

President's Climate Commitment and Sustainability Committee
Meeting Report for September 11, 2012

In Attendance:

Scott Benjamin, John Chirichiello, Mike D'Entremont, Ibrahim Diarra, Jeff Ginsberg, Valter Gomes, JoDe Levine, Carmen Magana, Oscar Pena, Paul Righi, Les Warren, Rob Whitman, Paul Wolff

Invited Guests:

Kim Frashure, Krista Reichert, Leonilla Tellez-Valle (student), Venkat Rao (Faculty)

In Absentia:

Meghan Callaghan, Henry Chu, George Locascio, Dawn Monahan, Ken Nies, Karalynn Gau, Arlene Vallie

AGENDA ITEMS

1) Introductions

New Members

Welcome to new members **Ibrahim Diarra** (student), **Valter Gomes** (student), **George Locascio** (student) and **Rob Whitman** (Faculty).

Greenfest Event

Valter Gomes, Co-President of the BHCC Sustainability Club provided a dynamic presentation on the recent event conducted on City Hall Plaza on August 19, 20, 2012. Students represented the College with displays that featured the urban garden project and the "Rethink the Way You Drink" water conservation campaign. Other activities included distribution of a "Going Green" survey and information on the new Energy and Sustainability Management certificate program. The students in the sustainability club were joined by faculty **Eileen Feldman** and **Kim Frashure**, **Margo Attaya (staff)** as well as other students including **Mikey Painten**, **John Richards** and **Godstime Oghenetega**.

Energy and Sustainability Management Program

New faculty **Kim Frashure** and **Krista Reichert** were introduced to the Committee and conducted a presentation on the new certificate program which will be launched in the spring of 2013.

The program may include courses such as *Renewable Energy Sources*, *Green Buildings*, *Sustainability Resource Conservation* and *Project Management and Finance for Energy*.

2) Recent Initiatives

Contextualized Math

Paul Wolff reported that he has been working extensively with BHCC math faculty members **Khaled Abukhidejeh**, **Vikram Sagar Nkansah**, **Francis Kyei Nkansah**, **Chris Watson** and others to integrate sustainability and climate action planning concepts within developmental math courses offered at BHCC.

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Specifically, Paul showed a website link for "e-portfolios" to the group and discussed the following strategies for integration within all section of the MAT097 course in the fall 2012 semester.

- Introduce students to Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Methods involving Linear Equations
- Integrate a Calculating Emissions Lab Assignment into required coursework. This is currently utilized in ENV110.
- Utilize the BHCC Student Commuter and Climate Change Survey as a measurement and analysis tool. (This is one tool that we use to collect transportation emissions data (Scope 3) reported to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC).
- Expose students to technology such as the Clean-Air Cool Planet Carbon Calculator tool; an industry standard for emissions reportage and calculation.

Among other learning activities, the new format will allow students to participate in the collection of data used for the reportage of carbon emissions to the American College and University President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). Since there are over 40 sections of the course each semester, we have the opportunity to greatly improve the amount and quality of data collected while also engaging students in real world projects and improving their academic progress. This is the only project of its kind among ACUPCC signatory schools.

Urban Garden

Paul Wolff reported that the urban garden expanded this year to include new participants such as the Human Resources, Institutional Effectiveness, Nursing Department, Online Education, President's Climate Commitment and Sustainability Committee, Student Payments, Sustainability Club, Veterans Center and individual students. A new brochure created by students was also made available to interested PCCSC members.

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Student Gallery

Paul Wolff reported that he has worked with students, faculty and staff to create a new "Student Gallery" on the Office of Sustainability Management website. This new page features sustainability projects by BHCC students and is the direct result of recommendations from PCCSC member **Mike D'Entremont**. The site (<http://www.bhcc.mass.edu/Sustainability/projects-and-research.html>) contains projects from 16 BHCC students including the following:

- Frugal Flushing: Water Conservation project
By **Leonilla Tellez Valle**
Class: ENV 511: Sustainability and Resource Conservation
- BHCC Urban Organic Garden Plans
By **Ken Yuen**
LEED Research Internship
- "Nature Teaches" Environmental Poem
By **Juan Carlos Peguero**
Class: ENG111 College Writing I
- Composting: A How-to Guide from BHCC
By **Gardy Fortune**
LEED Research Internship
- BHCC Building B and M Energy Study
By **Nnamdi Nosike, Aristides Araujo-Rodriguez, Nelson Franjul, Ibrahim Diarra, Anthony Vasanthakumar**
Class: ENR-101 Introduction to Engineering
- Recycling Pledge
by **Sabrina Gravanti**
Class: ENV 511: Sustainability and Resource Conservation
- Thermal Efficiency at BHCC
By **Odett Lemos, Rudolf J.V. Lessage, Thariq Iqbal**
Class: ENR-101 Introduction to Engineering
- Energy Sustainability
By **Kenneth Upton, Nhan Nguyen, Hicham Rhazza**
Class: ENG-101 Introduction to Engineering

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3) New Business

PCCSC Survey and Elections

Results from the PCCSC survey were discussed. The survey polled members about strategies for improving the work and maximizing the "group intelligence" of the Committee.

Those present voted unanimously to elect three co-chairs: Scott Benjamin, Karalynn O'Rourke and Paul Wolff during the upcoming 2012-2013 Academic year.

NOTE: Voting Members included John Chirichiello, Mike D'Entremont, Ibrahim Diarra, Valter Gomes, JoDe Levine, Carmen Magana, Oscar Pena, Paul Righi, Les Warren, Rob Whitman

4) Action Items

- PCCSC members will be contacted before the next meeting to determine goals, interests and strategies for maximizing engagement of members.
- The next meeting of the President's Climate and Sustainability Committee is scheduled for October 2, 2012 in Room G139.