

SIU Carbondale Sustainability Council  
Monthly Business Meeting Agenda  
**Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 pm, Morris Library 754**

**Members:** Students: Connie Kaniewski - P, Dylan Gibson - P, Seth Traiteur - P; Faculty: Leslie Duram -A, Tao Huang - P, Shannon McDonald - P; Staff: Sally Wright - P, Betsy Bishop - P, Brad Cowley- P  
\*P = present / A = Absent\*

1. Call to Order (5:31)
  - Into of New Members. All members introduced themselves.
2. Attendance (include present and absent in minutes; names are above) (5:31-5:34)
  - a. Expected to be absent: Leslie
3. Group photo, thank you note for Makenzee (5:34-5:36)
  - All members signed card for Makenzie. Will take photo later in the meeting.
4. Approval of Minutes – 12/07/2018 (5:36-5:37)
  - Tao moved to approve minutes, Connie Second. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and 3 abstentions.**
5. **Strategic priority planning** (5:37-5:46)
  - a. Renewable Energy Credits (5:37-5:39) *See attachment.*
    - Dylan typed a letter to the Interim Chancellor to share the December vote encouraging the purchase of RECs for the University. It has been submitted to Chancellor Dunn via Vice Chancellor Stettler and we are awaiting feedback.
  - b. Other items to discuss (5:39-5:46)
    - i. The city would like a student to sit on the Sustainability Commission.
    - Many names were thrown around as possible candidates from within the council and outside.
    - Student must live within the Carbondale city limits
6. Sustainability Council operations: (5:46-6:00)
  - a. Scheduling this semester's meetings
    - The plan is to go with Monday evening meetings starting at 5:15pm. Geory took dates people could not make one of those times. We will make specific dates official later.
7. Standing agenda items (6:00-6:18)
  - a. Green Fee account (Geory) (6:00-6:01)
    - i. Balance update - \$186,013.36 (as of 12/31/2018); \$82,366.54 increase since last meeting
    - ii. GF budget adjustments under \$2500 - none
    - iii. GF budget adjustment requests over \$2500 - none
  - b. Green Fund Committee report (Connie/Dylan) (6:01-6:04)

- i. Extension requests (Connie)
- ii. Final reports received (or closed projects) (Connie)
  - [17SP134](#)
  - [16SP127](#)
- iii. Other requests or items for review (6:04-6:09)
  - Updated green fund projects and Sustainability Council pages:  
<https://sustainability.siu.edu/green-fee/green-fund-projects/index.php>  
<http://sustainability.siu.edu/participate/sustainability-council.php>
- iv. Project Payment Tracking/Status (Connie) (6:09-6:14)
  - Connie showed the excel sheets from previous years and how much money was given and what percent was on hold.
- v. Status update of current funding round (Dylan) (6:14-6:15)
- vi. Recommended minor changes to the Green Fund rubric (6:15-6:18)
  - Remove “& Connection” from the Collaboration & Connection category name. Note: it does say “Collaboration and Connection” on the proposal form.
  - Under “Social Benefit,” “2” column: change “free” to “fair.”
  - Change “Additional Funding” to “Other Funding.”

**Connie motioned to approve the changes, and Betsy seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

8. Paused meeting to take picture for Makenzee and website. (6:18-6:20)

9. Other updates (6:20-6:28)

a. [Semester Calendar](#) FYI - see calendar in right column under quick links

i. Highlight key events

- Regenerating Earth: From Problems to Potential, the event on 2/7/2019 at 4 pm in Guyon Auditorium
- Exploring the UN Sustainable Development Goals - February 28th, 11am-1pm in the SIU Student Center
- Drawdown event (end of March)
- Sustainability Celebration (end of April)

b. Sustainability Working Groups (6:28-6:29)

- Two groups are meeting Wednesday of this week.

c. Hub Relocation (6:28-6:35)

d. Open opportunity to share updates for initiatives not listed here. (6:35-6:43)

- A fourth Sustainability Fellow has joined the team to support STARS AC1.

10. Thank you and adjourn

- **Betsy motioned to close the meeting and Shannon seconded. Closed meeting at 6:43 pm.**

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Spring 2019 Sustainability Council meetings will be held on the following dates: TBD.

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Council Calendar - highlights for the year

- **August** - updates from summer, orientation, overview of semester/year
- **September** - review of fiscal year, prioritization and goals for this year, STARS follow-up; Project Payment Tracking/Status (for fall semester)
- **October** - goals and STARS follow-up, [Sustainability Month]
- **November** - select Green Fund Committee (GFC), open applications for open position
- **December** - review applications for open position
- **January** - overview of semester; Project Payment Tracking/Status (for spring semester)
- **February** - review extension requests (Feb. 1 is deadline), GFC prepares for funding round
- **March** - review final reports (Mar. 1 is deadline), applications for open position, preparation for Sust. Celebration, Sust. Collaborator (or Hon. Env. Ambassador) award, **GFC reviewing proposals**
- **April** - review of recommendations from GFC (gf awards, changes to proposal, rubric, process), review applications for open position/s, **GFC reviewing proposals**, [Earth Month]
- **May** - review of FY20 budget
- **Summer** - only if needed

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Date: January 1, 2019

To: SIU Carbondale Interim Chancellor John M. Dunn

From: SIU Carbondale Sustainability Council, c/o Geory Kurtzhals, Sustainability Coordinator

Recent high profile reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the U.S. Global Research Program have emphasized the dire risks Earth faces if global climate change remains largely unchecked, including widespread harm to natural ecosystems, thousands of additional human deaths each year, and substantial damage to the U.S. economy. The IPCC states that avoiding such impacts will require “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society”, including widespread transition to renewable energy sources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Recognizing the unequivocal responsibility a major public institution like SIU Carbondale has in aiding in such a transition, the Sustainability Council voted on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to allocate \$10,000, a substantial portion of its yearly budget for sustainability projects drawn from the Green Fund, for purchasing renewable energy certificates to offset electricity used on campus in the current year. The condition for this allocation of funds is that the university matches this with a minimum \$10,000 contribution toward the purchase of renewable energy certificates, totaling a minimum of \$20,000 spent on the purchase of renewable energy certificates in the 2019 fiscal year.

This action is one that has been implemented at numerous colleges and universities as part of a broader strategy to reach sustainability goals. As a prime example, SIU Edwardsville began in 2017 to offset 100 percent of its electricity using renewable energy certificates. Subsequently, in 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ranked SIUE first in Illinois and 22nd in the nation among higher education institutions within its Green Power Partnership that use the greatest amount of green power.

The Sustainability Council sees the purchase of renewable energy certificates as a great opportunity for the university to promote renewable energy development while adding to the university’s legacy of sustainable initiatives. The Council hopes that the university will accept this opportunity and at least match the proposed \$10,000 to be contributed from the Green Fund, with the eventual goal of 100% of the campus’s electricity being powered or offset by clean, renewable energy.

## **Members of Sustainability Council at the time of the vote (December 2018):**

### Students:

- Makenzee Loft\* (Undergraduate Student, Geography & Environmental Resources)
- Connie Kaniewski (Undergraduate Student, Geography & Environmental Resources)
- Dylan Gibson (Graduate Student, Geography & Environmental Resources)

### Faculty:

- Dr. Leslie Duram (Geography & Environmental Resources)
- Dr. Tao Huang (Art and Design)
- Professor Shannon McDonald (Architecture)

### Staff:

- Sally Wright (Recreational Sports and Services)
- Betsy Bishop (Student Health Services)
- Vacant\*\*

\*Makenzee graduated in December 2018 and was replaced by Seth Traiteur (Undergraduate Student, Civil Engineering) in January 2019.

\*\*Brad Cowley (PSO Building Services) filled the vacant staff position in January 2019.

## **Sources:**

- <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>
- [https://report.ipcc.ch/sr15/pdf/sr15\\_spm\\_final.pdf](https://report.ipcc.ch/sr15/pdf/sr15_spm_final.pdf)
- <https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/07/world/climate-change-new-ipcc-report-wxc/index.html>
- <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/>
- <https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/23/health/climate-change-report-bn/index.html>
- <https://www.siue.edu/news/2017/01/RenewableElectricity.shtml>
- <http://www.siue.edu/news/2018/11/SIUE-is-Top-Green-Power-Campus-in-Illinois.shtml>
- [http://www.aestlelive.com/news/article\\_c2abadd2-f8ec-11e8-9683-97c26948a7cd.html](http://www.aestlelive.com/news/article_c2abadd2-f8ec-11e8-9683-97c26948a7cd.html)
- <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-college-university>