



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

Minutes

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 1:00-2:30 pm

**Virtual Meeting**

1. Recognition for Rick Miranda – 10 minutes
  - a. A HUGE thank you and appreciation to Rick for his support and advocacy for sustainability over the years! With Rick's advocacy and encouragement, sustainability was included for the first time in the university's strategic plan and the institutional learning outcomes. Without his support and assistance, we wouldn't have achieved STARS platinum. PSC created a pine beetle kill plaque to recognize him and hopefully can get it to him in person soon.
2. AASHE Conference – 5 minutes
  - a. Shout out to Tim for helping organize payment to AASHE. Also, huge shout out to CSU Systems Office, SSC, CSU Facilities, and HDS for contributing to CSU Sponsorship of the conference.
3. Geothermal Design Challenge on GeoX – 5 minutes
  - a. Construction on Moby is not finished but will be soon.
  - b. The Department of Energy has an infographic/outreach/education strategy competition. This is intended for students to participate. Creative students are encouraged to submit!
  - c. PSC could add infographic/information from the competition about the geo-exchange project on [green.colostate.edu](http://green.colostate.edu).
  - d. There will be an AASHE session with Carol/Stacey on the geo-exchange project.
4. PSC is now part of Race, Bias and Equity Initiative (RBEI) – 10 minutes
  - a. RBEI is an initiative President McConnell launched last academic year. This is a huge network that includes members of the Executive Leadership Team as well as all presidential councils, commissions, and task forces. Carol and Tonie will be joining for the monthly meeting.
  - b. Please share any Race, Base and Equity items with Carol and Tonie to carry forward to RBEI and they will provide updates to PSC.
  - c. For those interested, there is a RBEI session at the Diversity Symposium tomorrow and it will be recorded and posted on the Diversity Symposium YouTube page.
  - d. Stacey asked about the PSC proposal on living wage we submitted last year. The official response was that it was shared with the appropriate unit on campus for further consideration so Carol/Tonie will ask who that was so we can follow-up on next steps.
5. CSU Sustainability Fund Ready to Launch – overview from subcommittee – 10 minutes
  - a. The application and parameters of applying to the CSU Sustainability Fund are ready for launch. Anyone with a CSU email can apply. Priority deadline is November 18<sup>th</sup> currently. Dollars must be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>, there is no long-term funding available.
  - b. **Details and the submission form are at <https://green.colostate.edu/csu-sustainability-fund/>.**
  - c. ASCSU could do a takeover on the CSU Instagram account to help promote, they are willing to get the word out anyway they can.
  - d. The subcommittee hopes to have applications reviewed and approved by January to have the dollars available for the start of spring semester.
  - e. Shout out to the subcommittee for getting this together in four weeks for a successful launch!

6. November Agenda with President McConnell – 20 minutes
  - a. Presentation will include information on our STARS Report, 2020 accolades and awards, and accomplishments of the subcommittees, who have been hard at work this year on curriculum innovation grants, sustainability funds, inclusive building standards, etc.
  - b. Will also quickly review our climate action plan goals and GHG inventory.
  - c. Will focus more on forward thinking, what to achieve and work towards next.
  - d. Will ask about Strategic Transformation Plan and how sustainability can be incorporated in the plan.
  - e. Will also ask how sustainability is part of our new branding campaigns?
7. Updates from Members - 25 minutes
  - a. Aleta – There were 26 applicants for sustainability innovation grant, it closed last week! This is a really high number of proposals, more than expected with this fund having just been announced.
  - b. Sophia – ASCSU is trying to figure out logistics on a sustainability idea drop-box (may be virtual or physical). Also looking to continue help with advertising/marketing sustainability initiatives (AASHE, Sustainability Fund, etc.). Mailing out seeds/soil and pots didn't pan out but was able to have students come pick up materials instead. Looking to advocate for alternative transportation projects as well.
  - c. Carol – Solar project is currently narrowing down the projects (25-30 possibly). They want to be able to communicate that this project will double the amount of solar on-campus. Can send the list out possibly in December of where all the solar will be on-campus.
  - d. Sheela – Composting grant that was applied for was awarded (\$147,000) to expand the Windrow Composting Facility!
  - e. Aaron – two grants were awarded for \$75,000 to construct a trail widening/bike path and wayfinding project.
  - f. Anthony - Looking for more folks to participate in research safety. Have 4 teams formed so far. Reach out if you are interested and Anthony can send more information.
  - g. Some CSU resources for those affected by the wildfire - <https://source.colostate.edu/resources-available-for-cameron-peak-fire-evacuees/>
  - h. Mary – Eco Actions campaign went on for 6 weeks this year (previously called Green Warrior) and over 1,000 students were engaged. First Environmental Eats event happened with a focus on local foods last week with 150 students who attended. Knowing that many campuses have not been able to engage students this fall, we feel fortunate that we have been able to.
  - i. Bill – Age of Nature is a great documentary be sure to check it out!
  - j. Sara – will be graduating this semester so will be looking for a replacement for her position as Director of the Student Sustainability Center. It will be posted soon so please let interested students know.
  - k. Stacey – Shut the sash campaign is still going on. Program to encourage closing fume hoods when not in use to help with energy savings. Stickers are created and ready to be sent out. Please let either of them know if there is any interest.
  - l. Tonie – all the good news and progress shared today is really impressive! With everything happening with the pandemic, economy, election, wildfires, etc. it is really incredible that this community is collaborating on so many positive things and accomplishing so much. Definitely a bright spot.