

President's Climate Commitment and Sustainability Committee  
**Meeting Report** for November 6, 2012

In Attendance:

Mike D'Entremont, Ibrahim Diarra, Karalynn Gau, Valter Gomes, JoDe Levine, George Locascio  
Carmen Magana, Oscar Pena, Les Warren, Rob Whitman, Paul Wolff

Invited Guests:

Richard Andrews (student), Jose Ortiz (student), Vanessa Shannon (Dean of Chelsea Campus)

In Absentia:

**Scott Benjamin, John Chirichiello, Meghan Callaghan, Henry Chu, Jeff Ginsberg, Dawn Monahan, Paul Righi, Arlene Vallie**

AGENDA ITEMS
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1) Solar Panel Update

**Paul Wolff** provided an overview of the solar panel project and showed images of the 48 rigid panels that were recently installed on the roof of the G- Building. He explained the unique installation did not require any penetrations into the roof membrane. The panels are weighed down with concrete blocks. He also explained how the inverter will work when installation is complete and showed numerous images of the installation in progress from the Office of Sustainability Management Facebook page.

2) Guest Speaker: Bradley Saxe from Recycle-Co

Bradley Saxe discussed his start-up venture (Recycle-Co) that purchases plastic bottles from waste contractors and then ships them to a manufacturing plant to make t-shirts. He discussed the process and also provided samples for the group.

Questions:

- **George Locascio** asked where the plant was located (Guatemala).
- **Rob Whitman** asked if the process was sustainable in comparison to manufacturing in-state. (It is more cost effective to manufacture out of the United States for a variety of reasons.)
- **JoDe Levine** suggested that College could order shirts made from plastic bottles for the mentors to wear, or the folks working at the "Ask Me" table.
- **Karalynn Gau** suggested we order the shirts and then wear them in solidarity for special events and to increase awareness of sustainability.

3) Sub Committee Updates

Renewable Energy Sources Subcommittee

**(Dawn Monahan, Richard Andrews, JoDe Levine, Paul Wolff, Venkat Rao)**

- Discussed the idea of increasing awareness of renewable energy sources by proposing research projects for students enrolled in courses such as Physics II, Statics, Strength of Materials, Introduction to Engineering and Sustainability and Resource

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Conservation. **JoDe** and **Paul** plan to meet with Professor Fields to discuss how this could work for Spring 2013 courses.

- Discussed the idea of creating a public service announcement (PSA) for broadcast on the BHCC radio station about the new solar panel project. (**Richard** will take the lead.)
- Discussed the idea of increasing awareness of renewable energy sources at campus events. For example, we talked about creating some kind of a presentation/demonstration/activity for campus events such as the bi-annual pining ceremony. (**Dawn** will determine feasibility for the December 18 ceremony as a pilot.)
- Discussed developing hands-on demonstrations to be conducted at campus-wide events or student orientations. **Jo-De** brought in a sample wind turbine demonstration for the PCCSC to demonstrate the concept of a dynamic hands-on demonstration activity.

Zero Waste Subcommittee

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(**George Locascio, Carmen Magana, Les Warren, Paul Righi, John Chirichiello, Valter Gomes**)

Composting Subcommittee

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(**Karalynn Gau, Mike D'Entremont, Ibrahim Diarra, Meghan Callaghan, Henry Chu, Oscar Pena**)

Alternative Fuels Subcommittee

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(**Scott Benjamin, Rob Whitman, Jeff Ginsberg, Vanessa Shannon, Arlene Vallie**)

4) Action Items

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- PCCSC members will summarize their work and send to Paul, Scott and Karalynn for inclusion in the meeting notes in advance of the College Forum scheduled for November 12, 2012.
- The next meeting of the President's Climate and Sustainability Committee is scheduled for December 4, 2012 in Room G139.