

Energy & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes
10/28/19 2:00 - 3:00pm | Burruss Hall 130

Attendees: Nick Woods for Ken Miller, Jon Clark Teglas for Chris Kiwus, Mike Dunn for Liza Morris, Denny Cochrane, Scott Kerklo, Rob Glenn, Rob Lowe, Shuchismita Biswas for Virgilio Centeno, Matthew Eick, Erin Hopkins, Paul Winistorfer, Angie De Soto, Gustavo Ventura Gargioni, Natalie Koppier

Guests: Kate Franczek, Ellen Garcia, Matt Earnest, Yasmine Sikder, Nick Quint, Patrick Hilt

Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

Meeting Agenda Approved: Rob Lowe motion to approve, second by Scott Kerklo

Approval of Minutes from September 23, 2019 Meeting: Rob Glenn approved, second by Scott Kerklo

Old Business

2018-19 Green RFP Review & Implementation Update

- Green RFP is a formal process for students to submit sustainability ideas to leadership for approval and funding consideration
- AY 2018-19 record 66 student proposals submitted, with record 18 of those approved
- Record funding of \$552,000
- Since program initiated in AY 2010-11, 83 proposals and \$1.2 million
- Energy & Sustainability Committee in charge of reviewing and prioritizing the proposals before presentation to the Office of Budget and Financial Planning
- Denny Cochrane reviewed the list of approved proposals and the status of implementation

Title (In recommended priority order)	Student Organization	Cost
1. Indoor LED Lights- Math Emporium	Office of Energy Management- Student Interns	\$194, 300
2. HVAC Upgrade- Math Emporium	Office of Energy Management- Student Interns	\$8, 000

3. Hallway LED Lights Payne Hall	Environmental Innovation	\$10, 700
4. Newman Library & University Bookstore Outdoor LED Lights	Environmental Coalition	\$14, 300
5. Cassell Coliseum Parking Lot LEDs	UAP 3354	\$16, 700
6. Green Lab Initiative	Office of Sustainability- Student Intern Waste Team	\$3,700
7. Indoor Sink LED Lights for 10 Residence Halls	Environmental Innovation	\$103,600
8. Stroubles Creek Watershed Restoration	Stroubles Creek Coalition, VT StREAM Lab, Environmental Coalition, & American Water Resource Association (VT student chapter).	\$5, 500
9. Mixed Paper Recycling Bins Cowgill & Burchard Hall	UAP 3354	\$2, 000
11. Reusable To-Go Containers - (single entree, triple entree, soup)	UAP 3354 & REAL 3024	\$16, 100
12. Rainwater Catchment System Hahn Horticulture Garden	UAP 3354	\$2, 200
13. Water Bottle Refill Stations (2) Kelly Hall	Biomedical Engineering Society- (VT Student Chapter)	\$5, 000
14. Hot Water Recirculation for select Residence Halls	Office of Sustainability- Student Intern Water Team	\$150, 000

15. Electronic Waste Recycling Bins (2)	UAP 3354	\$400
16. Bat Boxes	UAP 3354	\$200
17. Battery Powered Blower for the Hahn Horticulture Garden	Hahn Horticulture Garden- Student Maintenance Staff	\$200
18. Solar Power Charging Tables Bishop-Favrao	Department of Building Construction- BioBuild Studio Course	\$9,700
19. Outdoor Dog Run for VMCVM	Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine Classes of 2019 & 2020	\$10,000
	Total Funded	\$552,600

Mike Dunn, Office of University Planning Transportation Planner, asks are they consistent with the new design standards? Rob Glenn, Director of VTES, confirmed they are.

Dean Winistorfer is interested in installing additional water bottle refill stations for the College of Natural Resources in the future. Denny Cochran said he would provide technical and cost information.

Ellen Garcia asked where the electronic waste bins will go? Rob Lowe indicated Goodwin and Newman Halls, and will work on identifying specific locations in those buildings.

New Business

Green Lab Certification System

Update from Ellen Garcia, PhD candidate in biology department

- Trying to promote a green lab program on VT campus
- What is a Green Lab Program
 - infrastructure that helps promote and support sustainability in research
 - We see this at UVA, U Cal schools, Harvard & MIT with 1-2 full time staff to run and support
 - Programs for infrastructure (equipment) and engagement with researchers to create sustainable culture with researchers

- VT does not have such a program, anything that's been going on has been lead by Ellen herself (ex. no website or central location for information)
- Ellen has contracted with Industrial Systems Engineering to lead a group of students (3 undergrads) for their senior design project (spearheaded by Matt Earnest who is a research faculty member, Industrial Engineer Professor)
 - Main goal: create a tool that VT researchers can use to measure how sustainable their space is
 - Undergrads will synthesize data for why this is important
 - At the end they will have a tool and beta test on a few labs
 - Assessment tool: similar to LEED for buildings or STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System) for higher universities
 - 3 deliverables for students' project
 - Hand out/fact sheet to give to anyone who's interested with data driven reasons why VT needs green lab program
 - Assessment tool
 - Beta test assessment tool on a handful of labs at VT
 - Design goals of assessment tool:
 - Unique to VT vs. standard for any university
 - Want to incorporate engineering
 - Automated, since we do not have staff or human support in this mission (stand alone)
 - Certify labs as green labs based on score
 - Harvard
 - Excel spreadsheet that you fill out yourself and self scores
 - This is what Ellen & her team are looking to do, because it doesn't require a grader or scorer
 - Similar criteria to what UVA uses
 - UVA certification tool- showed PDF
 - PDF that you can go and fill out, to get Bronze, Silver, or Gold rating
 - Strongly staffed and supported office
 - Questions/comments
 - What about certifying as a person?
 - What about labs at the CRC?
 - What about shared lab space?
 - Online modules that students could go through and key components and understanding of what they mean with someone designated to champion and point person for sustainability in the lab
 - From Health & Safety - we are plugged into the laboratory community, about to release safety audit, self scoring and has infrastructure to house and disseminate information → comment from Ellen that about half the programs are housed under EHS and the other half under sustainability
 - It might be helpful for assessment tool to look similar to the EHS ones

- Comment about accessing data for energy use and space of buildings on campus and hope to get that to you → one of the products of this information is a fact sheet that can be passed around to whoever that says why we need this mission, goal to have this by next month's meeting

Green Tailgate Recycling Update

- Steady increase of recycling material collected
 - ODU- 0.9 tons
 - Furman- 0.6 tons
 - Duke- 0.8 tons
 - Rhode Island- 1.19 tons
 - UNC- 1.49 tons
- Games Left
 - Wake Forest (11/09)
 - Pitt (11/23)
- Link to Sign Up: <https://goo.gl/forms/dN91Hq59Yux1aY4Z2>

2019-2020 Green RFP Program

- Program starts in early fall, and continues throughout the year. Projects are funded and executed in the same fiscal year.
- There is a list of subject matter experts that are on the application that can help with proposals, particularly scope.
- Timeline:
 - **Sep 16 - Green RFP 2018-19 announcement**
 - Nov 8 - Proposal deadline to Office of Sustainability
 - Nov 13 - Office of Sustainability coordinates proposal review
 - Jan 27 - E&SC appoints Subcommittee to review & prioritize proposals
 - Feb 24 - Subcommittee presents recommendations to E&SC for approval
 - Mar 4 - E&SC presents proposals to the Office of Budget & Financial Planning
 - Mar/Apr - OBFP convenes Budget Review Committee- identifies funding sources
 - Apr/May - Select proposals approved - implementation initiated

Policy Pyramid

- Kayla Smith is now assigned to the Office of the Vice President for Business Affairs. While she no longer will attend our meetings, she wants to participate with the revision of Campus Policy 5505: Campus Energy, Water, and Waste Reduction
- Policy 5505 includes some basic sustainable procurement procedures, but is not comprehensive.
- The Director of Procurement, Mary Helmick, has created a draft comprehensive sustainable procurement policy. We may want to move sustainable procurement language from 5505 into Mary's document.
- Denny will meet with Mary Helmick and review how to do that, and Denny will report back to the committee.

- Question about whether Policy 5505 aligns with the VT Climate Action Commitment and addresses every point? It does not. It only addresses the energy, water, waste reduction, transportation and some procurement language. We want to ensure that each of the points has a policy to match each point

2018-19 Sustainability Annual Report

- Required by Point #13 of VTCAC
- Recognizes all sustainability efforts that happens every year
- Office of Sustainability has lead, but receives input from many departments
- Goes to Board of Visitors on November 17-18 meeting
- This year we took a different approach that is a detailed overview with the structure based on the Climate Action Commitment
- Denny will send out a copy to everyone once the BOV has approved

Question: Angie De Soto noted the VTCAC was last updated in 2013. We should determine if there are any gaps in knowledge, and if so what do we do to address them?

Denny Cochrane made a motion to have Angie spearhead this effort, and all agreed.

Question: When was the last time the climate action commitment updated? Has there been discussion about updating it since then?

Question: Natalie Koppier was interested to know more information about energy use, particularly the sources of energy? Denny responded that much of that information is in the 2018-19 Sustainability Annual report which will be provided at the next meeting. We will discuss at our next meeting.

Open Discussion

Next Meeting on November 18, 2019, Burruss Hall, Conference Room 130, at 2:00pm

Meeting Adjourned