Minutes -Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Tuesday, Feb. 9 2010   9:30 am
Location: INCO 2014

Attendance: Paula Corbett, Peter Earle, Jennifer Lokash, Meghan McCarthy (for Becky Winsor, MUNSU), Angela McLoughlin, Arlene McDonald, Meghan Mitchell, Terry Riche, Toby Rivers, Toby Rowe, Abigail Steel, Frank Wall
Guest: Terry Randell (Grenfell Student Union)
Regrets: Kris Aubrey, Kent Decker, Julie Green, Mano Krishnapillai, Josh Lepawsky, Shannon O’Dea Dawson, Kevin O’Leary, Dwayne Taverner, Bob Walsh, Dennis Waterman

Chair: Abigail Steel
Minutes: Jennifer Lokash

1.0 Call to order and welcome: 9:30 am

2.0 Introduction of members and guests in attendance:
New members: Terry Riche (Project Green); Frank Wall (NAPE); Angela McLoughlin (C&C); Arlene McDonald (Marine Institute)
Other: Meghan McCarthy (sitting in for Becky Winsor of MUNSU); Terry Randell (invited guest - Grenfell Student Union President)

3.0 Approval of minutes: January 12, 2010: No quorum. Carried forward.

4.0 Action items from January 2010 meeting:
Action: T. Rowe to set up a meeting with Health and Safety concerning using New Alta to collect batteries (other than rechargeable). Carried forward.
Action: T. Rowe to set up a meeting with MUNSU to discuss their concerns about at large student members. Completed. ACS agreed that given the process leading up to adopting the ToRs last month, the ToRs will not likely be reviewed again until September.
Action: T. Rowe will call a meeting of the Membership Subcommittee to respond to MUNSU’s letter about student members and to start review of applicants for ACS. Completed.
Action: T. Rowe to submit a recommendation to Senior Executive Committee via Kent Decker for next meeting. Completed. SEC’s response was that we should create a draft with goals for Deans & Directors.
Action: T. Rowe to contact other departments to determine if interested in participating in Green Report Card. Carried Forward T. Rowe investigated greenreportcard.org and the committee determined we might as well do it if we can as it will provide a baseline and be good for marketing and recruitment.
Action: T. Rowe to check with the Library and WAMUN as to what happens with their old books. Completed. Nancy researched various initiatives to collect old books at MUN.
Action: T. Rowe to distribute link for sustainability video from T. Rivers. Completed.

5.0 Membership
- T. Rowe summarized the discussion from last meeting for new members (see minutes from January 12, 2010). MI and SWGC student unions want their positions back, and this will be reviewed again in September 2010, when the ToR come up for review.
- There is currently no student available for the MI position, but Terry Randell reasserted that Grenfell College Student Union (GCSU) wants representation on this committee and restated that his union would like the ACS to review the ToR. T. Rivers suggested we appoint some ad hoc members from GCSU and Marine Institute SU until September (which right now would only be someone from Grenfell).
Action: T. Rowe will send out a motion for approval of interim members to the ACS for an email vote:
Motion: The ACS will retain its membership as per the Terms of Reference approved in December 2009, and will provide one position with voting rights for each of the Grenfell College Student Union and the Marine Institute Student Union until the Terms of Reference are reviewed in September 2010. (Toby Rivers; seconded by Paula Corbett)
The committee discussed the problem of quorum and the necessity of communication between reps on the ACS to their other committees.

T. Rowe reported that there are still vacancies for the faculty positions. Representatives from new designated groups have been appointed: Angela McLaughlin (C&C) and Julie Green (Registrar’s Office). Frank Wall will represent NAPE (Austin Critch will be his alternate).

T. Rowe noted the huge response from students, some of whom will be invited to sit on one of subcommittees.

**Action:** The Membership Subcommittee will put recommendations for at large students and at large positions out for vote/approval via email prior to next meeting.

### 6.0 Reports

**a) Paper and Recycling subcommittee:** P. Corbett reported that the subcommittee met January 26th and discussed using D2L to facilitate the work of the subcommittee, subcommittee goals, battery recycling and the fact that there’s no institutional wide plan, membership, MUCEP students, distribution of hard copies of the *Gazette* (one may request not to receive a hard copy)

**b) Buildings subcommittee:** T. Rivers reported that the subcommittee discussed its role and name and the issue of sewage and water capacity and the need to set up evaluation of building usage to gauge how it can be reduced. F. Wall noted that this is an ongoing problem as we’re still installing water-cooled air conditioners. At next meeting T. Rowe will provide draft goals for action plan.

**c) Policies subcommittee:** A. Steel reported that the subcommittee discussed goals for action plan and membership.

**d) Marine Institute Sustainability Committee:** Arlene MacDonald is replacing Adam Courage. At the last meeting at MI in January, the committee discussed membership, the report on the committee’s first year, and the transportation survey. MI Committee will provide Toby Rowe with goals for action plan.

**e) Principal’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability – SWGC:** No Report.

**f) Project Green:** T. Riche reported that PG is thinking of revising Sustainability Guide for St. John’s (developed by Geography class) or writing their own, looking to get involved in the campus garden, and planning the Community Yard Sale (formerly the Dump and Run). T. Rowe mentioned that she had been contacted by Juno Awards organizer who found the Sustainability Guide on mun.ca/sustain.

**g) MUNSU:** M. McCarthy reported that MUNSU is working on a fair trade policy.

**h) Action Plan:** T. Rowe needs help with the Action Plan. Peter Earle volunteered. General consensus is that we need an ad hoc committee. M. McCarthy volunteered to participate; J. Lokash volunteered to help with the writing. **Action:** T. Rowe will email ACS members to find ad hoc committee members for sustainability action plan.

**i) Communications:** N. Burt and T. Rowe are working on submission for next *Communicator*. It will likely come out too late to advertise Sustainability Week.

**j) Green report card:** **Action:** ACS members will look at greenreportcard.com and give input to T. Rowe. Deadline to sign up and pay registration fee is February 26th.

### 7.0 New Business

**a) Sustainability Declaration at Grenfell:** T. Rowe was contacted by Janet Man from SIFE (Grenfell) about their March 8-11 Sustainability Week and suggested that Sustainability Declaration be brought to Grenfell. T. Rowe may make her annual trip for this purpose.

**b) NAPE:** F. Wall described his section’s (plumbing, FM) idea to save a large amount of water. Currently urinal tanks flush every 10 minutes automatically, 24/7. Approximately 35 million litres of water could be saved by battery operated sensory flushers. **Action:** Frank will look into sending a draft report to the Buildings Subcommittee, and they will discuss drafting a letter of support to be sent to Darrell Miles.

**c) Water Pledge:** M. McCarthy asked how the water pledge is going after a year. It was signed in September, but Meghan suggested that nothing seems to be happening. Some events are still providing bottled water. How do we keep the university accountable for what it signs onto? T. Rowe pointed out that the Pledge was signed in September not over a year ago, and things are happening. There have been meetings with Chartwell’s and follow-up communication is needed. A letter should be sent to Chartwell’s explaining/informing that we signed onto the Water Pledge and what this means. T. Randell suggested that we ask the President’s Office to send out an official memo, and try to suggest a timeline for complete elimination of bottled water on campuses. He also stressed the importance of communicating with vendors, as SWGC has arranged for their pub (?) to move towards elimination of bottled water. The Water Pledge needs to be addressed in the Action Plan.

**d) Recycling/garbage bins:** T. Rivers raised the issue of garbage and paper blowing around outside. T. Rowe said a consultant has been hired to look at waste management issues.
e) Senate paper use: T. Randell complained about Senate packages and the committee discussed options for rallying support for making electronic packages the default. T. Rowe suggested that similar to MUNFA, Senate members need to ask for changes from within.

8.0 Events/Announcements
a) Sustainability Week St. John’s campus Mar. 1-4, 2010, Grenfell Mar. 8-12
b) Bottled Water Free Day Mar 11, 2010, may be good time to promote the Water Declaration issues again. P. Corbett suggested that the President do reminder memo for next Communicator issue. A. McLoughlin suggested that more promotion needs to be done to reassure users that campus water is tested and potable.
c) Climate change presentation: Tuesday, Feb. 16. Andrew Weaver is discussing climate change as part of the Elizabeth Laird Lecture Series.

9.0 Next Meeting: Mar. 9, 2010