**Sustainability Environmental Action Committee**

**Next meeting: February 3rd, 2015**

**Agenda 2/3/2015:**

1. Design Works Poster Check-in with Aaron Deyoe,
2. Presentation of Biomimcry Design Challenge 2015 with Curt McNarama
3. AASHE conference 2015: member prices, focus group, questions
4. Recyclemania 2015 update with Michael Baker
5. Intranet site questions and updates
6. 2015 Mtg Dates (Noon – 1 pm) February 3rd, April 28th
7. Review/Discuss past meeting minutes

**Minutes: December 2nd, 2014**

(Present: Brock Rasmussen, Julie Benda, Michael Baker, Tom Milbrath, Vince Leo, Pam Newsome-Prochniak, Greg Talmo, Brent Meyers, Aaron Deyoe)

(Absent: Cindy Gilbert, Diana Eicher, Brett Smith, Jerry Allan, Kevin Byrne, Laura Link, Nate Lutz, David Yale)

**New Business**

1. **12/2/14**- Brent Meyers of DesignWorks introduces the first draft of the new Waste/Recycling/Compost posters. New posters have upgraded lists, bolder typefaces, and nearly identical color schemes. The committee reviewed the posters and made minor suggestions to the clarifying the language, differentiating cups, and using more identifiable graphics. DesignWorks will check in once more before printing. Printing will replace existing posters as well as additional stickers for the tops of cafeteria garbage bins.
2. **12/2/14** GA assistant Julie Benda demos the new intranet site for Sustainability on Campus. The new site includes information on sustainable initiatives, committee meetings, involvement and contact information. Discussion over inclusion of “potential initiatives” as part of site resulted in agreement to only list what is in progress or already accomplished. Pam Newsome recommends more promotion of awards and recognition that the school has received, and Vince Leo suggests using the school newsletter to highlight sustainable activities and changes.
3. **12/2/14** Brock Announces MCAD’s new membership to AASHE. A tool for high education institutions to monitor, discuss, and learn more about improving campus sustainability.
4. **12/2/14** Tom Milbrath approaches the topic of recycling solvents, specifically in the Print Shop. Looking for way s to reduce the amount that is disposed, for toxic waste reduction and cost benefits.
5. **9/9/14-** Vince Leobrought up funding for SEAC. Suggests looking for something externally. Committee agrees on the need for funding order to further important initiatives. Tom suggests looking for small grants, solar co-ops and investing credit in solar gardens. Michael Baker suggests rebates for new technology, and it is decided that the committee will bring this to the attention of Kristine Wyatt and Pam Newsome. Possibility of a rotating fund for SEAC is brought up but addressed as unlikely, although estimates of the committee’s initiatives have saved the school are thought to be over $150,000 annually.
6. **9/9/14** Julie Benda volunteers to contact Cindy Gilbert to get Sustainable Design MA’s involved with research and strong arguments for school initiatives. **9/10/13** –The group also discussed the idea of leveraging students enrolled in the Master of Sustainable Design on internships/course work. Further discussion with Cindy would need to occur.

**Old Business**

1. **4/15/14 –** The committee discussed the take aways from the presentation, specifically what behavioral changes could be employed. General discussion occurred about the number of Culligan water coolers on campus and the potential to put a timer on them to reduce energy consumption. Facilities will conduct an analysis. **1/28/14** – The committee watched a NACUBO webinar on how behavioral changes helped cut energy usage in half at Valencia College in Florida. The video covered how engagement, collaboration, communication and celebration of successes helped form habits of cutting energy usage. The primary reductions of energy were found in more closely scheduling HVAC equipment to set back when areas weren’t occupied and consolidating events/classes into single buildings instead of spread out. The committee will discuss what items MCAD already incorporates and what items we could potentially pursue at the next meeting.