

Campus Sustainability Council

January 22, 2018

2:00-3:30

4CM41

Meeting called by: Alana Lajoie-O'Malley

Facilitator: Alana Lajoie-O'Malley

Note taker: Maureen Hanlon

Attendees: Alana Lajoie-O'Malley, Maureen Hanlon, Connor Penton, Sarah Campbell, Avery Letkeman, Maree Rodriguez, Lenn Cann, Kyle Macdonald, Brian Daly, Eva Wasney, Inga Johnson Mychasiw, Michael Emslie, Allan Amundsen, Jarita Greyeyes, Laurel Repski

Minutes

Agenda item: UW's Scope III Emissions

Discussion: Connor presented his work on the University's Scope III Emissions. It is difficult to know how we compare to other institutions. The committee recognized the limitations of procurement standardization, and many of the same limitations apply to the other categories Connor explored. The University should identify categories for which progress can be made and quantified. In general, most categories are best measured in other ways (not GHG capture?). Business travel may still have some room for action. Alana reminded all council members to take the Campus Commuter survey.

Agenda item: Foundation investments

Discussion: Brian gave a brief presentation on the University of Winnipeg Foundation's responsible/green investment strategies. He reminded the committee that the Foundation does not handle University funds; rather, there is an agreement between the donors and the Foundation to distribute funds from endowments to the University. The Foundation was told by the Board of Regents to make a Responsible Investing Policy, which passed in March of 2017. The Intentional Endowment Group praised the policy as one of the best they've seen. The Foundation has also established a Green Fund for donors and a fossil free option for the pension fund. The CSO will send out a reminder about the latter, as pickup has been slow. The Foundation calculates the portfolio's carbon footprint yearly.

Agenda item: STARS Process

Discussion: Alana gave an overview of the revised STARS deadlines: To be included in the 2018 Index, we would need to submit our application by March 2nd. Waiting might be beneficial because some key changes over the coming months might improve our score; meeting the March deadline would allow us to stay current with our certification and Diversity Foods might be recognized as a top performer. The CSO distributed printouts of council members' reporting expectations for the STARS process, and Alana requested that all members look these over and contact her about the timeline for reporting back, as well as any upcoming projects that might improve this score. Laurel reminded the group that we might not be able to pursue some points, and that many of our qualifying descriptors will not have changed since the last reporting process.

Action items

- ✓ Maureen will e-mail all council members their copies of the STARS expectations and a link to the last report.
- ✓ Council members who receive an e-mail from Maureen will reply with their expected timeline and potential for points in the future.

Agenda item: Campus Sustainability Recognition Award Committee

Discussion: It's time to award the Campus Sustainability Recognition Award. Alana asked for a staff and student volunteer, and Laurel and Kyle both volunteered to serve as staff committee members, and Maree volunteered as a student member. There will also be a faculty representative on the Committee.

Action items

- ✓ Alana will reach out to Kyle and Laurel to make a final decision about the staff evaluator.
- ✓ Maureen will schedule a meeting with the CSRA Committee when all members have been decided.

Agenda item: Update from the Facilities Working Group

Discussion: Kyle gave an overview of the last FWG meeting. The LEED Shadow standards are in development, including conditions for contractors. Allan voiced concern over project cost increases due to increased reporting expectations; Alana suggested that we might consider having these reporting expectations enacted when equal/less than a given percentage of the project budget. Kyle shared that they will be moving forward with a grant application for the solar project on the RecPlex. The biomass project is also moving forward smoothly, and will be featured in the University magazine.

Agenda item: Update from the Academic Working Group

Discussion: No members of the AWG were present, but Alana gave a brief update. The AWG continues to work on the course inventory for STARS, and is hoping to look at the development of the Indigenous Course to build a standard for sustainability designation. The AWG is hosting a Three Minute Thesis Competition for Faculty during Grass Routes, the upcoming Sustainability festival.

Action items

- ✓ Alana will contact Jamie Cidro for further information on the ICR development.