designed to achieve storm water mitigation and campus beautification. Chad Carwein reported on faculty opinions concerning a desire to preserve the historical landscape in the Sci-Tech bowl.

Action Taken: The committee voted to present the students' report to John Gill for comment. If he supports the effort, the committee will submit to Mike Bunting for consideration. If Mike Bunting indicates interest, the committee will provide an informal report to the Faculty Senate and recommend the formation of a workgroup for planning and gathering further input from stakeholders.

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Agenda Item: Updates from Chad Carwein in sustainability planning

Discussion: Chad Carwein reported that the event to launch of the sustainability planning process was attended by over 45, including faculty, staff, students and community members. Greener View from Boston has been contracted to guide the planning process. Four committees will meet in the upcoming months to brainstorm ideas for climate change mitigation, materials management, campus grounds, and academics and research. An initial draft of the plan will be developed during the summer.

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Agenda Item: Oversight of natural areas owned by ECU

Discussion: Carol Goodwillie discussed concerns about the absence of oversight for natural areas, specifically the Otter Creek parcel, since the 2012 dissolution of the administrative Natural Areas Committee. The committee agreed that oversight of these areas was not an appropriate charge for the University Environment Cmte and discussed making a recommendation to the Faculty Senate to reestablish a Natural Areas Committee.

Assigned additional duties to: Carol Goodwillie will draft a proposal for review at the next UEC meeting to be submitted to the Faculty Senate for support.

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**NEXT MEETING:** 3:30 February 22, 2018

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

Bill Koch will report on discussion with Chancellor about signing the Paris Agreement.  
Carol Goodwillie will submit a proposal to reinstate the Natural Areas Committee