



**PRESIDENT'S  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Minutes

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 1:00-2:30 pm

**Members Present:** Carol Dollard – Facilities Management – Co-Chair of PSC  
Tonie Miyamoto - HDS, Student Affairs – Co-Chair of PSC  
Tim Broderick – Housing & Dining Services  
Travis Croft – Facilities Management  
Sheela Backen – Facilities Management  
Gina McCrackin – ASCSU Environmental Affairs  
Oliva Bruce – Student Sustainability Center  
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences Education and Outreach  
Tony Rappe – College of Natural Sciences  
Stephanie Malin– College of Liberal Arts  
Aleta Weller – SoGES  
Nicole Johnson - College of Business, Global Social & Sustainable Enterprise  
Dan McGrath – Warner College of Natural Resources  
Aaron Fodge – Parking and transportation Services  
Rick Novak – Administrative Professional Council  
Mark Ritschard – College of Engineering  
Julie Kallenberger - CSU Water Center and Colorado Water Institute  
Farrah Bustamante – Procurement Services

**1. Center for Environmental Justice**

- a. Currently, the team working to establish a [Center for Environmental Justice](#) is functioning as a working group. The team was originally created through a SoGES Global Challenges Research Team
- b. The team is very active on campus. They recently hosted an Environmental Justice Symposium, which hosted over 300 attendees and over 100 speakers. The Center also engages student by hosting several speaker events, round table discussions, workshops, etc.
- c. The goal of the group is to transfer research and data to real-life application within communities.
- d. The Center includes interdisciplinary scholarship ranging from water resource management, environmental and public health, sociology of food systems, and other areas of focus.
- e. Currently, the group is working with Deans and Department Heads to garner support for the center.
- f. The work of the Center has already promoted sustainability initiatives identified in STARS and establishing a formalized Center would only benefit these initiatives.
- g. The Center would like to create a certification and training program for Environmental Justice and could help ensure/verify that courses across the University infuse sustainability topics in a meaningful way.
- h. The Center has identified office space and will have a physical presence on campus.
- i. As an example of its initiatives, the Center has engaged with the town of Craig, which is dependent upon resource extraction, to help leverage the assets the town already has.
- j. The Center is asking for support from the Commission to establish a formal and centralized Center for Environmental Justice. This is *not* a request for financial support.
- k. The formal proposal from the Center will be sent with the minutes. Please respond with your thoughts of approval (or disapproval) to [Becca.Mueller@colostate.edu](mailto:Becca.Mueller@colostate.edu) by next Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

## 2. PSC Mission Statement and Goals

- a. The University's overall strategic plan will not be updated until a new president is hired so there is time to review and update the PSC's mission statement and goals.
- b. Tonie recommended a consideration of removing the italicized text below, which is old language from the committee prior to the PSC.
- c. It was suggested that the proposed mission statement does not display the diversity of expertise of the Commission.
  - i. "Various parts of the campus community" reflects the diversity of the membership to show the cross-sectional it's of the expertise.
  - ii. Language was suggested (shown below) to help clarify this point.
- d. It was also suggested that we check other Presidential commission's mission statements to match the language.
- e. References to "campus" will be changed to CSU, to emphasize a University-wide focus.
- f. Suggested edits are shown in red below. By our November meeting, we will finalize these edits.

### This is outdated text on the PSC webpage:

*The President's Sustainability Commission has the important role of providing the President and Cabinet a variety of perspectives on sustainability, energy, and the environment from various parts of the campus community.*

**Proposed Updated Mission Statement:** Promote and facilitate the effective integration of sustainability (from various parts of the campus community) from an environmental, economic, and social justice lens across all aspects of the University.

### Goals

- Advocate for sustainability efforts at Colorado State University and empower students, faculty, and staff to propose and pursue new ideas and initiatives to advance sustainability at CSU
- Advise on CSU-wide sustainability initiatives including but not limited to STARS, strategic planning, budgets, community and public partnerships, and new buildings
- Help connect (collaboration) sustainability efforts across CSU (including academics, research, operations, student engagement, administration and public outreach)
- Utilize STARS as a framework to help measure progress and develop and maintain a campus-wide Sustainability Strategic Plan that feeds into and supports the CSU Strategic Plan
- Report the campus Greenhouse Gas Inventory annually and progress on the Climate Action Plan biannually

## 3. Sustainability Learning Outcomes

- a. The current version below was developed in partnership with SoGES. The language adds definition but does not limit inclusion.
- b. It was suggested that behavioral change be added to the statement.
- c. This language will likely be included in the General Catalog.
- d. The specific timeline of adopting this language is not certain.
- e. Suggested edits are shown in red below. By our November meeting, we will finalize these edits.

**Sustainability:** Developing an understanding of environmental, social, and economic sustainability to ethically and responsibly engage in society. This includes a commitment to service and behavioral change to address local and global challenges.

## 4. Update from Airline Travel Subgroup

- a. The Airline Travel Subgroup has developed a draft proposal to send to Administration.

- b. The proposal recommends establishing both a travel offset fee managed by Facilities Management (funds dedicated to develop projects/initiatives with greenhouse gas offset improvements) as well as an air travel reduction educational campaign.
- c. A pilot of this proposed program would not include federal grant projects, as most federal grants don't allow for this type of offset fee.
- d. The group surveyed peer institutions and found that not many schools are pursuing an initiative such as this.
- e. The proposal lists an effective date of July 2019, if approved by Administration.
- f. It was suggested that this program will be unpopular with some colleges/departments as some faculty may see this as a negative.
  - i. The messaging of this program is very important and perhaps the program is voluntary, rather than mandatory.
  - ii. Many colleges/departments are experiencing other fees and may perceive this program as another hit to their program/budget.
  - iii. CAAG (College and Administration Advisory Group) should be included as a group to consult with. This is a group of business officers on campus.
- g. The subgroup will work towards these next steps and discuss with Administration. The PSC will be informed of the status of the proposal as it develops.

## 5. Updates from Members

**Dan McGrath** – At 6:00 pm on Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup>, The Lyric Cinema will screen a film festival, [River Stories](#). All films relate to the Poudre River.

**Travis Croft** – Travis is working on updating the Facilities Management [sustainability webpage](#).

**Nicole Johnson** – College of Business faculty recently approved an Impact MBA. This program will launch Fall 2020, dependent on the Board of Governors' approval in May 2019. It will continue to be a full-time, on campus, 3-semester program. The mission is to educate and prepare future business leaders to take effective roles in organizations that integrate economic, social, and environmental sustainability into core strategy and operations. Impact MBA will build on the strengths of GSSE, but adds an interdisciplinary approach that leverages expertise across campus and builds a framework for additional impact areas. The program will continue to address issues associated with climate and sustainability, which aligns with both the CSU and College of Business missions.

**Gina McCrackin** – Gina and other students are interested in participating in Campus Sustainability Month through ASSHE.

**Tim Broderick** – [The Green Warrior Campaign](#) has been successful so far, with 1,256 students are participating currently.

**Aaron Fodge** – The City of Fort Collins recently won an EV grant and the Around the Horn route will soon have an electric bus, maybe two. Housing and Dining Services also won an EV charger grant at Laurel Village. A protected bicycle trail extension will be created soon, from Chemistry extending across Pitkin to Animal Sciences. On October 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30 pm in the Grey Rock Room of the LSC, City staff will host a [City Plan Open House](#) to discuss the guiding document of how our community grows. Faculty, students, and staff are all encouraged to attend and participate in the planning process.

**Aleta Weller** – 4 representatives from CSU (faculty and graduate students) were selected to attend the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Poland with observer status.

**Olivia Bruce** – The Student Sustainability Center will be winterizing bicycles on Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm at The Spoke.

**Carol Dollard** – Carol is working with WCNR staff to potentially reserve a conference room in the Michael Smith Building to use for our standing meetings. Wait for more details on this.

**Tonie Miyamoto** – Students from the Zero Waste Committee will attend the PLAN conference in Pittsburg soon and Tonie asked the PSC if they approved of the students using unused AASHE conference funds to attend the PLAN conference. The PSC agreed this was a reasonable use of funds.

**Next Meeting** – Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-2:30 pm in TILT 104