

SIUC Sustainability Council

Monthly Business Meeting

Friday, August 28, 2015

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 9:05 am.  
Members present: Cami Sockow, Jill Johnson, Jerrica Jordan, Leslie Duram, Vicki Kreher, Deb Sarvela, Karen Stallman, and JD Tanner.  
Others present: Geory Kurtzhals.  
Absent: Yanna Liang.
  - a. Who is who?
    1. Our New Sustainability Coordinator is Geory Kurtzhals.
    2. Our New Chair is Grad Student Cami Sockow.
    3. Returning Secretary is Undergrad Jill Johnson.
    4. Returning Grad Student is Jerrica Jordan.
    5. Returning Faculty is Leslie Duram.
    6. Returning Faculty is Yanna Liang.
    7. New Faculty is Vicki Kreher.
    8. Returning Staff is Deb Sarvela.
    9. Returning Staff is JD Tanner.
    10. New Staff is Karen Stallman.
2. Officer Appointments
  - a. Recording Minutes: Jill Johnson will continue to be the recorder of minutes.
  - b. Green Fund: In the past, we have had a meeting or two each semester. Leslie points out that this is not really necessary now until February or March, especially with the budget cuts. We will meet as a whole council a few more times before we decide who will be a part of the Green Fund.
  - c. Planning and Assessment: This is pretty important. We need to talk to Lori Stettler in order to be recognized as an Advisory Committee for the university. This is what the Sustainability Council should have been all along. Some future plans include a broader approach to the idea of, for example: NO Styrofoam or NO disposable water bottles allowed on campus (similar to the NO smoking policy that has recently been implemented). We would like to see this become a reality.
  - d. Curriculum: This one is tricky, because the Sustain Council has no control over much of the curriculum layout of the university.

### 3. New Business

#### a. New Sustainability Coordinator:

Geory Kurtzhals (starts next week)

#### b. Suggestions for the New Year:

We should have the whole 9-person Council involved in decisions. This has not really been done in the past. Some suggested terms were thrown around to replace “Committee”, including “Advisory Roll” and “Advisory Topics”. Another suggestion (which is what Leslie already does) is for teachers to implement into their individual curriculum layouts information about the Sustainability Council and all that we do for campus. Also tell students what classes are offered that are geared toward sustainability. We need a logo, but this has failed in the past. We cannot have an official logo unless we become an RSO. Leslie says we need an identifier that specifically says “Paid for by SIUC Sustainability Council and the Green Fund”. JD suggests having a fee associated with obtaining a plaque and Green Fund proposal (ex. If they are asking for \$5,000, tack on \$200 as a fee). Two main things that we need to focus on as a Council: A better vision and advertising. There are a lot of issues with staff and student workers on campus not being trained properly when it comes to sustainable matters. Jill suggests we try and implement training on this into each semester’s dining/housing/janitorial training for Civil Service and student workers. These are some of the largest groups on campus with some of the largest amounts of waste, therefore having the best opportunity to recycle, compost, etc. There is a real issue with supervisors in these positions miscommunicating and not caring enough to do the right thing when it comes to recycling, etc. JD points out that recycling is the most basic of sustainability concepts. We need “ambassadors” in different departments around campus to make sure people are educated on where to put trash, recycling, and compost. Greg Aldrich, a Sustainability GA, is working on this by trying to put signs above all trash/recycling/compost bins around campus to help people out. Vicki suggests janitorial get different bins on carts to help them in the process of sorting as they work. Cami points out that combined with all of this, we need people in each department on campus helping each other out (along with JD’s suggestion of ambassadors). JD and Leslie say we should look in the Sustainability Council bylaws and change our title to “Education”.

#### c. Green Fund Timeline

When can we meet? Everyone has such tight schedules, this may be a little difficult, be the final time that seems to work for everyone is Wednesdays at 3 pm (once a month). **The rest of the semester meetings are as follows:**

**Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and Dec. 9 (all at 3 pm, Activity Room A).**

#### d. Advisory Committee

More on this in the next meeting.

#### e. Travel Awards

More on this in the next meeting.

#### f. Consistent Meeting Time Each Month

(see above for dates)

4. Other Council Business/Discussion

As of last week, the compost facility finally got their EPA contract. TBA on when they are officially up and running.

5. Adjourn: 9:49 am

(Next meeting Sept. 16, 3 pm, Act. Rm A)