

SIU Carbondale Sustainability Council  
Monthly Business Meeting Agenda  
**Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:15 pm, Morris Library 752**

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

1. Call to Order **(5:20 pm)**
2. Attendance (include present and absent in minutes; names are above)
3. Approval of Minutes – 2/18/2019 **(5:20-5:24 pm)**  
**Sally moved to accept the minutes and Shannon seconded. 4 votes to approve. Tao and Brad abstained. The motion did not pass. Will put on next month’s agenda.**
4. Item voted on over email **(5:24-5:25pm)**
  - Sustainability Council Second Nature request to chancellor was reviewed and approved during vote over email on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. **Motion by Leslie, Second by Shannon; unanimously approved. See attachment.**
5. Correction of minutes from former meeting **(5:25-5:27pm)**
  - The Renewable Energy Certificate statement to chancellor *document* did not require a vote. It was written after the vote was taken and presented to the chancellor prior to the next meeting. As such, it did not make it into meeting minutes. *See attachment.* Suggestion is to retroactively add to January 2019 minutes.
    - i. “See attachment” would be added to item 5.a in the original minutes and the letter (included in email) would be added to the bottom of the minutes PDF online: <https://sustainability.siu.edu/participate/councilminutes1.28.2019.pdf>.  
**Shannon motioned to attach the REC letter to the January Minutes on the website retroactively. Tao Seconded. Motioned passed with no abstentions.**
6. Strategic priority planning **(5:28-5:41pm)**
  - Renewable Energy Certificates message to Chancellor Dunn – status is still under review
  - Second Nature request to Chancellor Dunn – status is still under review
  - STARS:
    - i. Hala is working at STARS and data has started to come in. Gabby, who is searching for key words for AC-1, is also working actively.
    - ii. Sulitest, a third-party company who has a sustainability literacy test, is being considered for whether or not the survey should be given to students for STARS credit. This test is free.

- Working Groups: The energy working group has a link on the website. April 4th, 11:30 am-1pm, there will be an energy forum in the library. The transportation group just had their first meeting last week.
  - Hub Relocation: The hub has moved across the hall. Design of space is being considered.
7. Sustainability Council openings – review operating papers **(5:41-5:45pm)**
- Student – all positions are officially for an academic year, according to operating papers; all students eligible to apply
  - Faculty - Leslie's term is ending.
  - Staff - Brad finished Marianne's term, so term is officially ending needs to re-apply; Betsy's term is ending
  - Set deadline for applications for openings - suggest April 22nd (one week or more before tentative last meeting)
- Shannon motioned to set the deadline for Sustainability Council applications for April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sally seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.**
8. Other events **(5:45-6:05pm)**
- Sustainability Celebration
    - i. Date - tentatively set for April 30 at 11am.
    - ii. Exhibits for rotunda
    - iii. Awards - Env. Ambassador, Sust. Collaborator, other
  - Sustainability in art [spring competition](#):
    - i. You can tell your students this is happening again; flyers forthcoming.
      - Art drop-off: Thursday, April 18, 2019, 9am-3pm, Student Center Activity Room A
      - Purchase Awards Reception: Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 5pm, Student Center Art Alley
    - ii. Prize allocation by Sustainability Council:
 

**Tao motioned to give a \$25 CO-OP gift card to the winner of the art contest. Shannon seconded. The motion passed with no abstentions.**
    - iii. Judges needed: Thursday, **April 18, 2019, 3-4pm**, Student Center Activity Rm A  
Shannon and Seth volunteered to Judge at this event.
9. Standing agenda items **(6:05-6:16pm)**
- Green Fee account (Geory)
    - i. Balance update - \$195,292.25 (as of 2/28/2019); ~\$137 increase since 1/31
    - ii. GF budget adjustments under \$2500 - none
    - iii. GF budget adjustment requests over \$2500 - none
  - [Green Fund Committee report \(Connie/Dylan\)](#)
    - i. [Extension requests: No extensions received.](#)

- ii. Final reports received:
  - 5 of 6 were received.
  - [18SP114 Sustainable Coffee Sleeves](#)
  - [18SP110 Promoting Paper and Printer Ink Waste Reduction in the Office Work](#)
  - [18SP109 Occupancy Motion Sensing Lights in Computer Lab](#)
  - [18SP118 Parkinson Hall Room 202 Window Films](#)
  - [18SP124 Lincoln Drive bike lanes](#)
- iii. Status update of current funding round (Dylan)

10. Other updates (6:16-6:23pm)

- [Semester Calendar](#) FYI - see calendar in right column under quick links
  - i. Highlight key events
    - Drawdown items:
      - a. Drawdown Roadshow: Geory emailed different faculty members about Her and Karen going around to discuss Drawdown. Nine faculty members have responded positively.
      - b. Energy Forum including Drawdown:
      - c. EcoChallenge: The theme this Spring is Drawdown. An item discussed in the challenge is about contacting a government official. Faculty can not do this on University time, and Geory has resolved any issues with that.
    - Sustainability Celebration (end of April)
- Open opportunity to share updates for initiatives not listed here.

11. Thank you and adjourn:

**Sally motioned to close the meeting, and Shannon seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions. Meeting closed at 6:23pm**

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The spring 2019 meetings as scheduled as follows:

- January 28 - 5:30 pm in Morris Library, room 754.
- February 18 - 5:15 pm in Morris Library, room 752.
- March 18 - 5:15 pm in Morris Library, room 752.
- April 8 - 5:15 pm in Morris Library, room 752.
- April 29 or May 6 (back-up date) - time and location, 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: March 4, 2019

To: SIU Carbondale Interim Chancellor John M. Dunn

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

We, the members of the SIU Carbondale Sustainability Council, recognizing your bold leadership on climate change issues as President of Western Michigan University, encourage you to continue this important work at our university by signing the Second Nature Climate Commitment for SIUC. We would be thrilled to have this done within the next several weeks, enabling us to announce it at our annual Sustainability Celebration in late April. However, if this is not feasible we would like to start a conversation with you about how we can move our campus towards signing the Commitment in the near future.

As you certainly are aware, university action to address climate change could not be more important at this time. High profile scientific reports continue to paint a bleak picture for humanity and the environment if climate change is not met with urgent transformative action across society. We see this as an opportunity for SIUC to lead a revitalization effort, creating a more relevant, desirable, and influential community. This would bring new direction to a region with an economy that has long been tied to the declining coal industry and initiate changes to further create a more equitable and sustainable global society.

The presence of sustainability at SIUC has long been student-led, highlighted by the initiation of the Student Green Fee in 2009. In fact, this fee has contributed over \$2.8 million to greening SIUC. We have reached a tipping point. Further progress necessitates strategic administrative support. A top-level commitment is essential for the long-term future of SIUC.

If you decide to sign the Commitment on behalf of SIUC, SIU Sustainability offers its full support. The Sustainability Office is poised to shift attention to support the steps needed to develop and implement a Climate Action Plan. In fact, the Office is currently working on an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions for campus, a requirement of the Commitment. Additionally, the Office coordinates the work of our existing campus Sustainability Working Groups, which are taking action in the areas of: Air/Climate, Energy, Food, and Transportation. The work of these groups could be leveraged to support the creation of a campus-wide Climate Action Plan.

If you would like to further discuss this opportunity, we welcome you to our next meeting, scheduled for March 18th at 5:15 pm in Morris Library, room 752. Alternatively, please follow-up with Geory Kurtzhals, Sustainability Coordinator.

## **Members of the SIU Carbondale Sustainability Council**

### Students:

- Connie Kaniewski (Undergraduate Student, Geography & Environmental Resources)
- Dylan Gibson (Graduate Student, Geography & Environmental Resources)
- Seth Traiteur (Undergraduate Student, Civil Engineering)

### 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)
- Brad Cowley (PSO Building Services)



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>