



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

PSC Retreat Minutes
January 11th, 2021, 1:00-4:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

I. Introductions

- a. **Attendees:** Tonie Miyamoto (Co-chair), Carol Dollard (Co-chair) Zahra Al-Saloom (Graduate Intern), Anthony Rappe, Stacey Baumgarn, Aaron Fodge, Dan McGrath, Mark Paquette, Mary Liang, Sheela Backen, Shannon Foley, Farrah Bustamante, Andrew Warnock, Brain Dunbar, Bill Timpson, Allison Vitt, Sophia Shepp, Julie Kallenberger, Aleta Weller, Anthony Appleton, Tom Satterly, Sam Moccia, Rodolfo Valdes, Mary Guiden, Monica Latham, Ryan Scott, Shannon Foley, Sam Moccia, Angie Fajardo, Matt Wallenstein, Collen Duncan

II. Strategic Planning Subcommittee Breakouts

a. Administration and Planning

i. Strategic Transformation Brainstorming:

1. Revisit PSC Vision/Triple-Bottom Line statement from last year with President McConnell and Ann. Ready to adopt/implement?
2. Brainstormed development/campaign opportunities to promote CSU's accomplishments and leadership role in sustainability
3. Idea to create a sustainability video to tell sustainability story and engage donors
4. Suggested adding climate action plan goals to strategic transformation process

ii. PSC 2021 Goals

1. Partner at systems level to support system-wide commitment to sustainability/triple-bottom line and tell sustainability story across main campus, Pueblo campus, and CSU Global.
2. Expand positive sustainability investments by setting a goal with CSU Foundation and providing a list of sustainable CSU ventures for the CSU Foundation.
3. Food insecurity goals: Relaunch Ram Food Recovery this semester in a COVID-aware format and support/assist Rams Against Hunger in securing a permanent food pantry location/program
4. Healthy buildings and WELL certification - funding has been a challenge so we'd like to pursue some matching fund opportunities

5. Reword language in Goal 5 to strengthen commitment to economic and social justice in all PSC decisions/actions
6. Explore where CSU waste goes from a social, economic, and environmental lens →How does it impact communities and how can we change? Is it feasible to track?

b. Academics/Research

- i. Strategic Transformation Brainstorming
 1. Infuse sustainability across the curriculum/expose each student at CSU to sustainability
- ii. PSC 2021 Goals
 1. Conduct an audit to identify gaps across the curriculum – the PSC intern is available to assist
 2. Develop course content that provides exposure to sustainability for all CSU students – this could be a core course, curriculum integrated into a first-year seminar, and/or non-credit module for incoming students
 - a. First step is a philosophical commitment from CSU leadership that exposure to sustainability for all CSU students, as articulated in the University's Institutional Learning outcomes document is important.
 - b. Some logistics considerations:
 - i. Who will develop the curriculum?
 - ii. Is PSC requesting funding? Time? A champion?
 - iii. Other considerations?
 3. Expanded funding for Curriculum Innovation Grants as there were so many great proposals across multiple disciplines this year and only a few could be funded

c. Engagement

- i. Strategic Transformation Brainstorming
 1. Create a community service requirement for graduation
 - a. Could be paired with integration across the curriculum and could be service learning, volunteering, clubs and organizations, etc.
 - b. Focus is broad and can include sustainability, DEI, etc.
 2. Consider how online learning and virtual meetings could affect community engagement and service opportunities at the university
- ii. PSC 2021 Goals
 1. Increase engagement with students
 - a. Handbook created by SSC and finding ways to distribute virtually and physically; support student petition for composting at LSC; more work on engagement at Ram Welcome; do more presentations about sustainability
 2. Increase engagement with employees

- a. Sustainability 101 presentations; Housing & Dining Services is piloting a green office assessment/program that could be scaled up; Stacey is working on Green Labs program
- 3. Greater dissemination of best practices
 - a. While much of our work is virtual, do bigger push on social media (Instagram takeovers, etc.) and on green.colostate.edu; expand on success of virtual Earth Week in 2020 for 2021

d. Operations

- i. Strategic Transformation Brainstorming
 - 1. Craft a vision statement with the university to set best practices (i.e. triple-bottom line decision-making) and set leadership role
 - 2. Accelerate 2050 goal to be 100% carbon neutral and champion moving it up to 2035 or 2040 (would require resources)
 - 3. Set water efficiency target for the university (based on top performers in STARS or other metrics)
 - 4. Become the first university to achieve a Diamond rating for Bike Friendly certification
- ii. PSC 2021 Goals
 - 1. Add carbon neutrality goal to a number of the existing strategies; require acknowledgement and advance this goal
 - 2. Construct new buildings to be carbon-neutral ready to avoid retrofitting down the road
 - 3. Formalize zero waste reduction goal and roll up tactics into this strategy like 2.2 (composting) and 2.9 (annual waste audit)
 - 4. Set water efficiency goal using STARS (or other tool) as metric, untreated water vs. treated water metrics
 - 5. Sustainable purchasing policy is up for review this year; strengthen criteria and consider total cost of ownership, preference for BIPOC/diverse businesses, etc.
 - 6. Support establishment of West Elizabeth bus corridor

III. Retreat Closing Remarks

- a. As subcommittees finalize these goals, please submit budget/funding requests to Carol and Tonie (include a dollar amount). Please note that we do not yet know what the budget process will look like this year so this is a wish list at this time.
- b. Subcommittees should have a final draft of goals ready to share at the February 15 meeting. We recognize many of these goals are very big and complex so just indicate if you need more time to develop one. The budget process will drive the timeline to some extent and our goals are also a living document so we will pick a date to share with President McConnell but goals can be added and updated as needed.

IV. Links and Resources Shared During the Retreat

- a. Information on procurement and state's disparity study:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/osc/state-colorado-disparity-study>
- b. Resources for gardening and composting at home:
 - i. <https://www.commongoodcompost.org/>
 - ii. <https://www.fcgov.com/gardens/community-gardens>
 - iii. <https://www.fcgov.com/utilities/residential/conserves/water-efficiency/xeriscape/garden-in-a-box#cb-25148-4859>
- c. Brian Dunbar's publication called **Dialogues** - a research publication from the **Learning by Design**, a school design magazine.
- d. Anyone interested in Diverse Fort Collins' EJ subcommittee or their book club can contact Zahra (zsaloom@colostate.edu) or visit diversefortcollins.com