



Minutes

Eastern Connecticut State University: Green Campus Committee Meeting Monday, April 16th 9:00am Student Center Room 221

Attendees

Lynn Stoddard, Green Campus Committee Chair – *Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE)*

Renee Keech – *Facilities Management & Planning*

Jeff Kwolek – *Dining Services*

Jenna Lafleur – *ISE*

Kathy Martel – *Fiscal Affairs*

Stephen Nathan – *Environmental Earth Science (EES)*

Lauren Polansky – *Student Activities*

Paul Torcellini - *EES*

Zachary Stygar – *ISE*

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Second Nature ‘Leading With Distinction’ Award: President Núñez serves on the steering committee for Second Nature’s university Climate Leadership Commitments. She was recently appointed Vice Chair, which she will serve as for one year before ascending to Chair. Dr. Núñez will speak at the Ceres 2018 sustainability conference about the “We Are Still In” declaration that Eastern and other organizations, cities, and schools signed after President Trump pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Agreement. Eastern won a Second Nature Leading With Distinction Award for our participation in the “We Are Still In” movement.
3. Zero-Waste Events: Jeff has been approved to run the 5/10 President’s Picnic as a zero-waste event.. Ken DeLisa approved the sample bamboo plates. The only waste will be the film wrap and sterno; all plates, cups, napkins and cutlery will be compostable or recyclable. Leftover food will be donated. Jeff is working with Ed Osborn on a press release for the event, they will also try for post-event PR and stats. Paul is gathering student volunteers, about six, to stand at the recycling/composting bins with displays and direct people how to dispose of their used dishes. The volunteers will get lunch and a free zero-waste event T-shirt; Paul already has a contact in University Relations for ordering the shirts. If the event is successful, we might be able to run the Fall Welcome Back picnic as a zero-waste event as well.
4. 100% Green Electricity: The System Office recently held a reverse auction for electricity suppliers, as it does every so often. All 17 CSCU schools will now be buying 100% green electricity through Engie for the next 4 years, beginning in May.
5. Green Poster Project: See attached minutes from the Art Department. The Green Campus Committee (GCC) discussed the balance between providing clear and specific instruction while still allowing room for creative design. The Committee decided that the goal of the posters is primarily to encourage action, with a secondary focus on informing campus members of Eastern’s green features. We brainstormed three general topics the students can choose from: 1. Waste Reduction, 2. Saving Energy, and 3. Transportation. The Committee definitely wants to include Eastern’s sustainability logo, unaltered, in the posters; perhaps Kevin Paquin could visit the class to provide guidance on



appropriate logo usage. Lynn said there should be funds designated specifically to GCC use that could be used in printing the posters, she will find out what is currently available. Jenna will research the cost of printing.

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7. Recycling Messaging, Pop-Up Displays: Jenna contacted Michelle Delaney and learned that fliers and event info cannot be sent to students via mass email, per the request of students to reduce inbox clutter. Lauren noted that as an alternative, she has the ability to share information to students and parents via Student Activities' social media; Jenna will send Lauren the newest Sustainability Snippets to post.
8. Move Out: Jermaine Whyte in Housing is coordinating the Move Out Swap Shop, where students can donate unwanted furniture and items. Jenna will keep in touch with Jermaine. Renee can help him promote the initiative. Paul noted it would be nice if we could generate stats of how much gets donated. Lynn noted that Laura had stats from previous years' collections, she can search ISE archives for them. Lauren suggested offering local coupons to incentivize students to donate items (as opposed to trashing items). The Bookstore and Chartwells could be readily available potential coupon providers.
9. Earth Day: On Friday 4/20, from 11 am – 2pm in the Student Center, various clubs and off-campus groups will host display and activity tables. Participants include Eastern's Environmental Club, Paul's baby chicks, Dining Services, Grounded, and the Willimantic Co-Op. General Mills provided Jeff with 200 wildflower seed packets to distribute as part of a Save the Bees campaign.
10. Other: Parents are giving positive feedback about waste diverted by the reusable To-Go containers. Over 1,000 have been sold so far, and next year's freshmen will be able to pre-buy their reusable To-Go box as part of their meal Plan.
Will-Waste will empty and clean the compost compactor around May 14. The empty compactor will be in storage through summer until students return in the Fall. (Last summer, scraps in the under-filled compactor attracted flies.)

For more information contact Jenna Lafleur at lafleurj@easternct.edu

Next meeting: May 16, 11:00 am in Student Center room 221.