

Energy & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes
02/25/19 2:00 - 3:00pm | North End Center

Attendees: Sarah McCoy for Sherwood Wilson, Debbie Greer for M. Dwight Shelton, Jr., Jon Clark Teglas for Chris Kiwus, Ken Black for Liza Morris, Anthony M. Purcell for Frances Keene, Denny Cochrane, Scott Kerklo, Jeff Orzolek, Rob Lowe, Edward Lener, Sean McGinnis, Erin Hopkins (conference call), Judy Taylor, Alan Grant, Caed Cunningham

Guests: Kate Franczek, Allison Price, Barbara Wise, Lowell Jessee, Nick Quint, Jody Booze-Daniels, Drew Harris, Ellen Garcia

February Agenda Approved: Motion to approve by Judy Taylor, second Scott Kerklo

January Meeting Minutes Approved: Motion to approve by Alan Grant, second Scott Kerklo

Old Business

Green RFP Program Overview

- Reviewed timeline for the 2018-2019 Green RFP Program
 - Feb 25 (today) subcommittee presents proposals in recommended priority order to the Energy & Sustainability Committee (E&SC) for approval
 - Mar 4- E&SC presents 2018-2019 select proposals in priority order to the Office of Budget & Financial Planning (OBFP) for review and comments
 - Mar 11- OBFP convenes Budget Review Committee- identifies funding sources
 - Apr/May- select proposals approved and implementation initiated

Proposals in recommended priority order

1. Indoor LED Lights- Math EMPO
2. HVAC Upgrade- Math EMPO
3. Hallway Lights Payne Hall
4. Outdoor LED Lights for Newman Library and University Bookstore Area
5. Outdoor LED Lights for Cassell Coliseum Parking Lot and Adjacent Sidewalks
6. Green Lab Resource Kit Initiative
7. ED Sink Lights Pritchard Hall
8. Stroubles Creek Watershed Restoration
9. LED Sink Lights Lee Hall
10. LED Sink Lights Vawter Hall
11. Mixed Paper Recycling Bins Cowgill & Burchard Halls
12. Reusable To-Go Return Stations for Dining Services
13. Reusable To-Go Individual Containers for Dining Services
14. Rainwater Catchment System Hahn Horticulture Garden
15. Water Bottle Refill Stations (2) Kelly Hall

16. Hot Water Recirculation System for 10 Residence Halls
 - Update from Scott Kerklo (Mechanical Engineer, Facilities Department): There is funding for a Domestic Hot Water System Study, but not sure how long that will take and what future projects may result. At the present time Todd Pignataro (Associate Director for Facilities, Division of Student Affairs) notes that an enormous amount of water is being wasted before hot water at the shower head is realized. Often showers are running 24/7 to keep the hot water in the system. Scott says the efficiency lost is more than made up for by the solution to the water that is run during the winter. Bottom line: we should move forward with this hot water recirculation project.
17. LED Sink Lights Barringer Hall
18. Electronic Waste Recycling Bins
19. Bat Boxes
20. LED Sink Lights Johnson Hall
21. LED Sink Lights Miles Hall
22. LED Sink Lights Newman Hall
23. LED Sink Lights Eggleston Hall-Main
24. LED Sink Lights Eggleston Hall-West
25. LED Sink Lights Eggleston Hall- East
26. Battery Powered Blower- Hahn Horticulture Garden
27. 2 Solar Power Charging Tables Bishop Favrao Hall- E&SC recommend just 1 table
28. Outdoor Dog Run VMCVM
29. Solar Power Charging Station Near Bus Stop (TBD) - E&SC not supportive and proposal withdrawn

Motion to adopt proposed priority for subcommittee has proposed: Caed Cunningham, second by Ed Lener. E&SC unanimously approved the recommended priority list.

New Business

Green Lab Initiative - Ellen Garcia

UAB, UNC, UC Irvine, University of Colorado Boulder, Harvard, MIT, Duke, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, Cornell, UC San Diego, Illinois, University of Miami, Emory, Stanford, and University of Virginia: All these universities have a Green Lab program

Why do we need Green Lab program?

- Research labs consume the most energy (5x more energy per square foot than typical offices)- represents an area for enormous cost savings and carbon reduction
- Water- lots of research requires processed water and a lot of it
- Waste- research consumes an enormous amount of resources and produces a lot of waste : opportunity to shift behavior and across campus

What does a Green Lab Program look like at VT?

- Standalone independent body, large need which is too much for a project within an office
- Could involve: Lab Connect, Procurement, Office of Sustainability, Students, Office of

- Energy management, EHS, and Institution Managements
- Who would structure the program: Program Manager, Program Assistant (Full or part time staff), Communications Director (to keep website)

What would a Green Lab Program do?

- Make a green lab assessment and certification systems
 - Series of questions for labs that they would do about their research; ex. Do you always close the fume hood after use?
- User engagement
 - All labs are different, even with a similar discipline (i.e. not all biology labs do the same thing)
- Coordinate with different groups on campus to do sustainability in labs
 - Office of Energy Management- shut the sash campaign
 - Office of Sustainability- EPS recycling program, recycling program that focuses on lab-based needs for recycling (Styrofoam)
 - Cold Storage Improvements (OEM)
 - Building Management

How can we make a Green Lab Program?

- Main thing that needs work: lab certification and assessment
 1. Internal: build an assessment and certification system from scratch
Possibilities: senior design project or independent study
 2. External- working with nonprofit “My Green Lab”; they already have a certification that is built and standardized → maintain a formal collaboration with organization

Regardless of how this system is created: VT needs to dedicate staff to this mission!

Sean McGinnis stated the E&SC should prepare a letter of endorsement in support of the Green Lab Program. Further discussion for the next E&SC meeting.

Next Meeting: Burrus Hall, Conference Room 130 at 2 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Caed Cunningham, second by Scott Kerklo