

**COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee**

**MEETING DATE:** March 24, 2022

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Susan Pearce

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Susan Pearce, Kerry Sewell, Alison Swift, Lisa Beth Robinson, Akshat Kapoor, Tammy Lee

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Chad Carwein, Bill Koch, Tim Christensen, Gregory Kearney, Marc Peterson, Thompson Forbes

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Rachel Baker, Reide Corbett (guest)

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**ACTIONS OF MEETING**

Agenda Item: Call to order and Approval of Minutes

Discussion: n/a

Action Taken: Call to order at 3:31pm. Brief introductions of members to guest Reide Corbett. Motion to approve minutes by Tim, second by Lisa Beth. Minutes approved.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

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Agenda Item: New Business

- a. Report from Reide Corbett, Director Coastal Studies Institute, Dean Integrated Coastal Programs

Discussion:

- a. Reide Corbett introduces the ECU Integrated Coastal Institute and the Outer Banks Campus located in Wanchese and overlooks the Croatan Sound. There are no dorms on the campus currently. It opened in 2013. The campus has storm water retention ponds and collects roof water for recycling, which is used in the toilets. A significant portion of the property is wetland. There is about a 3-10 foot per year eroding shoreline along the sound. They have instead four 100-foot long sills to reduce energy to slow down erosion without impacting the wetlands. In 2018, the Integrated Coastal programs was established and with this, the department of Coastal Studies within the Coastal Studies Institute. It is a multi-institutional research partnership with other UNC System schools, but lead by ECU. They have multi-research focused areas that are interdisciplinary. The institute is part of the NC Renewable Ocean Energy Program, which is about a 2 million dollar/year funded program and includes other UNC system universities. Currently they are hosting Waves to Water program, focusing on using wave energy to convert salt water to fresh water. Interested in partnering with faculty to teach semester long classes face to face, possibly Friday and Monday classes. Open house late May 2022 possibly.

Action Taken: N/A

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

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Agenda Item: Old Business

- a. Statement on Renewables
- b. Otter Creek Natural Areas Reopening
- c. Report from Chad Carewin
- d. Brewer Building
- e. No Confetti Campaign

Discussion:

- a. Draft statement for renewables soon. Chad reports 1 applicant for Energy manager. Reposted job, need 3 applicants minimum. Chad shares 2022 College Hopes & Worries. It is a survey report from [www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings/college-hopes-worries](http://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings/college-hopes-worries). ECU is in the list for "Go Green" for the Princeton Review. Tim says that the challenge will be who we get this document too. Climate anxiety for new and future students. Reide suggests to talk to Alan Guidry. Chad suggests our new Chancellor has good insight into trends. Susan suggests sending this to Puri, as she meets with the Chancellor once a month. Tammy suggests adding the document to Teams so we can vote to approve. Suggestions include giving the document to Puri before going to Faculty Senate so she has a chance to give feedback. Lisa emphasizes potential economic savings and job opportunities.
- b. Otter Creek Reopening. Chad reports. Provost to talk at the re-opening. Trail Maintenance day was a success and trail looking great. Have 2 loops now, a main loop and another that parallels the creek. Will get signs to highlight the features on the trail. Students working on brochure. Working on a shuttle to get ECU transit and shuttle students, staff, & faculty to the reopening. Will have flyer out soon. Reopening is April 21, 2022 at 2:00pm. Bus to pick up at 1:30pm. Will encourage bus shuttle since there is limited parking on the road.
- c. Report from Chad: Bees – There are 2 hives out of 4 that made it out of winter. Getting 2 more packages of bees to get it back to 4 hives.
- d. Transcript from the Brewster Building talk is linked on the March 2022 agenda. No update on Brewster investigation from Bill. Bill reports they are talking about security for Otter Creek and maybe will have a form to fill out in order to use the Creek so they know who is out there for safety reasons.
- e. No Confetti Campaign – please get the word out and share the links. Share with students.

Action Taken: N/A

Assigned additional duties to:

- a. Draft Statement TBD
- b. All - Attend Otter Creek Reopening
- c. N/A
- d. N/A
- e. All - Share the No Confetti Campaign.

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Agenda Item: Announcements

- a. none
- b. Adjournment

Discussion:

a. N/A

Action Taken:

a. N/A

b. Motion to adjourn and seconded. Adjourned at 4:45pm.

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

**NEXT MEETING:** Fall 2023

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**