

COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee

MEETING DATE: April 25, 2019

PERSON PRESIDING: Carol Goodwillie

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

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: n/a

ACTIONS OF MEETING: Approval of minutes

Edits needed: no edits needed, approved by acclamation.

Agenda Item: Sustainability Survey/Sustainability Literacy Assessment

Discussion:

- 65 surveys had been completed, with 102 opened and in-progress.
- Committee members agreed to send the survey directly to their departments and others who might be interested.
- One unanticipated point of response was about the leaf blowers on campus, regarding intrusive noise/noise reduction and lowering emissions as well as workers not wearing appropriate safety gear (masks). This adds an occupational safety and a sustainability issue.
- The SLA was sent to 2500 students (freshmen and seniors); while there were 135 respondents in the beginning, only 90 completed the SLA for a 3.6% response.

Action Taken: n/a

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

Agenda Item: Committee Charge

Discussion:

The UEC's updated charge had been passed by the faculty senate and was sitting on the Chancellor's desk waiting for a signature.

Other points raised:

- Do we need representatives from groups currently not on the committee?
- We have a diffuse set of responsibilities; this makes it hard to know what to prioritize.

- Re: Item 6 of the charge: Once we get a quick 2 pages with support from the provost/faculty chair, we'll say "the previous chair supported this; will you support this?". We'll need to get on that pretty soon in the fall [to take action].
- We'll need a copy of the sustainability plan for new committee members next year.
- Do we want to resurrect the issue of the "Green Fee"? Not as long as Max Joyner is on the Board of Trustees. This was discussed and the committee was encouraged not to give up, but it was suggested that we need more students to show support, although a student survey showed that 60% of students surveyed supported the fee and 1200 support cards were signed the year students ran the campaign; that's 5% of the student body, and SGA supported the package.

Action Taken:

Chad will bring brochures for the new committee members. The committee will work to take action on getting our new charge approved.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

Agenda Item: On-campus water testing in buildings-can it be done?

Discussion:

- Both the University and Greenville Utilities have done testing in the past; we had fountains with lead line tanks and had those tested.
- It depends on what will be tested; water, asbestos, CO₂, ventilation, temperature, comfort standards. These were discussed thoroughly in terms of what has happened in the past and the processes that would be available for testing.
- The committee found it interesting that we have no idea how these things are tested at ECU; is some public education in order?
- It was also noted that people are often the [unaware] instigators of issues.
- ECU does have an asbestos monitoring program.
- If water testing is done, perhaps the "clean bill of health" can be used to promote choosing reusable bottles and discourage purchasing plastic bottles of water.
- Could we do some kind of promotion for awareness of the general competence of GUC in providing safe water?
- GUC does not necessarily test on campus; this could be where we come in.
- ECU has an outdoor air monitor here that generates air quality data in real time; could the app be embedded in the University's Web Page? It was suggested that this be placed on the Environmental Health & Safety's page.
- There was also a lengthy and informative conversation about the ground remediation of the site for the new Life Sciences building. Good news: Results are that 96% of the chemicals/old petrol is gone!

Action to be Taken:

- At the beginning of the 19-20 AY, we will invite an expert to speak to the committee.
- Find out and put together a list of procedures faculty can use if they're concerned about their building. Make a web page?

- Work to get the air quality data app added to the EH&S web page.
- Assigned additional duties to: n/a
-

Agenda Item: Bike routes in new/construction areas

Discussion:

- Can there be a policy going forward that if we're going to change the footprint of our blocks and shut down small streets that aren't on the radar of people who use cars, can we get a policy to make sure that any project like that will take into account the effect on the bikers?
- It was noted that there has to be a partnership between the city and the campus.
- Our master plan says that we're going to attempt to connect better between city and ECU pedestrian and bike routes. All projects are supposed to follow our master plan. Recognizing that is probably the first failure.
- Brief conversation of the Master Plan's updating status (static).

Action to be Taken:

- Discuss creating a viable policy serving both city and campus.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Brian Glover will be on a leave of absence in the Fall of 2019. Committee needs to find a substitute. He is thanked for his service since he will be coming off of the committee.

NEXT MEETING: September 26, 2019

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- Getting the committee charge approved by the Provost/Chancellor
 - Inviting an expert to speak to the committee on building/environmental testing.
 - Putting together a list of procedures faculty can use if they're concerned about their building. Make a web page?
 - Working to get the air quality data app added to the EH&S web page
-