

Sustainability Environmental Action Committee
December 2nd, 2014

Agenda:

1. SEAC intranet site demo
2. New member of AASHE
3. Sustainable initiative tracking and reporting tools- how to best gather information
4. DesignWorks posters for compost/recycling
5. Video for cafeteria, copy outline & update
6. 2014/15 Mtg Dates (Noon – 1 pm) – September 9th, December 2nd, February 3rd, April 28th
7. Discuss future initiatives
8. Review/Discuss past meeting minutes

Minutes: September 9th, 2014

(Present: Brock Rasmussen, Julie Benda, Michael Baker, Tom Milbrath, Vince Leo)

(Absent: Cindy Gilbert, Diana Eicher, Brett Smith, Greg Talmo, Jerry Allan, Kevin Byrne, Kristine Wyant, Laura Link, Nate Lutz, Pam Newsome-Prochniak, David Yale)

New Business

1. **9/9/14-** Brock Rasmussen establishes priority of getting the intranet site up and running. Graduate Assistant Julie Benda will be organizing information and drafting an intranet site to present to implemented projects, metrics, and how to get involved. She and Brock will be contacting Steven Candy about the new intranet site, with a goal of having something to show for the next committee meeting.
2. **9/9/14-** Composting issues were brought up by the committee in the absence of David Yale. Vince Leo suggests playing a fun and informational film that would be looped during high traffic times. The film could performance based and created by a student, class or the Green Club. Julie Benda will be contacting Brett Smith about the Green Club's interest, as well as, faculty member Eric Tretbar about this idea.
3. **9/9/14-** Tom Milbrath updated the committee on latex paint recycling. Tom is able to recycle the paint in Blain, MN, with a company called Amazon, who remixes and reuses the paint. Tom was able to calculate the School's savings of latex paint disposal, and found he reduced spending from \$.44/lb. to \$.21/lb., cutting costs in half for this expenditure. Tom also mentioned the success of collecting spray cans to be recycled after puncturing.
4. **9/9/14-** Vince Leo brought 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 Christine 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.

5. **9/9/14-** Vince Leo asked about the Green Roof's project timeline, bees, and when it needs to be taken down. **4/15/14** – Diana Eicher has been heading up an initiative to add bees to the rooftop of MCAD. Two hives have been installed and will be managed by the U of M Bee Squad. The hives can be seen from the 4th floor south windows near the restroom hallway.
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.
7. **9/9/14-** Michael Baker reviews Recycle mania. 75% of the waste collected was re-used, and 850lbs of clothes were collected for Goodwill. The FPC did conclude that the free shelf is a health hazard with bed bugs, and a possible solution would be to collaborate with GoodWill and get a truck dropped off for a day during future student move-outs.

Old Business

1. **9/9/14-** Committee decided to remove initiative from meeting agenda in order to focus intranet site and funding. This topic will not show up on the following minutes. **12/3/13** - Fred Rozumalski who is a landscape architect and ecologist with Barr Engineering presented the components of a sustainable landscape with a focus on what sustainability means to critical aspects of the institution such as the perception of the college by perspective students and parents, aging utility infrastructure, maintenance budgets, and adaptation to climate change. The presentation included many images of sustainable landscape concepts and how they were not only functional for storm water management and sustainable practices but also aesthetically pleasing. He completed Macalester's landscape master plan and is in the process of completing St. Benedicts master plan.
1. **9/9/14** – Committee decided to remove initiative from agenda, to focus energy on intranet site and funding. This topic will not show up on the following minutes. **9/10/13** – Nate indicated that April was the wrong time of year to conduct the challenge. He indicated earlier in the fall/winter might be better. The committee discussed and was undecided if this was a worthwhile future project. **4/30/13** Results of the energy challenge were disturbed. Nate would like to consider having the challenge occur just in electrical for next year's competition during the fall. **2/13/13-** Started 2.11.13. Nate asked for suggestions on how to keep the momentum up. Nate will speak to Design Works about banners for winning building. Nate will make announcement at the final building meeting of the semester. **12/4/12-** Nate discussed the idea of a Dorm Energy Challenge where each building competes against a three-year building base line for one month. Next step is to create baseline challenge. Shannon and Nate will work together by looking at the energy used and adding the result for electric. Nate and the RA's will promote and advertise event.
2. **9/9/14-** Committee decided to remove initiative from meeting agenda in order to focus intranet site and funding. This topic will not show up on the following minutes. **4/30/13** Design Works

presented direction for logo design: Gina speaks about different sources for logo inspiration. Direction of thinking: 1. Take in. 2. Put out. 3. Give back. A logo system that can be use internally. "Transforming the world through creativity and purpose." SEAC will meet with Design Works again in September to discuss logo options and feedback.

3. **9/9/14** Because Graduate Assistant Julie Benda will be working on this throughout the semester, the committee decided it would no longer show up in "old business". **2/13/13** No activity to report. **12/4/12** Draft of website was given to committee with no objections. Research and data collecting will be formatted for website usage and/or gathered. Shannon will work with Steven Candy to build the website. Shannon – SEAC own tumblr blog and/or join with green club? **9/11/12** – The committee agreed that creating the intranet website is still the highest committee priority. Shannon also suggested that surveys be developed to help solicit interest from the student body on potential projects as well as advertise sustainability related items. **4/17/12** – We need to document our accomplishments on an intranet site. This can include the results of our alternative transportation initiatives, composting/waste tracking, and energy savings. This should be in a compelling format.
4. **4/15/14** – Michael Baker briefed the committee about the green clean out, Recyclemania results and a student led yard sale. Michael will be sending out an all campus announcement on the Recyclemania results which were impressive (Ranked 20th out of 256 for grand champion with a 55% diversion rate). Nate Lutz brought up concerns with the free shelf and bed bugs. This topic will be discussed at a future FPC meeting. **4/30/13** Michael shared Recyclemania results. MCAD placed 26th out of 274. 26/22 (Competition Ranking-Grand Champion/ Pre Capita) 55.690% Recycling rate and 31.447lbs (pre capita). **2/12/13** Underway, charts are hung in the café to show the updates and also comparisons with different art schools. Nate suggests adding information on the digital boards located outside the café. **12/4/12** Michael Baker and Shannon briefed the committee about work that has been done so that MCAD can participate in Recyclemania during the spring semester. Michael created a chart documenting the trash, recycling, and compost usage each month. The committee recommended this information should go on the intranet page. Also form volunteers from each department to audit their electrical use (Linnea/Green Club). **9/11/12**- Michael Baker distributed a summary on the amount of waste recycled at the Green Clean Out student move-out and the amount of compost collected from the cafeteria.
2. **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.

