

Senate Plant Utilization and Planning committee
Wednesday April 20, 2011

Final

Present: Irene Frieze, Tracey Olanyk, Mary Rugh, Christin Whitco, Laura Zullo, Joe Fink, Dan Marcinko, Kristin Gusten, Nancy Baker, Buck Favorini, Kim Barlow, John Wilds, Dave DeJong, Eli Shorak, Susanna Leers, Pat Weiss, Jim Becker, Paul Munro

Meeting was called to order.

Everyone introduced themselves.

The Minutes from the Feb2, 2011 meeting were approved.

Joe Fink gave a report on Facility Management's "Sustainability Team"

Joe went over the stipulations that were put in place for them to create a Coordinator for Sustainability initiatives. (needed to come from Facilities Management, not a full time position...) Dan Marcinko was chosen to fill this position. Joe pointed out that Facilities personnel are always working towards implementing sustainability initiatives when possible.

Dan Marcinko- is the Facilities Management Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration

Dan works with other groups in the University to try to implement initiatives we want to undertake. He was involved with the Carrillo steam plant from day one (Pitt and UPMC Steam plants to all gas fire sources- no more coal burning). He is also working with the students in the rain garden project at the Petersen Event Center. Dan is going to present at the student symposium this Friday April 22nd, 2011. He is also working on upgrading the Facilities Management Website- making it more innovative and accessible. He is also looking at the University's Going Green website.

Sustainability is a process- Dan's position is to help people know what they need to do to take an idea and make it work.

Other people in Facilities Management were introduced and their positions explained.

Laura Zullo- is the Senior Manager of Energy Initiatives

She is a certified energy manager. Looking at energy conservation management she will be involved in Energy audits- utilities are the largest part of Facilities Management's budget. She will also work with branch campuses and Health Sciences. They are installing a new enterprise energy management system- which will allow them to track usage and costs by building. She will also continue on other sustainability issues- Serra Magazine survey (cool schools), next year's Princeton review.

Mary Rugh- is the Senior Manager of Engineering

She works with the University's high voltage usage systems, building automation system (all mechanical equipment reading and control) one system across all buildings, the design and

installation of all metering in our buildings. We have installed new meters in all our buildings. She also works on retro commissioning- reviewing and retuning buildings based on design criteria.

Christin Whitco- is the LEED professional on the Facilities staff

There are currently 12 projects, new or renovations, where we are working on LEEDS. She pointed out that you get more points/credits for reusing an existing building- which is why it is easier to get higher ratings on renovations than on brand new buildings. The requirements are also getting harder- they are now requiring conservation and energy recovery systems, low VOC materials for the indoor air quality. The University is also doing things that are not just building related- free bus rides, zip cars...

There is no policy for LEEDs certification and projects but LEEDs certification will be pursued if it makes financial "sense"- it's not a budgetary burden. Smaller projects do not lend themselves to LEEDs certification because of the paperwork involved.

Dan Fisher is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Operations

Worked on the regional bio containment lab at BST3- which is the model that is now used for operating regional bio-containment labs. NIH asked Dan to chair a committee on maintenance management systems for Research.

Will Mitchell- is in charge of Custodial Services

Some of the initiatives they are overseeing/undertaking- construction waste recycling, recycling batteries, cell phone recycling (CSSD wipes out info), green cleaning (Falk school, Benedum Hall, Sennott Sq.), purchasing more green products.

Buck suggested creating a green map of campus-

Highlighting bike racks, special recycling spots (batteries, cell phones...), and which buildings are LEEDs certified.

Someone asked if there was a Sustainability master plan. There is no sustainability master plan- but there are plans for an annual report highlighting sustainability initiatives. It was pointed out that the problem with not having a master plan is there is no measurement for future targets for energy consumption. Joe pointed out there is an Energy Utilization Index. That will be an indicator of energy usage by building once the enterprise management system is implemented.

The Sustainability Statement was formally adopted by the University Senate 4 years ago. There was a debate on the Senate vs. University policy.

Pat Weiss brought up the problem of visibility on what is being done.

We are doing more than what people are aware of- for example the energy auditing practices save big money but they are not talked about.

There was discussion on how to get the word out- Public Affairs (Chronicle is doing a series on sustainability), filling out surveys to try to get the word out. What we are doing should be talked up by- admissions, alumni, during the new student orientation.

Buck mentioned that sustainability has come a long way with more student groups evolving and getting involved and all the LEEDs certifications we are getting and trying for.

Paul asked about wind turbines. This was debated- noise issue, not good in an urban setting, educational experience in University of seeing turbines, someone brought up the Eat-n-Park in Aspenwall- powers 1/3 of the building.

Solar power...not a viable option in PA right now.

The Sustainability committee has been working on a green giving campaign. If you could put a price on the difference between what something would cost for us to do and what it would cost for us to do in a sustainable way- you could market it as a way to generate money for sustainability projects.

We then got an update on the building and renovation projects at the University.

Salk hall- in construction

Chevron- Addition is taking shape, and they are continuing to renovate Chevron/midcampus

GSPH- design is complete and going for approval

Concordia Club- Renovations are done, it will be a student center, and will not open until the Fall

Bouquet Garden and Benedum- are ongoing

Possible agenda items for future meetings

LEED presentation

Traffic

Increasing lighting on Bigelow

We agreed to wait until Fall for the next meeting.