

COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee

MEETING DATE: March 28, 2019

PERSON PRESIDING: Carol Goodwillie

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Carol Goodwillie, William Hill, Kanchan Das, Susan Pearce, Brian Glover

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Greg Kearney, Chad Carwein, Bill Koch

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Gene Stano, Lori Lee

ACTIONS OF MEETING:

Agenda Item: Approval of February 28, 2019 minutes

Agenda Item: Campus Master Plan Update

Discussion:

April 2 – Main Campus Student Center
Student Session at 11:30am and Community Session at 5pm

Agenda Item: Survey of Natural Areas and Outdoor Classroom Use

Discussion:

Carol – Key Areas?

Gene – No, just anywhere areas are used and numbers of classes/students

Gene – Any areas where research requires the space to be undisturbed

Gene – Do not need to add specific places that we are already aware of

Chad – Make the options check boxes so more than one can be selected

Susan – Need to include an attention-grabbing subject line to increase

Link to Survey - <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/ipar/administrating-a-survey.cfm>

Chad - The Survey Review and Oversight Committee holds regular meetings on the first and third Monday of each month at 3:30pm in the Greenville Centre.

Chad – Need to submit survey request form before Monday, April 15

Chad – If approved, request to get on the April 23 Faculty Senate Meeting to promote

Chad – Link to West Research Campus: <https://goo.gl/maps/zxLDrksuc472>

Chad – Link to Otter Creek Natural Area: <https://goo.gl/maps/jMyJwcMMMST2>

This area consists of 78 acres.

Chad – Link to Freight Farm: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-admin/news/Sustainable-Campus-Dining.cfm>

Susan – We should add a sentence to the description of OCNA about the current status

Lori – Consider removing: “Please take 15 minutes to complete the following survey.”

Greg – Proposed “ECU NATURAL / PRESERVED AREAS”

Carol – We should mention that this merges 3 separate surveys into one

Action Taken:

Carol – Will wordsmith the survey based on discussion and email final version for vote

Carol – Will submit survey request form to SROC before Monday, April 15

Susan – Made a motion to approve the survey with the proposed revisions

Brian – Second the motion

Vote – All in favor

(Final Survey text is provided at end of minutes.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bill Koch – The revised charge has been approved by the Faculty Senate and is now waiting on approval from the Chancellor

Chad Carwein: Pirate Read – Nature Principle and Lib Guide to come

Brian Glover: Smart Cycling Course – TBD but all welcome

Bill Koch: Lime leaving, but we’ve got presentations scheduled with other companies

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 3:30 pm in 142 Rawl Annex.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Survey, Approval of Committee Annual Report

Wetlands, forests, gardens, and green spaces...

ECU has natural resources to support teaching and scholarship and is working to improve sustainability on our campus. In an effort to determine how best to support and use these resources effectively and promote sustainability, the ECU University Environment Committee is seeking your feedback. Please take a few minutes to complete this brief survey. We appreciate your response.

1. ECU NATURAL/PRESERVED AREAS

ECU oversees two major natural areas off campus:

West Research Campus: Located approximately 8 miles NW of campus, this site includes about 600 acres of undeveloped land. A protected wetland habitat, the site is maintained by prescribed burns as an open landscape and supports a diverse animal and plant community. For more information: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/biology/VoA.cfm>

Otter Creek Natural Area: Located approximately 12 miles NW of campus, near Falkland, NC, this 78 acre site is the only NC Natural Heritage designated natural area in Pitt County. It contains several steep ravines, a pine plantation, upland mixed hardwood, and river swamp forest. The terrain consists of several pleistocene erosional terraces formed by Otter Creek. Please note that this area is not currently being maintained so access and parking is quite limited for the time being. Link to Google Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/jMyJwcMMMST2>

Do you have interests in using these resources?

I am interested in using the West Research Campus

I am interested in using Otter Creek Natural Area

If yes, what would be the primary focus of your use of the area?

Teaching

Research

Other. Please describe [open response]

Are there any special resources or facilities that would be required for you to use the site effectively for your needs?

[open response]

2. OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS ON ECU CAMPUS

What current teaching activities are you conducting in the outdoor campus areas?

Holding classes or discussions outside

Training in specific activities

Course-based research

Other [open response]

Please provide the name and number of courses you teach that use outdoor campus areas.

[open response]

What enhancements would improve your ability to use the outdoor campus for curriculum activities?

More on-campus natural areas

A designated on-campus area for course-based research

Other [open response]

3. FOOD PRODUCTION

ECU Dining Services operates a Freight Farm “container farming” facility that uses new hydroponic technology as well as a raised bed herb garden, both located on College Hill. These produce organically-grown greens for use in student dining halls and catering services. Tours of these facilities can be arranged, and they might serve as resources for research on food production. Link to Freight Farm article: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-admin/news/Sustainable-Campus-Dining.cfm>

Do you have interest in using this facilities?

I am interested in having my class tour one or both facilities

I am interested in using one or both facilities for research

If interested, please provide your name and email address [open response]

4. SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a growing focus at ECU. Please answer a few questions on this topic.

Are you currently involved in research that concerns aspects of sustainability? If so, briefly describe.

[Open response]

Are you interested in being connected with other sustainability researchers on campus? If so, please provide your name, department and email address.

[Open response]

Do you incorporate sustainability topics into a course or courses that you teach? If so, please provide your name and the course name and number.

[Open response]

Would you be in favor of ECU establishing a sustainability course designation at ECU? Similar to existing Writing Intensive, Service-Learning or Diversity designations, this would appear on student transcripts. Making this a reality at ECU would require time and development, but for now we would like to gauge faculty interest.

Yes, I would support the development of a Sustainability Designation

No, I do not feel that ECU should pursue this option

Comments welcome [open question]

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey!

If you have questions or would like more information about using campus outdoor resources, please contact Carol Goodwillie at goodwilliec@ecu.edu, Chair of the ECU University Environment Committee