



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

Minutes

February 18th, 2019, 1:00-2:30 pm

Michael Smith Natural Resources Building – Room 345

Members (and guests) present:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Representing:</u>
Tonie Miyamoto – Co-Chair of PSC	Division of Student Affairs/Housing & Dining Services
Carol Dollard – Co-Chair of PSC	VPUO / Facilities Management
Debbie Mayer – guest speaker	Housing Solutions Coordinator / Guest
Stacey Baumgarn	Classified Personnel Council / Facilities Management
Tim Brennan	Office of the Vice President for Diversity
Ashley Carlisle	PSC Graduate Student Assistant / STARS Intern
Jake Drenth	VPUO / Surplus Property
Colleen Duncan	College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Andrea Fairfield	ASCSU
John Fitch	Vice President for Information Technology / CSU Libraries
Aaron Fodge	VPUO / Parking and Transportation Services
Tiffany Glover	VPUO / Transportation Services / Guest
Jocelyn Hittle	CSU System / Denver Programs
Debra Horensky	Office of the Vice President for Research
Julie Kallenberger	Colorado Water Center
Monica Latham	Vice President for Information Technology / CSU Libraries
Tony Rappe	College of Natural Sciences / Chemistry
Andrew Warnock	College of Natural Sciences / Education and Outreach
Aleta Weller	School of Global Environmental Sustainability

Introductions and welcome

Guest presenter: Debbie Mayer, Housing Solutions Coordinator – Neighbor-to-Neighbor at CSU

Debbie Mayer, Housing Solutions Coordinator has been with CSU for about one-year. This position was a result of a recommendation of the Housing Solutions Task Force (of which the PSC was a contributing stakeholder and participant) and a resulting partnership between CSU Off-Campus Life and Neighbor to Neighbor. Through this partnership, Debbie is available to meet with any CSU employee to address a broad spectrum of housing needs or questions: from homelessness prevention, rental search and emergency rent assistance, to HomeShare options, to homebuyer and home owner education courses.

[Neighbor to Neighbor](#) (N2N), a non-profit, and has been in Fort Collins for almost 50 years. Founded on the idea of helping prevent housing loss. This full spectrum of housing-related assistance for the community is now conveniently offered to CSU employees through Debbie's office located in [Off-Campus Life](#) in the Lory Student Center.

Core programs Debbie helps to deliver include:

- Rental Counseling Program – with four main services: housing search assistance; first months' rent assistance; emergency rent assistance; and housing information sessions (budgeting, lease questions, roommate issues, and/or the path to home ownership).
- Homebuyer education – a series of classes helping prospective home buyers to prepare for a successful journey toward home ownership
- Homeowner programs – such as information about reverse mortgages; and foreclosure prevention
- HomeShare – a program to match homeowners 55 years or older with those looking for a home in Larimer County

For more information, and to see the calendar for training and information about any of these programs and services available to CSU employees, visit the N2N website at <http://ocl.colostate.edu/n2n> or, contact Debbie at Deborah.mayer@colostate.edu. Thanks to Debbie, N2N, and the CSU Off-Campus Life office for all you do to help and support CSU employees!

STARS 2.2 – a credit specific review – OP-15: Campus Fleet

Background: Version 2.2 of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System ([STARS](#)) is expected to be officially launched this spring. PSC, on behalf of CSU, is planning to submit an updated STARS report utilizing version 2.2 mid-to-late fall, 2019. Preliminary data collection is kicking off now. This will be CSU's fifth STARS report. STARS measures sustainability performance in four broad categories: *Academics (Curriculum and Research)*, *Engagement (Campus and Public)*, *Operations*, and *Planning & Administration*. Across those categories, and including *Institutional Characteristics* and *Innovation & Leadership*, there are 69 "credits".

At the Jan. 28, 2019 PSC meeting a goal was established for CSU to achieve a Platinum rating under STARS version 2.2. To do so, there are a few specific STARS credits where CSU's previous scores have room for improvement. At this time, the PSC reviewed credit OP-15: Campus Fleet.

- Review of the criteria – as outlined in the STARS 2.1 Technical Manual (no significant changes are anticipated to this credit or the criteria in version 2.2)
- Review of our 2.1 reporting for this credit and our score (CSU earned 0.05 out of 1)
- What goals or next steps can we take/support in an effort to improve the sustainability of our campus fleet and thus our performance (and scoring) in this credit area?

The discussion resulted in five action items:

- 1) Review of peer institutions and how they are performing or addressing the intent of this STARS credit (Tonie M. & Ashley C.)
- 2) Clarify requirements for inclusion of police / emergency vehicles in the STARS criteria (Tonie M. / & Carol D.)
- 3) Investigate (and install) level 3 electric vehicle charging station – enabling faster charging and potentially enhanced utilization opportunities for certain campus fleet vehicles (Aaron F.)
- 4) Investigate / analyze the cost (and other potential) impact to utilizing B20 diesel fuels during the warm weather months (needs to be a minimum of four months per year) (Tiffany G. & Carol D.)

- 5) Develop specific recommendations / considerations related to vehicle procurement decisions
 - a. Create decision matrix for right-sizing and opportunities for selecting an EV (include a consideration in the university standards for fleet vehicles)
 - i. HDS has developed vehicle selection criteria
 - b. Consider in light of findings from the fleet vehicle assessment currently underway in Transportation Services
(Tiffany G. / all members of PSC – related to department-level decisions)

Campus Sustainability Model

There are many forms and formats of campus sustainability programs. There are pros and cons to each model – be it a centralized or de-centralized model. Looking across many approaches, it is clear the one model that does not work, is a single individual tucked away in an office with all of the responsibility.

To date, CSU has utilized a very de-centralized approach. Our model has worked very well for us so far. However, are we prepared or positioned for resiliency – what happens if/when key players leave? Or, if there were significant changes in perspective from administration, the state legislature, etc.? Would a more formal infrastructure / model better help to advance sustainability at CSU?

The discussion (not intended to reach a single conclusion) included these PSC member comments:

- Some could say that our model (i.e. the way we get the work done), is “free”. But, it is not free – there are costs to HDS, Facilities, SoGES, PTS, etc. – the university just doesn’t “see” those costs as a centralized budget line item as the departments support individual staff time devoted to PSC and campus initiatives
- Service on the PSC is volunteering **vs.** service on the PSC is actually a part of a job – serving as a representative from a unit
 - A few CSU employees do have sustainability committee work in their position descriptions
 - Many representatives on PSC do not have sustainability committee work or campus sustainability initiatives in their job description
- CSU’s distributed model gets a lot of people involved (and this is a strength of the model)
 - While this model is valued, sometimes the available bandwidth of the individuals needed for specific projects/initiatives can be stretched pretty thin
- A goal of the PSC is to get more resources (\$) to tell the story of and advance sustainability at CSU
 - And, to help bring those resources to the areas where our sustainability practices could be enhanced and improved
 - Would a centralized office/effort help get us there? CSU has had a VP position in the past (with sustainability in the title) but, not a team/centralized office approach
- Would it be beneficial to have a work study (or student similar to the role filled by the PSC graduate student) as a liaison to each PSC Strategic Plan sub-committee (?)

This conversation will continue and be revisited as a key consideration of the President’s Sustainability Commission.

Updates from members

- Tonie Miyamoto: on April 24th, 2019 – the PSC will again host the CSU Sustainability Milestones and Recognition event. We want to recognize both individuals and groups who have reached or achieved sustainability milestones or successes during the past year. Please share your ideas and successes with Tonie.
- Tonie Miyamoto: The PSC was asked to have an interactive booth at the 1870 Dinner held Feb. 9th, 2019. Four volunteers represented the PSC; Tonie Miyamoto (PSC), Margarita Lenk (faculty), Ashley Carlisle (student), and Stacey Baumgarn (staff). The table featured sustainability highlights,

accomplishments, and engaged attendees to test themselves on recycling and waste sorting skills! The PSC banners and table cloth are available for representatives to check out for campus events.

- Aaron Fodge: PTS just submitted a grant application for 3 additional dual EV charging stations – this would bring the campus total over 30 stations. The first were installed at Rockwell West in 2010.
- Colleen Duncan: announced the formation of a new student organization – a sub-committee of the [One Health Club](#) – to be focused on sustainability and health. More info coming.
- Aleta Weller: SoGES is accepting applications for [2019-2020 Sustainability Leadership Fellows](#). Application deadline 3-12-19. Applications are also open for the new Interdisciplinary Training, Education, and Research in Food-Energy-Water Systems ([InTERFEWS](#)) graduate program that has been created to integrate food, energy, and water education using a systems-based approach that cuts across disciplines, departments and colleges. The InTERFEWS Program is currently offered to accepted Colorado State University PhD students entering the 1st or 2nd semester of their PhD program.
- Andrea Fairfield: ASCSU Environmental Affairs department continues to work on an outdoor irrigation efficiency project, exploration of hand-dryers, thin-film plastic recycling, and a textile re-use / waste collection bin idea.
- Julie Kallenberger: Four items:
 - World Water Day film on March 27th (see below for details)
 - Colorado Water Center RFP
 - More info at watercenter.colostate.edu/grants
 - Three grant categories: Water Research Teams (\$25,000), Water Faculty Fellows (\$10,000), and Water Education and Engagement Projects (\$7,500)
 - Deadline: March 1
 - Colorado Water Center, SoGES, and AES Joint RFP
 - More info at watercenter.colostate.edu/food-water-sustainability
 - One grant available, \$100,000 for a two-year project
 - Deadline: April 1
 - The Hach company is hosting the 6th Walk for Water on the CSU campus on May 11th – more info to be posted online soon at <https://watercenter.colostate.edu/hach-walk-for-water/>
 - Call for volunteers – please contact Catie Boehmer at the CoWC at Catie.Boehmer@colostate.edu if you are interested in hosting a display table or volunteering to help engage the CSU community
- Monica Latham: everyone is invited to attend the next two Morgan Library Sustainability Committee Lunch-n-Learn events, March 7th and April 4th (see below for details)
- Carol Dollard: CSU is hosting a SIMAP Workshop (GHG accounting tool) for sustainability folks from higher ed. across CO on Feb. 19th. And, CSU is currently installing the next two solar PV arrays. These are two relatively small arrays located at two branch stations – one in Rocky Ford at the Arkansas Valley Research Center and one at Orchard Mesa, part of the Western Colorado Research Center.
- Stacey Baumgarn: please consider participating in one of the upcoming CSU [Strategic Plan Forums](#) – Feb. 26th or April 1st. “These forums will provide a blueprint for the new president detailing where the campus community wants to go in the future” – Kalie Mcmonagle, CSU CPD. Let’s be sure sustainability is a core tenant!

Given that Spring Break overlaps the next regularly scheduled meeting of the PSC, it is proposed to move the next meeting to Monday, March 25th, 2019. 1-2:30 pm – Room 402, Michael Smith Natural Resources Building.

Meeting adjourned

Participate! Dates and upcoming events

- Feb 3rd – March 30th – [RecycleMania](#)
 - Curious how to Recycle Right? Play the **Zero Waste Sorting Game** at: <http://zerowastegame.colostate.edu/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f>
 - Or visit https://www.fm.colostate.edu/sites/default/files/sustain/Recycle_Guidelines.pdf
- March 7th 12-1 pm – [Leave No Trace – Sustainability in Outdoor Recreation](#) – a Morgan Library Sustainability Committee Lunch-n-Learn. Featuring Leave No Trace – Center for Outdoor Ethics. Morgan Library Event Hall
- March 7th 4:30-5:30 pm – [Katharine Hayhoe](#): “Mitigate, Adapt—or Suffer: Connecting Global Change to Local Impacts and Solutions” Free admission – *ticket required*. BSB A101
- March 26th 1-6 pm – [SoGES 10th Anniversary Symposium](#), LSC – Ballroom D
- March 27th – Recognizing [World Water Day](#), The SSC is partnering with the Colorado Water Center to host a film screening, [Water & Power](#) at the Lyric Cinema
- April 4th – 12-1 pm – [10 Years of Solar Energy at CSU](#) – a Morgan Library Sustainability Committee Lunch-n-Learn. Featuring Carol Dollard. Morgan Library Event Hall
- April 5-13th – [act. 4th Annual Human Rights Film Festival](#) – LSC and the Lyric Cinema – schedule of films to be released March 5th
- April 15th – The CSU [Environmental Justice Working Group](#) is hosting a film screening – more details coming soon
- April 16-18th – [Water in Africa Symposium](#) – LSC Cherokee Park Ballroom
- April 22-26th – **CSU 2019 Earth Week** – schedule of events (so far, if you have more to add, please contact Tonie Miyamoto)
 - April 21 – Banjo Festival on Campus (Zero Waste Team)
 - April 22 – Earth Day Festival (PSC)
 - April 23 – Composting and solar array tour (Zero Waste Team, CSU Facilities, and HDS)
 - April 24 –
 - Plankton to Plastic Pollution, 1-2:30 pm (CNS Education & Outreach Center)
 - 10th Anniversary of 1st Solar Panels on Campus – LSC Plaza (CSU Facilities)
 - PSC Sustainability Milestones and Recognition Event (PSC)
 - April 25 – Trashion Show and Clothing Swap (Zero Waste Team)
 - April 26 – E-Waste Collection and Compost Giveaway (CSU Facilities, HDS, EHS, and Surplus Property)

Other sustainability related events and activities can also be found in these places:

- SoGES Event Calendar <https://sustainability.colostate.edu/events/2019-03/>
- Consider subscribing to the Student Sustainability Center [Green Bulletin](#). Click on “Sign up for the Green Bulletin” – the Green Bulletin is a great resource for events and activities for you, for students, and the community