

COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee

MEETING DATE: October 24, 2019

PERSON PRESIDING: Carol Goodwillie

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Beth Robinson, Kanchan Das, Tomika Williams, Tammy Lee, Carol Goodwillie, Susan Pearce

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chad Carwein, Mark Sanders, *a student body rep has yet to be appointed*

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lori Lee, Rachel Baker

ACTIONS OF MEETING: Approval of minutes; discussing building health/making data available; review oversight over major natural areas; check in on progress with STARS survey.

Edits needed: none. Approved by acclamation

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: STARS Survey

Discussion: Chad presented STARS to the Deans and Directors. It went well and he got lots of questions. He explained STARS, particularly the importance of the academic section. He reminded them that special topics courses need to be self-reported because the info isn't available in the catalog; this will add additional courses to the inventory. Chad addressed the committee, "If you don't receive something by Monday of next week, please follow up with your college/dept and remind them of the commitment". He discussed the Princeton Review's "annual hopes and worries" annual survey with its question regarding environmentalism: for you or your student, would a university's commitment to environmental stewardship and green issues contribute to your decision to apply to/attend the U? Over 65% of respondents replied that it would at least "somewhat affect" their decision. He noted that this points to sustainability as being a recruiting tool. Vice Chancellor Stacey said there was a search going on for a chancellor since Staton left and that this was the time we needed to decide if we were going to question the potential candidates about sustainability, and do we want to make it a criteria? The Deans and Directors took it and expanded on it! Carol asked what the deadline was for the survey. Chad said it was November 15th.

Carol asked Chad if the faculty senate can play a role in this, to expand the broad cross section of contacting more faculty. Our committee can encourage faculty to respond.

Lori said [the committee] could draft something and we can send it to all faculty, to let this committee say they're supporting it and working on it.

Chad noted that the Associate Provost for IPAR was in the room and she didn't say we had to go through her survey oversight review committee. This (sustainability) is a unit objective in the strategic plan for the university and that's what caught everyone's attention. It needs the support of the provost, vice chancellors, deans as well. That's why we went this route.

Carol asked for verification that there will be no conflict? Lori said they'll take the blame if that happens. Carol asked Chad to help write up a couple of sentences to get to Lori and Rachel that can be sent out with the encouragement for faculty to respond. Chad said he would and that he would send the committee the message he sent to the deans and directors.

Action Taken: Carol asked Chad to help write up a couple of sentences to get to Lori and Rachel that can be sent out with the encouragement for faculty to respond.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: UEC Natural Areas Survey from last spring

Discussion: Carol noted that, re: the UEC natural areas survey data from last spring, that she is waiting to hear from Kyle Chapman. She proposed that we form a subcommittee or focus group before the next meeting who will take on summarizing the data and coming to the meeting with recommendations on ideas coming forward from the survey. Susan and Tammy volunteer to help. With regard to the data, she noted that one thing the committee can do is brainstorm who we want to talk to about various things and think about bringing them in

Lisa Beth asked about the status of the tree map/app. Chad noted that the app company crapped out, so Gene Stano has to find another. He said they didn't want to formally announce the ECU Tree Trail until the trees are marked.

Tammy asked for a summary on the natural areas agenda item. Carol explained that we put out a survey at the end of last year with the goals of getting the word out to faculty that there are a couple of major natural areas with opportunities for outdoor activities in these areas (and seeing who would be interested in using them).

Chad is compiling the data will make visible the next steps. Building a website will be great so we can point people to the areas, clean them up, have classes out there. This would be a wonderful project for a team of students, i.e. photojournalism, website design, with an interdisciplinary group to run capstone projects for this. The Business School has [expressed interest] and could revitalize interest/activities in those areas.

Looking at the data can only help and could give students a good experience [to work with this data].

Action Taken: Carol, Susan, and Tammy will summarize the data.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Building Health issues on campus.

Discussion: Carol noted that the only other item on the agenda was to continue discussion of Building Health issues. Lisa Beth mentioned Bill Koch's previous discussion of the Environmental Health and Safety website regarding what campus environmental data was being displayed and he was going to come back with a list. Chad addressed that, noting that EH&S is losing a lot of people, (including former UEC member Lauren) and that Bill is probably dealing with that. He suggested that we could look at their website and see what's missing, that we could do that by the next meeting. Carol referred the committee to the air/water quality, and asbestos concerns. EH&S did testing in the A-Wing of Brewster, but that was just one wing of one bldg. Carol reminds the committee that we can look for what information is available, who to contact, etc. She asked Susan if anyone came to meet with her faculty? It would be great if someone could come to faculty meetings and answer these questions. Susan replied that they interpreted results for the faculty and said that results were in normal range. Professor Karen Zipf forwarded an article to Susan showing a link between a fungus and pancreatic cancer.

Action Taken: Check out the EH&S website and see what data is available to the public.

Assigned additional duties to:

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Bike Share/Scooters

Chad gives brief history of bike/scooter programs at ECU. He mentions VIA ride who only said they'd bring bikes if they could bring scooters, saying that students don't care about bikes if there are scooters. Bikes become statues around campus. The administration's standpoint is an absolute NO on scooters. Bike/Scooter company Bird's Generation 1 scooters are being leased (40-50 scooters) to people who can have the leaser's stickers slapped on there, and have their own scooter share business. A former student in town created a company, put his stickers on there, and we now have 40

scooters in town. Mark asked if there are any companies doing exclusively bikes anymore. Chad said only one, but we would have to buy the bikes and manage the fleet, but with all the technology/software, we're looking at a couple hundred thousand dollars for a fleet of about 3000 bikes. With the budget climate as it is, we're not going to have that.

Action Taken: n/a

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Carol asks for additional agenda items for the year, please send them to her.
- Kanchan Das will be stepping down from the committee due to EOSA commitments and added responsibilities.
- Tim Christiansen cannot attend this semester and Bill McCartney cannot attend this year; Lori Lee will consult with administrators to find replacements.

NEXT MEETING: November 21st, 2019.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: