

SIU Sustainability Council

Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2015

Members Present: Drew Fox, Jill Johnson, Leslie Duram, Deb Sarvela, Yanna Liang, JD Tanner

Absent: Chef Bill Connors

Others Present: Kris Schachel, Sonya Willis (Coordinator GA), guest speakers

Call To Order: 1:05 pm

Approval of 11/7/14 meeting minute: Drew motioned, Yanna 2nd, all approved.

Approval of 2/3/15 agenda: Drew motioned, Jill 2nd, all approved.

Officer Reports:

Guest: Peter Lemish (Imagining Geographies) (School of Journalism)

This is Year 3 for Imagining Geographies. The main idea behind the Imagining series is to investigate and share knowledge of public spaces (not just private domains) for the past, present, and future. The connection with the Green Fund was to raise awareness on Antarctica through the use of the fund. The idea was to capture the imaginations of people. People should experience the arts, environments, policy communication, and sustainability. Civic engagement is the goal. There have been 22 sessions for the Imagining series to date. For future Imagining projects, there will be a half hour slot on Thursdays on WSIU, and an hour slot on Sundays on WSIU. These will focus on policy issues.

Guest: Sally Wright (Rec Center sports and services)

Sally came to the Council to share her interest in Neuro-Conservation. She recently read the book Blue Mind by Wallace J. Nichols. This book focuses on human need to be around water, and how much water affects us on a daily basis and when we plan vacations. There is a lot of value in water, from hospitality and tourism, to swimming. The Neuro-Conservation concept blends science with environmental understanding. We must understand something in order to protect it. Sally has looked into bring Wallace J. Nichols to SIUC for a lecture. It would be around \$5,000 to bring him here from California. He will be available in April, around the 8th.

The idea is to have him lecture right around Earth Day 2015. There has been a lot of talk around Carbondale for quite some time now about having a community pool to swim in. This lecture series would be able to explain the concept of water in our lives and why it is so important to humans.

Guest: Prabisha Shrestha

Prabisha attended the Cities Alive conference through the Travel Award. She was not able to be reached to attend this meeting and give the Council a presentation.

Chair Report:

Drew plans to give a presentation in his Zoology 312i class for the Council.

Meeting with Lorrie Lefler:

- 1) We discussed some old open projects/rounds. The oldest are the LOGIC and Cycling/Pedestrian. The concern is why these projects are still out there, as some of the people who started them have graduated.
- 2) The projects for the Green Fund are supposed to be one year with an extension. Most of these projects are now at the 3 year mark. (LOGIC was a 3 year plan originally, according to Leslie. All funds are to be used in that project.)
- 3) The Pedestrian project is hung up in state reviews at the moment. This project may be closed until the city and /or state is ready to move forward. Some of these accounts may be floating, where paperwork hasn't caught up with the project yet. (The Council has voted to put business heads of these projects on the paperwork.)
- 4) We need to close the Spring 2012 projects by the end of this school year. (As of December 31, 2014, there is \$97,724 in untagged money. This is before Spring 2015 tuition money came in.)

Announcement: SIU email password expires February 6, 2015.

Sustainability Coordinator Report:

In the office: LED Hallway sign was just put up this morning. A design for it is coming soon. Sonya Willis is the Coordinator Assistant. Greg, the Recycling GA, helped with Dawgs Nite Out this past weekend, where people signed up for the Saluki Sustainable Pledge. We are planning to promote this through the SIU Today and Sustain newsletter.

On March 30th from 4:30-6 pm in Gyon Auditorium, the Women's Resource Center and Sustainability Council are partnering for speakers on Women in Pioneering Trailblazers (Sonya

has the full definition of this particular group.) Melinda Yeomen of the Women's Resource Center will be helping coordinate this event.

Saluki Service Days for housing is the week of October 14-18, 2015. This will be a city-wide sustainable clean up.

For Sustainability Day, there are going to be RSO groups, information tables, a cook-off (Sonya's idea), poetry slam, and other performances, including the Saluki Majorettes, who will be performing a flash mob to Michael Jackson's Earth Song.

Quigley has a Kinetic Sculpture going on right now that waves and moves. It is an interactive experience that Kris recommends checking out.

Earth Day is April 22, 2015.

The end of April through graduation weekend in May will be the move-out collection stations set up throughout the resident and dining halls.

There was no available funding to purchase new computers, especially for Sonya in the Coordinator's office. We may have to use the Green Fund for this, and the estimate stands at about \$1,000 or under. (The Council took a vote to approve \$1,000 for a new computer for the Coordinator's office. Leslie motioned, JD second, all approved.)

Committee Reports:

Green Fund:

Biodigester and Energy Audit: Garth Crosby had projects 1 and 2 for this. Extension granted until end of Spring 2015. The Sustainable Vegetable Farm project was closed out. Final report for Imagining Geographies was submitted by Peter Lemish. (The Council voted to approve Garth Crosby's extension. Drew motioned, Deb second, all approved.)

The Bike Fix-It Stations have been installed. There are around 7 or 8 set up around campus. This project has received quite a bit of media attention.

Jerrica and Kris attended the Dental Hygiene Recognition awards on December 9, 2014.

Other Council Business:

There was a call for proposal announcement dates. A date of March 17, 2015 was set up. This gives the Committee a month to review and announce winners on Earth Day. (The Council voted to approve this. Drew motioned, Leslie second, all approved.)

April 22 is Earth Day. (Council voted to approve. Drew motioned, JD second, all approve.)

Michio Kaku is in line to be a guest speaker. He is said to be the guy that people want to present when they cannot get Neal deGrasse Tyson.

Beginning of April: We need to post/advertise membership application for open spots on the Council. Drew's last day is the end of the Spring 2015 semester. There was a suggestion among Council members to put up flyers around campus to advertise the open positions.

LOGIC needs to be a one-year-only application from now on.

Executive Session:

Travel award budget approval: The Council voted to keep it at \$6,000. Drew motioned, Jill second, all approved.

There is also concern about Kris' paycheck and how it is funded. We would like to see Kris continue to receive a paycheck as our Sustainability Coordinator, but the funding needs to come from somewhere other than just the Green Fund.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.