



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

Minutes
September 20th, 2021, 1:00-2:30 pm
Virtual Meeting

1. Introductions (5 min)

Tonie Miyamoto, Kirstie Tedrick, Zahra Al-Saloom, Stacey Baumgarn, Greg Lewis, Adam Vance, Jacob VanderRoest, Karen Estlund, Andrew Warnock, Sheela Backen, Sara Campbell, Matt Wallenstein, Peter Backlund, Ryan Scott, Anthony Appleton, Aleta Weller, Mark Paquette, Brian Dunbar, Dan McGrath, Aaron Fodge, Carol Dollard, Rodolfo Valdes, Tony Rappe, Alicia Armentrout, Tim Brennan, Mary Liang

2. Courageous Strategic Transformation Sustainability Goals Update (15 min)

Karen Estlund - Information gathering for the next strategic plan started back in 2016 and has morphed into the Courageous Strategic Transformation now underway. The Board of Governors asked for more concrete goals from 14 different drafting groups. These goals need to be submitted this month and will be finalized by mid-November after forums are held to gather input from a broad range of stakeholders. The Master plan timeframe is about five years. The CST goals are higher level goals that require the attention and support of the President and the Board, the PSC strategic plan will be a supporting document that can dive into more specific details. The sustainability goals closely align with the PSC strategic plan. Please provide input via the survey or those on PSC who are parting of the drafting group (Stacey, Tonie, Peter).

- https://colostate.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/VP_Strategy_Sustainability/EUPwwgALjipJnFp8PP9Ql-8BcMq8ARH5yRgu5kKcxEFQ7A?e=lqNiYt
- <https://courageous.colostate.edu/leadership-groups/>
- http://colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2nKJd4I2eYhdh4O

3. Overview of ASCSU's Environmental Affairs Projects – Adam Vance and Katherine Stocking (20 min)

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/13zDCYz7mk1LzBAizGCx7SieM4PcAcOgPZez52i0cjNM/edit?usp=sharing>

These are some goals, projects, and policies ASCSU is working on this year. For composting in the LSC, would like to have a three permanent composting bins established. Will be tabling to gather data on the successes and gaps on the pilot project. Partnering with SSC to explore a thrift store housed in the LSC. This will provide access to cheaper clothing at a fixed cost and serve as a resource for on-campus students. For Earth Week would like to have guest speakers to attend each week's specific themes and expand to 6 weeks prior to Earth Week itself, still working on the schedule. Would like to create community gardens to have a local source of food for students. This will have to take place in the summertime. To expand Greek Life Recycling would like to create sustainability chairs in each organization to implement recycling. Policies areas include xeriscaping, yellow light initiatives, labeling trash & waste bins and have it available via mobile app, and limit plastic straws and bottle consumption on campus. PSC provided some feedback and leads including:

- Recycled Cycles has a good model to follow for the thrift store
- The Career Center (Jon Cleveland) is planning to open a business attire resource at Aggie Village, possibly for next Fall

- We normally have Earth Week events highlighted even after Earth Day, so the six weeks could start after Spring Break.
- Community garden – Kirstie has some good information about past projects for community gardens in addition to the Horticulture Intern’s experience with working with Practicum students in the Greenhouse.
- There is an online marketplace pilot program in development (based off of the shared economy model of Buy Nothing sites) that is scheduled to roll out towards the end of the semester. Tonie will include ASCSU as part of the pilot.

4. Next Steps for Air Travel Offset Proposal (10 min)

There was a request from Governor Polis & Chancellor Frank this summer on how to make CSU more sustainable and late this summer, the PSC STARS Team was able to send a memo to Joyce on some projects to work on. There is synergy between these two requests. One of which included the air travel offset proposal and it is now starting the approval process. The proposal is to add an offset fee of \$15 for domestic trips and \$25 for international trips. Air travel pre-pandemic was the third highest carbon emissions in our greenhouse gas inventory. During FY21 air travel dropped to 5% of the air travel we had pre-pandemic and while we hope it never returns to pre-pandemic levels with virtual technology now widely available and utilized, we do anticipate it will increase again and needs to be offset to meet our Climate Action Plan goals. There are some exemptions to the policy (i.e., research grants). This program/policy will be reviewed every year. The design of this program is to collect dollars to fund projects that will reduce carbon emissions here on CSU’s campus.

5. Social media takeover during AASHE Conference – highlight CSU sustainability research? (10 min)

President’s office asked about social highlights to link to the AASHE conference in October. Not necessarily promote the conference but use the time/session/topics that are being presented at AASHE to bring that knowledge back to campus. What topics should we do? Anthony can provide a list of different research projects that are currently occurring at CSU. Can maybe feature past SoGES fellows? Stacey’s student for Green Labs or the SSC club. Adam from ASCSU volunteered. Compost Intern could do windrow composting expansion. Tonie will connect with Team Social on how to have multiple people do highlights within the same timeframe or what options we have.

6. Send Off for Zahra, PSC Graduate Intern (5 min)

Zahra has accepted a position with the Colorado Governor’s Office as their new Transportation Program Associate! Congratulations Zahra! We will miss you!

7. Member Updates (25 min)

Kirstie – AASHE Conference will be held on October 12-14 but you will have access to all the sessions until the end of November. We have plenty of spots left to attend the virtual conference so please register and share the opportunity with anyone who may be interested!

Carol – PSC Internship position is posted, please have interested students apply!

Aleta Weller - <https://sustainability.colostate.edu/education-and-training/curriculum-innovation-grants/>. Open until October 1st.

Anthony Appleton – Please participate in the research Safety Culture SURVEY

(<https://www.research.colostate.edu/research-safety-culture/survey/>) Anyone who does research or supervises students who do research. JEDI Resources on Orange Folder (<https://www.research.colostate.edu/research-safety-culture/orange-folder/>) See what resources are available as well as recent peer reviewed publications. PSC Sustainability Fund (<https://green.colostate.edu/csu-sustainability-fund/>) Please apply, we do not currently have enough applications. Ask Me, I Care Weekly Office Hour and Q&A (<https://www.research.colostate.edu/research-safety-culture/ask-me-i-care/>)

Sheela – Will be retiring the end of December. Congratulations!!

Mary – Please apply for the PSC sustainability fund! Move -in and waste sorting went well. We had 2- roll offs of Styrofoam that were collected and 20 tons of cardboard. Looking for a sustainable dining intern, please have interested students reach out to me.

Jacob – This is his first-time attending PSC and is a first-year graduate student. He will be fulfilling our Graduate Student Council seat on the commission. He will be meeting with Aleta to open a graduate student chapter. Any suggestions please send over to him.

Tonie – Two accolades we can celebrate include the 8th year in a row we are on Sierra Club's Cool Schools top 12 list. CSU is also on Princeton Review's Green Honor Roll list for the 7th consecutive year. Carol and Tonie did a sustainability tour for new leaders on campus including VP for Marketing and Communications Yolanda Bevill, VP for Strategy Jenelle Beavers, AVP for Marketing and Communications Nancy Deller, and President's Office Chief of Staff and Director of Communications Ann Claycomb. They visited the solar array, composting facility, Pavilion, pollinator friendly gardens and bees, had a dining experience, and saw other sustainability highlights. There is lots of support for our strategic plan and for STARS. Sustainability and DEI are the main topics for CSU's rebrand RFP. Sometime in October, an agency will be named for this rebrand.