

President's Climate Commitment and Sustainability Committee
Meeting Report for May 1, 2012

In Attendance:

Scott Benjamin, Meghan Callaghan, Mike D'Entremont, , JoDe Levine, Dawn Monahan, Ken Nies, Karalynn O'Rourke, Oscar Pena, Venkat Rao, Paul Righi, Indira Rakhimzyanova, Arlene Vallie, Les Warren, Paul Wolff

In Absentia:

Stephenson Aman, John Chirichiello, Henry Chu, Jeff Ginsberg, Carmen Magana, Shanay Reed

Invited Guests:

Mary Riordan (BHCC Faculty), Patty-Anne Collins (Dean of Health Programs), Valter Gomes (student) Leonilla Tellez-Valle (student), Margo Attaya (Staff), Rob Whitman (Faculty), Matthew Ford (student), Wahid Chaudhary (student), Manuel Ruiz (student) George Locascio (student), Michael Painten (student)

AGENDA ITEMS

1) Announcements

New Member

The PCCSC welcomed new faculty member Rob Whitman (English Department) who was elected in the April 2012 College Forum meeting. Rob shared his background with the group and then each member and guest shared information about their affiliation with BHCC and interest in sustainability.

Health Fair Event

Special Guest **Mary Riordan** spoke about the upcoming Health Fair Event scheduled for May 10 in the lobby of the G- Building.

Ms. Riordan has been working with a variety of groups including the BHCC Sustainability Club and Nursing Department faculty. Activities will include student displays, blood pressure screenings, fitness assessments, "boot camp circuit training class, body fat measurement and ZUMBA or other fitness classes. The goal of the event is to promote health and wellness awareness for the College community.

BHCC Collaboration with the Boston Public Health Commission

Special Guest **Patty-Anne Collins** discussed a recent collaboration with the Boston Public Health Commission who has developed a program for labeling beverages sold in vending machines according to sugar content and calories. A simple stop light system identifies the products with the least sugar (green) and those with moderate sugar/calories (yellow) and those with high sugar/ caloric content (red).

Dean Collins also shared that the working group plans to engage students in the future to be sure that their voice is represented in the discussions.

2) Earth Week Updates

Rethink the Way You Drink APRIL 24, 2012, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m

@ The Garden next to C-Lounge

On April 24 the BHCC sustainability club will conduct an event promoting water conservation. The campaign is called "Rethink the Way You Drink". The event will take place in the D-lounge area of BHCC and will feature games such as the "Water Conservation" fish tank game and "Bottle Toss." There will also be copies of "The Carbon Footprint of Water;" research conducted by Bevan Griffiths Sattenspiel and Wendy Wilson. Students will also learn about the incredible amount of plastic bottle waste in the world and about Emerson University's recent ban on all bottled water on their campus. The S- Club will discuss similar campaigns at Harvard University and Brown University.

Planet Earth Movie Screening APRIL 25, 2012, 5:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. @ A-300 Auditorium

A Screening of the movie Planet Earth (Ocean Section) will help participants to understand the importance of the ocean and water to human habitation. Despite decades of exploration, less than a tenth of the deep ocean realm has been explored, despite it being the largest habitat for life on Earth. The deep sea also plays another role often overlooked in the operation of Earth: storing heat. Seawater that is warmed at the surface eventually becomes dense with salts and sinks into the deep sea. There it retains heat that can take centuries to come again to the surface. This is a critical concern regarding global warming, since the only way to truly cool down Earth is to expel the heat trapped by the greenhouse effect into space. The event will also include discussion of initiatives by Emerson College, Harvard University and Brown University to ban plastic bottles. The S-Club is collaborating with the Music Club to enjoy live music after the movie and healthy food snacks.

G-Party Garden Party and Cookout APRIL 26, 2012, 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. @ Urban Garden next to G-Building

The Sustainability Club will work directly with the Office of Sustainability Management and several other offices at the College to help launch this year's Urban Organic Garden project. Participants will help to clean up existing beds for the new growing season, plant flowers or seeds and learn about local gardening resources. The event will also include cookout food, music and the water conservation awareness campaign known as "Rethink the Way You Drink."

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State Leadership and Skills Conference APRIL 27, 2012

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) students will serve as guest judges for the Sustainable Solutions Contest at the 2012 State Leadership and Skills Conference. During this annual event, more than 1,500 students compete in 71 occupational and leadership skill areas. Gold medalists from these contests proceed to join more than 4,000 students to compete in the annual national-level SkillsUSA Championships conducted annually.

The Sustainable Solutions contest is designed to recognize outstanding green technology innovation projects developed at participating technical high schools and colleges located throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

3) Upcoming Events

B2Green Event May 3

The BHCC Sustainability Club will be featured at Somerville's leading business green event of the year. Dozens of local business innovators participate in a fast paced exhibition demonstrating how to go green & save money. This activity will be followed by a special after-hours networking event. Students will conduct the What's Your Carbon Footprint activity that encourages participants to measure their individual carbon footprint to determine how many "planets" their current lifestyle requires and other sustainability initiatives. They will also explain their "Rethink the Way You Drink" water awareness campaign and distribute sustainability related surveys and giveaways at the event.

4) Student Projects

Walmart and Corporate Responsibility

Valter Gomes, BHCC student and business major, presented his research related to Walmart Stores, Inc. who has utilized sustainability as a means for transforming their image and changing the corporate climate. For instance, Walmart has instituted policies that help to encourage greater recycling rates and that encourage suppliers to redesign their packaging to reduce the impact on the environment.

Discussion

Margo Attaya commented that Walmart needs to do even more because so much of what they sell is from far away places such as China, which would have a significant environmental impact.

Rob Whitman commented that there are many more components to sustainability than just recycling and packaging. There are other issues that contribute to quality of life including the conditions and benefits for workers.

Mikey Painten asked how much money they had saved from recycling efforts and if they had plans to expand the scope of sustainability in the company.

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5) PCCSC Participant Survey

The co-chairs (Scott Benjamin, Karalynn O'rouke and Paul Wolff) discussed a survey that was distributed to all participants. The group discussed strategies for increasing engagement such as creating sub committees that each meet on their own, in-between regularly scheduled monthly PCCSC meetings.

6) Summary of Achievements for 2012

- ACUPCC Support
 - o Complete Progress Report
 - o Revised Commuter Survey and integrated within coursework
 - o Northeast Regional Symposium
 - Developed educational content for targeted climate clinics in pre-conference event
 - Facilitation of workshops, displays and student engagement
 - Created feedback surveys for participants
 - Several PCCSC members attended the event
- Created Venues for Student Sustainability Projects
 - o Identified venues such as Massachusetts Sustainability Coordinators Roundtable (MSSCOR)
 - o Created "Student Gallery" concept for the Office of Sustainability website
- Launched Building Dashboard Initiative
 - o Assisted with content development and logistics
 - o Created user survey to refine concept
 - o Identified optimal location of flat screen monitor and strategy for delivering the "G-Tour" for visitors
- Double-sided Printing at BHCC
 - o Created new signage/messaging for sustainability to be used in all BHCC computer labs
- Facilitated Outside Guest Presentations
 - o Big Belly Solar
 - o Casella Waste Management
- Featured Student Sustainability Presentations
 - o Green Roofs and BHCC (Indira Rakhimzyanova)
 - o Frugal Flushing (Leonilla Tellez-Valle)
 - o Corporate Sustainability (Valter Gomes)
- Launched Meatless Mondays Initiative
 - o Developed concept with Sustainability Club with input from FAME, faculty, staff and the Dean of Nurse Education and Health Programs

7) Recognized PCCSC Members who achieved 100% Participation (Ken Nies, Scott Benjamin, JoDe Lavine)