

## President's Sustainability Committee

### Minutes

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 1:00-2:30 pm

TILT 104

**Members Present:** Carol Dollard – Facilities Management  
Tonie Miyamoto - Housing and Dining Services, Student Affairs  
Bill Timpson – College of Health and Human Sciences  
Kirstie Tedrick – STARS Intern  
Tony Rappe – College of Natural Sciences  
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property  
Don Albrecht – Morgan Library  
John Fitch – Morgan Library  
Paul Doherty – Faculty Council  
Jeff Muhs – Energy Institute  
Tim Broderick – Housing and Dining Services  
Annabelle Berklund – Graduate Student Council  
Stacey Baumgarn – Facilities Management  
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences Education and Outreach Center  
Sheela Backen – Facilities Management

### 1. Innovation & Economic Prosperity University – Paula Mills

- a. Paula Mills is a project manager in the Office of Community & Economic Development, a section of the Engagement office.
  - i. The Office of Community & Economic Development works to connect the best of CSU's innovation, strategies and resources to Coloradans working to address social, economic, and workforce issues in their communities.
- b. In 2015, The Office of Community & Economic Development was charged by President Frank to lead an initiative in assessing the economic climate and opportunities at Colorado State University.
- c. This collaborative study was completed in a partnership with the City of Fort Collins.
- d. Paula mentioned that there are many parallels between innovation and economic prosperity and the work of the President's Sustainability Committee.
- e. CSU is now certified as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University, through the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities.
  - i. This program is 4 years old and much like STARS, the designation helps the university understand the economic progress and opportunities for growth.
  - ii. Internationally, 54 universities have this designation.
  - iii. Like STARS, this program has a threshold of points to meet to gain designation and there is not a set amount of universities that are designated each year.
- f. The process of seeking this designation allowed for engagement with campus and community stakeholders.
  - i. The steering committee engaged in the process was comprised of 21 people, representing areas across campus as well as the City of Fort Collins.
  - ii. The process involved a 6 month period of data collection, including surveys, public forums, and other mechanisms for outreach and feedback collection.
- g. Through the lens of this designation, economic prosperity lands in three areas – talent, innovation, and place.
- h. Areas of strength in from this study included –
  - i. Sustainability initiatives enhancing “place”. Highlights reported in the study were the Energy Institute, Envirofit, and SoGES.
- i. Areas of opportunity that emerged out of this study included –
  - i. Increased engagement and support of faculty
  - ii. Enhanced accessibility of campus to outside community members

- j. The recommended growth plan includes a strategy to better support and communicate economic engagement initiatives to the campus and surrounding community. The growth plan also suggests the university foster regional diversity to catalyze innovation.
- k. An updated economic impact study of the CSU system is currently being written. This study will implement two-way communication for continual community feedback.
- l. The Provost's Council for Engagement has also been formed. This is a cooperative of faculty members committed to studying the economic impact of the university.
- m. Paula's office will continue to study the economic impact of CSU and can return to the PSC if desired.

## 2. STARS Update – Tonie Miyamoto and Kirstie Tedrick

- a. The STARS 2.0 reporting criteria is more stringent and currently, the report is 1.3 points away from being platinum.
- b. CSU was awarded a platinum designation in March of 2015, under a former version of STARS. CSU is the only platinum institution rated by STARS.
- c. Areas for improvement in the current STARS report include –
  - i. **Learning Outcomes** - 52% of graduates have been exposed to a sustainability learning outcome. The learning outcomes must be formalized and documented. Tonie suggested potentially removing graduate students from the count, as there is no required learning outcome for graduate student. However, this might hurt the score more than it would help. The list of learning outcomes will be sent for the PSC's review, to see if any courses are missing.
  - ii. **Sustainable Investments** – 3.7% of the university's investment pool qualifies as sustainable.
  - iii. **Employee Compensation** - .48/3 and full points are awarded when 100% of staff make living wage. AASHE's definition of living wage is based on 2 adults and 2 children. Carol will ask for a revision of this definition, as it is not widely applicable to CSU.
  - iv. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions** – 4.24/10 and strategies in the CAP will increase progress towards carbon neutrality and this area.
  - v. **Building Operations and Maintenance** – 1.3% of CSU square footage is LEED O&M.
  - vi. **Clean and Renewable Energy** – 1.3% of total power is renewable.
  - vii. **Food and Beverages** – 2% of total expenditures qualify.
  - viii. **Campus Fleet** - .02% of fleet qualifies
- d. Tonie, Carol, and the STARS team are actively crunching the data for the report.
  - i. It is possible for CSU to not submit to STARS this year while the report is being finalized but that would affect Sierra Club and Princeton Review reporting as well.

## 3. Updates from Members

**Carol Dollard** – Carol has been meeting with a committee from Athletics about greening the game day experience. It is possible that a subcommittee from the PSC will be created to work on this topic.

**Tony Rappe** – Tony has been approached by a corporate sponsor, interested in providing an e-waste course at CSU. The course would focus on what e-waste is and how it should be handled.

**Tim Broderick** – The sustainability fund in Housing & Dining Services has been approved to fund an increase organic goods in dining center. Also, ASCSU voted to approve a bike share program called Zipbike, which will have 8 bike reservation stations across campus.

**Stacey Baumgarn** – Stacey will be involved in a meeting between CSU and CU to discuss how CSU can model a green labs program similar to CU's current program.

**Don Albrecht** – Don and John Fitch from the Morgan Library will serve as PSC co-representatives from the Morgan Library.

**Bill Timpson** – Bill, along with SoGES, will soon offer an Interdisciplinary minor focusing on “the role of sustainability in peace and reconciliation studies.

**Sheela Backen** – The windrow composting system on the Foothills Campus will be operational in March. Sheela is starting a pilot program for composting paper towels from restrooms in the Morgan Library.