Minutes -Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Tuesday, August 10, 2010    9:30 am    Location: Board of Regents boardroom (A2029)

Attendance: Kris Aubrey, Nancy Burt, Peter Earle, Andrew Flood (Sustainability Office SWASP student), Mano Krishnapillai (via teleconference), Josh Lepawsky, Jennifer Lokash, Arlene McDonald, Shannon O’Dea Dawson (joined at 9:40 a.m.), James Quinlan, Terry Randell (alternate for Kieran Smith, GCSU, via teleconference), Toby Rivers, Toby Rowe, Bob Walsh, Mike Walsh (alternate for Meghan McCarthy, MUNSU)

Regrets: Paula Corbett, Kent Decker, Julie Green, Danielle Jeddore, Meghan McCarthy, Angela McLoughlin, Clemente Miranda, Meghan Mitchell, Kevin O’Leary, Kate Reid-Shute, Terry Riche, Dwayne Taverner, Frank Wall.

Guest: Susan Pottle (visiting from SWGC)

Chair: Jennifer Lokash    Minutes: Nancy Burt

1.0 Call to order and welcome: 9:30 am


3.0 Approval of minutes: June 8 & July 13, 2010 minutes approved. (J. Lepawsky/K. Aubrey)

4.0 Action items from previous meeting:
Action: T. Rowe to set up a meeting with Health and Safety concerning using New Alta to collect batteries (other than rechargeable) and input on Action Plan. Carried forward.
Action: K. Aubrey will modify letter on file and send to D. Miles, K. Decker, C. Burke and L. Walker in support of LEED certified residences. Carried forward. R. Guthrie (Facilities Management buildings contact) is on sick leave. T. Rowe suggested sending a letter with a couple of statements in support of LEED principles. K. Aubrey will get draft letter ready to send.
Action: K. O’Leary to contact G. Jones re giving a presentation on wind power and possible reductions on MUN hydro bills. Carried forward.
Action: M. McCarthy will draft letter in support of sustainable purchasing policies and forward to ACS members for input prior to sending to K. Decker. Carried forward.
Action: M. Krishnapillai to send list of ideas from PACS to T. Rowe. Carried forward.

Future Action Items
Action: T. Rowe to contact other departments to determine if interested in participating in Green Report Card. Carried forward until January 2011. T. Rowe updated that there isn’t enough time to generate the surveys and information required to participate this year, so will revisit again in early 2011.
Action: T. Rowe will send out invitations to students chosen for subcommittees. Carried forward until fall semester.

5.0 Terms of Reference Review
a) Committee structure: T. Rowe explained the idea for the creation of a sustainability committee for the St. John’s campus, and an overarching executive which consists of MI, Grenfell and St. John’s reps. She discussed it with Kent Decker and he supports the idea, and suggested that the overarching committee meet every three months instead of monthly. T. Rowe also requested any opinions as to if each campus committee should have their own subcommittees. K. Aubrey suggested that subcommittees be created depending on the campus and subject, and gave the MUN Community Organic Garden as an example...this would only be of interest to students and staff on the St. John’s campus. T. Rowe requested representation on subcommittee looking at the overarching committee from MI and Grenfell. M. Krishnapillai accepted for Grenfell and will discuss at their next meeting. A. McDonald suggested they’ll wait until their September meeting when M. Pippy is back. M. Walsh stated that there must be a student on every committee as in other committees on campus. S. Pottle said that Grenfell has subcommittees based on projects and that works well for them. Action: ToR subcommittee to work out the structure for the overarching committee and present at the next meeting.
6.0 Reports

a) Paper and Recycling subcommittee: No update (no meeting).

b) Buildings subcommittee: T. Rowe explained that she has been told that all new buildings on campus have been registered with LEED, including the new residence. J. Lokash suggested drafting a positive letter of support (reflecting LEED silver status) to be sent when needed. T. Rowe also explained that the new Faculty of Medicine will have fountains on each floor and there is one more planned for a common area. In the existing Faculty of Medicine area. Keith Bowden from Eastern Health said he would look into retrofitting the fountains in the School of Pharmacy and Nursing with bottle filling spouts.

c) Policies subcommittee: There has been no meeting, but T. Rowe explained the work being done by the Sustainability Office with regards to cell phone recycling and also the used furniture website initiative.

d) Marine Institute Sustainability Committee: No meeting planned until September 2010. A. McDonald spoke about the beach clean up that was held at the marine base.

e) Principal’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability – SWGC: M. Krishnapillai stated that the group met to discuss the possibility of having a smaller membership as they’ve been finding it difficult to reach a quorum. T. Rowe wondered if they would need a name change now to remove the word “Principal” as Grenfell will no longer have a principal. M. Krishnapillai also stated that composting will begin on their campus in September or October of this year. Also in August and September they plan to do the carbon footprint of both Grenfell and CONA (Stephenville campus).

f) GSU: J. Quinlan stated that the planning for the new sustainability co-ordinator position is moving ahead.

g) MUNSU: M. Walsh explained an event planned to encourage cycling as a mode of transportation, called the 1 Day Bike Fest which would include workshops on fixing common bike problems, rules of the road, etc.

7.0 Updates

a) Community Garden: T. Rowe stated that the garden proposal was sent to and approved by the SEC and they are now waiting on approval from Pippy Park. Many activities are planned for I ♥ MUNdays if the garden gets approval.

b) Action Plan: J. Lokash stated that the Action Plan is ongoing and progressing. T. Rowe said that the subcommittee will be requesting input from departments. J. Lepawsky wondered about the possibility of getting a PowerPoint presentation designed to outline the previous and future activities of the ACS to help with presenting the action plan. T. Rivers suggested 2 – 6 pages that would be usable in all departments be sent to dept. heads and request them to bring to their meeting for input.

8.0 New Business

a) C & C: A. McLoughlin stated that she’s been working on developing a list of initiatives and that C&C is thinking of creating a committee as there is a lot of interest in sustainability issues. One initiative could focus on air conditioning in the data centre and also promoting sending e-mails instead of faxes. T. Rowe suggested the possibility of an IT group that would also include other departments, such as DELT. J. Lepawsky requested that he and Chris McNab be kept in this loop.

b) Eastern Health Central Kitchen: J. Quinlan stated his opinion that the government “Eating Healthy” campaign is not working at Eastern Health and suggested the ACS send a letter to Eastern Health Central Kitchen in support of reaching the targets outlined in the campaign. All agreed this should be done. Action: J. Quinlan to draft a letter to Eastern Health re Eating Healthy campaign for approval by the ACS.

9.0 Events/Announcements: End of Summer BBQ, sponsored by Honeywell, Wednesday, August 25, Paton College Square.

10.0 Next Meeting: September 14, 2010