

President's Sustainability Committee

Minutes

November 13th, 2017, 1:00-2:30 pm

LSC 376

Members Present:

Carol Dollard – Facilities Management – Co-Chair of PSC
Tonie Miyamoto – HDS, Student Affairs – Co-Chair of PSC
Stacey Baumgarn – Facilities Management
Van Wallace – Facilities Management
Kirstie Tedrick – STARS Intern
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences Education and Outreach
Brian Dunbar – IBE
Erika Benti – Parking and Transportation Services
Terra Sampson – Warner College of Natural Resources
Tim Broderick – HDS
Bill Timpson – College of Health and Human Sciences
John Fitch – Morgan Libraries
Don Albrecht - Morgan Libraries
Julie Kallenberger - CSU Water Center and Colorado Water Institute
Sean Soliz - EcoLeader
Manny Santistevan – EcoLEader Alumni
Dale Lockwood – SoGES
Madelyn Royal – ASCSU
Ken Shockley – College of Liberal Arts - Philosophy
Barb DiPasquale – CSUF

1. SkiSU

- a. Manny is an EcoLeader alumni and for his final project, he proposed a CSU ski shuttle concept.
- b. Manny worked with Erika Benti in Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) to develop a ski shuttle program concept, giving students access to an affordable and safe way to get to mountain towns for skiing trips. The program proposal included research of other university ski shuttle programs.
- c. The proposal was endorsed by PTS and aligned with their existing efforts to encourage first year students to avoid bringing a car to campus. Some of the resistance to leaving a car at home resulted from student's desire to get to and from skiing trips across the state.
- d. PTS applied for a Sustainability Fund Grant provided by Housing and Dining Services (HDS) and the two departments agreed to split the cost of the first pilot year. The grant was approved and [SkiSU](#) is now the name of this pilot ski shuttle program.
- e. A CSU charter bus will make five trips to five different mountains (A-Basin, Keystone, Copper, Steamboat, and Breckenridge) over the course of the winter. Students can purchase round-tip tickets for \$20. The shuttle departs CSU campus at 6:30 am and departs the ski resorts at 3:30 pm.
- f. Non-student tickets are also available for students to purchase for friends/family.
- g. PTS will analyze/quantify the amount of offset emissions generated by this service.
- h. HDS has supported the marketing and advertising for the program including graphics, paper and digital posters/advertisements, an article in the *Rocky Mountain Collegian*, table cards in the dining halls, etc.
- i. PTS consulted with Risk Management to determine proper protocols for leaving the ski resorts. SkiSU will use Risk Management's "cruise ship rule", in which users are informed multiple times of the exact time of the bus's departure from the resort. The bus will not wait for passengers but cell phone and emergency contact information will be collected and passengers will be contacted and reminded of the bus's departure time. Emergency contacts will be contacted if injuries/emergencies arise.
- j. The program will also use a student coordinator, who will serve as point of contact on the trip and will send reminders to users.
- k. The program could become self-sustaining if all of the seats on the busses are sold.

- l. Erika asked the Committee to consider any other marketing/advertising ideas and to contact her with any ideas. If you'd like poster or other marketing materials to share with others, [contact Erika](#).
- m. SkiSU website - <https://pts.colostate.edu/skisu/>

2. Campus Sustainability Index

- a. AASHE and STARS have a need to communicate the many unique and diverse sustainability initiatives that STARS institutions are implementing. AASHE used to rely on Princeton Review and Sierra Club to advertise STARS highlights but their reporting is not inclusive of all of the multiple facets of STARS.
- b. STARS is now producing an annual report of the work of institutions, called the [Sustainable Campus Index](#).
- c. The Sustainable Campus Index provides a summary of the 5 top performing schools in each main STARS category.
- d. In 2017, CSU is listed as a top performer in 7 of 14 categories. Pictures from Andrew Warnock were also included in the 2017 Index.
- e. The Index is an effective tool for staff/students/faculty to understand the STARS program without pouring over major sets of data.
- f. The 2017 Sustainable Campus Index website - http://www.aashe.org/wpcontent/uploads/2017/11/2017_Sustainable_Campus_Index.pdf

3. Living Building Challenge

- a. Tonie met with staff and students from the Construction Management (CM) department to discuss a potential student project of pursuing a Living Building Challenge for a new building on Campus.
- b. [The Living Building Challenge](#) is an extremely rigorous building rating system, similar to LEED but much more stringent.
- c. Currently, there are only 15 living buildings in the world. 300 projects in the United States are in the process of pursuing the certification, either in whole or in part.
- d. The Living Building Challenge analyzes 7 key facets, called petals. The petals include place, water, energy, health and happiness, materials, equity and beauty.
- e. The certification process/assessment begins 1 year into operation of the building.
- f. A building in Basalt, CO is the only building in the state to acquire some (not all) of the petals.
- g. A new apartment complex on Oak Street in Fort Collins is pursuing some of the petals.
- h. Students in the CM department asked Tonie if they could share their presentation with the PSC and eventually President Frank.
- i. The students have researched the University Master Plan and two sites might be good locations for the Living Building Challenge building - Aylesworth/Newsom site and the Hartshorn site. Both of these sites sit in the floodplain, which will be challenging to overcome.
- j. The Committee was supportive of seeing a brief presentation from the students at an upcoming meeting.
- k. Funding the building has not been determined but the ROI on sustainable, well-operating buildings is high and might compel University Administration to provide some funding.
 - l. Living Building Challenge website - <https://living-future.org/lbc/>

4. December Meeting

- a. The December 11th meeting is scheduled during finals weeks and many PSC members are attending a LEED meeting at the same time.
- b. Tonie suggested that the formal PSC meeting on the 11th be cancelled and that sub-groups use the time in December to reconvene and check in on the status of Strategic Plan goals.
- c. The Committee agreed to cancel the December meeting. The next PSC meeting will be January 22nd (rescheduled to the 4th week in January due to MLK holiday).

5. Updates from Members

Stacey – Stacey, Carol, and Van have been updating CSU’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) and Stacey asked PSC members to send him any updates/revisions needed in the CAP. Stacey also mentioned the topic of living wage. The Classified Personnel Council has been actively engaged in campus-wide conversations about a living wage initiative and \$200,000 was allocated to supporting the lowest paid employees at CSU. Work surrounding this initiative is being done, even if not actively seen. At the ASSHE conference, Stacey attended a session about living wage and he is connecting with staff from other universities to understand best practices and methods in achieving the living wage goals.

Tim – The Green Warrior campaign is complete and had the highest total of participation in the program’s history. There were a total of 2,061 resident hall participants and 280 in Aggie Village. Also, 6 proposals were received for the HDS Sustainability Grant fund. All of the proposals will be funded in some capacity. Proposals included purchasing large bicycles with carts/trailers to eliminate the use of carts by HDS maintenance staff, a pollinator habitat installation on the roof of the Pavilion, and a pilot of outdoor composting, among others.

Terra – The Michael Smith Addition to the Warner College of Natural Resources is set to be completed on time and will receive a LEED Silver certification. The Institute for the Built Environment has been working to pursue the LEED certification for the project.

Madelyn – The Zero Waste Team would like to present a summary of composting on game days in the January meeting. Athletics can be involved in this summary. Also, ASCSU is working on a draft of a resolution for the Stadium to pursue RECs. More details about the resolution will be shared soon.

Erika – The committee working to address air travel met last week and will develop plans to reduce air travel/emissions. Data from other universities is being analyzed and local offsets have been suggested.

John – John built a sustainable house in Redstone Canyon, which showcases many sustainable features. John was interested in engaging WCNR student clubs and students are allowed to sell firewood from his property to fundraise. John is also developing a tree farm of 50 acres surrounding his property. John cannot apply as a LEED Platinum building because of wildlife issues on the property but he has been awarded Forest Service grants to implement fire mitigation practices. The City of Fort Collins recently purchase land at the top of the ridge and John is interested in sharing his sustainable practices to benefit the City’s property.

Barb – The CSU Foundation Sustainability Committee met last week during the quarterly Investment Committee and Board meeting. The results of this meeting will be provided at the January President’s Sustainability Committee meeting.

Tonie – The PSC is now officially a coalition, not a Committee. This is the highest distinguishing level of a group. The website will be updated to reflect this new name. The President’s Office will give clarification about membership terms and roles. More information about this will come soon but for now, the PSC will operate business as usual.

Kirstie – The Leave it Behind pick-up and Surplus Tent Sale has become cost prohibitive for Surplus. The Murphy Center has expressed interest in collecting material from Leave it Behind, which would completely restructure the material collection process. Jake has concerns about whether the Murphy Center can handle this much material but he is willing to meet with Murphy Center staff to discuss logistics. More details about this will come soon.