

## Eastern CT State University

### Green Campus Committee Meeting Minutes 2/24/15

People present:

- Lynn Stoddard, Director of ISE, and Green Campus Committee Chair
- Laura Miller, Energy Technical Specialist
- Renee Keech, Interim Director of Facilities
- Justine Fallon, Mattress Recycling Council, Northeast Program Coordinator  
[jfallon@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:jfallon@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)
- Jason Coombs, Director Food Services
- Cindy Hodis, Purchasing
- Shellena Pitterson, Drafting
- Emma Blandford, Niejadlick Hall Director
- Josh Sumrell Burr Hall Director
- Steve Nathan, Professor, Environmental Earth Science
- Lourdes Ardel, Human Resources

#### Mattress Recycling Program – Justine Fallon

- In 2013 Connecticut enacted PA 13-42 which required the mattress industry to create a recycling program for mattresses and box springs in the state.
- The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) submitted a plan to DEEP last year for how this would be handled, with the program set to begin May 1<sup>st</sup> 2015. The program was developed through the Product Stewardship Council. Participation is voluntary.
- Beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 mattress retailers will collect a \$9.00 recycling fee per mattress which will be submitted to the MRC who is coordinating their transportation to the two recycling facilities, one in East Hartford, and one in Bridgeport.
- Educational facilities can have discarded mattresses collected at no cost, with a 50 mattress minimum required for pick up.
- MRC is connected to Willi Waste who would make the pickup, and will also have a storage container available for Eastern's mattresses as needed before they are transported to the East Hartford facility.
- Mattresses are 95% recyclable and will be manually deconstructed at the recycling facility.
- Renee discussed new fire codes which are in place that change mattress storage requirements.
- Reporting on Eastern's mattress recycling will be useful as we move forward with AASHE STARS, and the GHG inventory.
- The average college campus mattress weighs 55lbs
- Justine also mentioned that there is a Product Stewardship program focused on Paint  
<http://www.paintcare.org/paintcare-states/connecticut/#/everyone>

#### President's Extended Staff Meeting Feedback – Lynn Stoddard

- Lynn mentioned the President's extended staff meeting, and how Eastern will have a large shortfall in the budget for next year and that Dr. Nunez is looking to the administration for ideas on saving money, and or having more students to enroll at Eastern. Many of the ideas brought up by the green campus committee have potential to save the campus money.
- If you feel you have an idea to save money or to increase student enrollment please share it.

### **Move out waste update – Josh Sumrell and Emma Blandford**

- A group met on January 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss Eastern's move out waste actions, including the Center for Community Engagement, Housing, and ISE.
- This year there will be four locations set up on campus during a two week move out period beginning on May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Josh has guaranteed staffing for the two week period at the four locations utilizing his green themed students. ISE and EES can also encourage their student interns to help as needed.
- Josh is currently working on an outreach campaign using posters, email flyers and t shirts that can be used during this time.
- Renee suggested for hall directors to check that these rooms are reserved through John Beck for this time period.
- Emma is based in Niejadlick and will also have her students who are involved with community engagement theme focused on sustainability and energy reduction help out with this and other initiatives.
- Renee suggested that university relations become involved with poster creation
- Laura asked about Dean's Cup involvement and target setting, Josh is currently on the Dean's Cup Committee, so he will broach the topics of sustainability with that committee.
- Kim Silcox from the Center for Community Engagement has made available data collected from the past three years of move out. Please email Laura Miller at [millerlau@easternct.edu](mailto:millerlau@easternct.edu) if you would like to see this.
- As a separate event, there are ideas for a yard sale that both Josh and Lamar had spoken about, possibly in the fall of 2015. WAIM had also expressed interest in getting involved with a campus yard sale. ,

### **Eastern's GHG submission – Lynn Stoddard**

- Eastern's Green House Gas emissions inventory for 2014 was submitted in January 2015.
- Eastern's total emissions were 19,134.75 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e. For the full report see the following link: <http://rs.acupcc.org/ghg/3470/>
- Eastern also has some carbon sequestration sources like the arboretum, and the recreational facility that were included as a means of reducing our footprint.
- The new fine arts building will have an impact on Eastern's emissions, making it important to look at emissions per square foot data.
- Eastern has a goal of being carbon neutral by 2050 which will only be achievable by increasing efficiency, and adding on renewable energy sources.
- Paul suggested using diversion pathways and life cycle inventories to look at the impact on carbon footprint of recycling versus disposal.

### **AASHE STARS planning for coming months**

- The key contacts for this area include Renee Keech, (Operations) Steve Nathan (Academics) and Lynn Stoddard (Planning and Engagement). The contact leads plus others, are spending time looking into how Eastern can most effectively report on its sustainability initiatives.
- At different points we may be reaching out to the committee for help with certain topics.
- We intend to submit the report later in the fall of 2015.

### **Solarize U updates**

- Eastern is participating in Solarize U from now until June 15<sup>th</sup> and is working on spreading the word about installing solar on the homes of anyone who is a Connecticut resident.
- Lourdes offered to review an email that ISE is drafting about the simple steps to determining the costs of solar for your home.
- It was suggested by members of the committee that a link to Massachusetts and Rhode Island programs is added to the Eastern Solarize U page for those not residing in CT.
- Lynn challenged all members of the green campus committee who own a home that is in Connecticut to use the Solarize U link below to complete a quote for their home before our next meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup> see the link here: <http://www.energysage.com/eastern/>

### **Virtual Reuse Network**

- The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) approached ISE about the opportunity of Eastern and other campuses using a virtual reuse network developed for CT campuses. A few different examples of what this means for Eastern would include organizing and tracking of surplus items to be either re-used somewhere else on campus, or within the greater BOR system.
- An example of this can be found here <http://mnartsmarket.org/>
- There will be follow up conducted with the DEEP representative as to how Eastern might be able to utilize this type of network.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> Campus Sustainability Conference being held at Eastern from 8:30am-3:30pm. Registration will be opening shortly.

Next meeting March 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am, Student Center 221.