

President's Climate Commitment Committee

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

E-175

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present:

- Co-chair Jeff Ginsberg (Fiscal Affairs and Central Services), co-chair Joe Steffano (Facilities Management)
- Members: Charles Abasa-Nyako (Vice President, Academic Affairs), Debra Boyer (Registrar/Director, Enrollment Services/Admissions), John Chirichiello (Staff Assistant at the Chelsea Campus), JoDe Lavine (Assistant Professor, Engineering), Rao Venkat (Department Chair, Math), Paul Righi (Manager of Buildings and Grounds), Jesse Thompson (Executive Vice President and CFO), Scott Benjamin (Professor, Biology), Meghan Callaghan (Civic Engagement Coordinator, Service Learning)

Acceptance of minutes of last meeting

The committee was first tasked with accepting the notes of the last meeting and they were accepted.

Sub-committee Reports

- Energy Star: Joe Steffano and Scott Benjamin reported to committee that they have collected data going back three years of the different usages, intakes and outputs, have begun collecting the data of inventory and have spoken with Emily Dibble regarding the survey that asks about commuting and transportation. Both expressed that the spreadsheet is manageable, but will take work in uploading all the information.
- Green Building Policy: Joe Steffano reported to committee that everything remains on track regarding the new building meeting the LEED Silver requirements.
- Waste Minimization- Paul Righi reported that the college has been diligent in their recycling efforts. The cardboard recycling remains to be the most popular and the free service given by waste management sometimes comes to the college multiple times a week.

Implementation of bottle/can recycling program begins in March

-Paul Righi presented to the committee that the college will begin placing containers around campus for bottle and can recycling. The college ordered more than needed, but will be able to cover entire campus with containers. Signage is being created and pasted onto containers.

- Righi had not spoken with Mike D'Entremont (Professor, ESL) who currently has students recycling bottles and cans as part of D'Entremont's Service Learning project.
- Plans to announce the new program will be conducted through the Green Corner in the Faculty Newsletter, on college website, through college-wide email, and various Forums.
- Joe Steffano brought to the committee's attention that Deborah Barrett (Coordinator of Student Assessment) wants to pilot program which would instruct departments on how to better use the various recycling on campus.
- In addition to recycling bottles and cans, the committee would like to inform college on the universal waste buckets. These buckets are good for collecting batteries.

Temperature Survey

- Joe Steffano is working with Yordan Shaghghi in formatting questions for the survey. At the last meeting, the President asked the committee to survey the college before setting a constant one temperature around the college. It was decided the survey should be simple and have no more than 10 questions.

Presentation of Website

- Jeff Ginsberg presented the Committee's website at February's forum. Thanks to Ian Churchill for the design and implementation. Ginsberg ran through each hit off of the site and is open to suggestions and changes that need to be made.
- It was discussed that the spearheading organization of University and College President's Climate Commitment lists what all members report and that BHCC can learn from the efforts of other colleges.
- Righi suggested that the committee create a list of how individuals can better live a green life. He explained that he stumbled upon a magazine from a Toyota dealership, which highlighted the "50 ways to get your Green on". This led the committee to discuss policies the college has with outside printing vendors, if these vendors commit to be environmental and use recycled paper?

Following through on Ideas

- The committee discussed the importance of implementing ideas generated. Steffano said that committee should focus on our ideas, show progress and implement/inform the college and to always remember Chelsea.
- John Chirichiello from the Chelsea Campus reported that the Chelsea campus has recycling containers and is collecting data of usage from six years back. It was accepted that Chelsea will mail recycled batteries to the Charlestown campus.

Timing of Meetings

-Since Faculty schedules change regularly, next meeting times will be decided at each meeting. There is a consensus though that Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. will act as the tentative standard.

Next Meeting

-Agenda points for the next meeting will be progress reports from recycling, temperature survey, and inventory. In addition to progress reports the committee will look at difference Facilities and Sustainability conferences and how the committee will better connect with the long-term goal of education.