

Energy & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes
11/18/19 2:00 - 3:00pm | Burruss Hall 130

Attendees: Nick Woods for Ken Miller, Mike Dunn for Liza Morris, Amanda Eagon for Frances Keane, Denny Cochrane, Scott Kerklo, Rob Glenn, Rob Lowe, Virgilio Centeno, Elena Spinei Lind, Matthew Eick, Erin Hopkins (by phone conference), Jamie Stein, Paul Winistorfer, Angie De Soto, Gustavo Ventura Gargioni, Natalie Koppier, Brogan Dineen

Guests: Kate Franczek, Jeri Baker, Yasmine Sikder, Nick Quint

Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

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

Approval of Minutes from October 28, 2019 Meeting: Rob Glenn approved, second by Scott Kerklo

Old Business

Green Lab Certification System Update

- Facilities department has provided the following information to Ellen Garcia and her undergraduate team for lab buildings:
 - space data
 - energy consumption data
 - cost of energy consumption data
- Green Lab fact sheet created and distributed by undergraduate team presented by Yasmine Sikder (undergraduate student)
- We will have Ellen and her team come back in January to report on updates of their senior design project.

Green Tailgate Recycling Update

- Recycling material collected:
 - ODU- 0.9 tons
 - Furman- 0.6 tons
 - Duke- 0.8 tons
 - Rhode Island- 1.19 tons
 - UNC- 1.49 tons
 - Wake Forest- .73 tons
- Games Left
 - Pitt (11/23)
- Link to Sign Up: <https://goo.gl/forms/dN91Hq59Yux1aY4Z2>

Decals - Big Belly Solar Trash Compactors & Recycling Bins

- Student interns from waste team cleaned off and placed new decals on Big Belly trash cans on 11/09
- Close to 100 double units received decals
- These new decals are consistent with decals on A-frames for tailgate recycling
- These are consistent with the requirements for recycling from Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority

Question from Angie De Soto: Is there a plan to update decals on inside of buildings decals? We've patched most of the slim jim containers to update recycling plastics from #1-7 to #1. There are still a few that we need to work on. We have extra decals to fix the ones that are not updated.

New Business

2019-2020 Green RFP Program - Proposal Submission

- 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.
- We have received over 50 Green RFP's for the 2019-20 academic year
- Todd Schneck's class produced 28 Green RFP's
- Reviewed process for reviewing proposals and categorizing system for proposals
- Timeline:
 - **Sep 16 - Green RFP 2018-19 announcement**
 - **Nov 15 - Proposal deadline to Office of Sustainability**
 - **Nov 18 - 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
 - May - results announced and implementation initiated

2018-19 Sustainability Annual Report (SAR)

- Required by Point #13 of Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment
- Recognizes all sustainability efforts that happened that academic year
- Office of Sustainability has lead, but receives input from many departments
- Approved by Board of Visitors at the November 17-18 meeting
- This year we took a different approach that is a detailed overview with the structure based on the VT Climate Action Commitment
- Denny Cochrane reviewed and highlighted the contents of the report.
- Denny Cochrane will send out an electronic copy to all members
- Highlights of the SAR

- Power Plant Fuel Usage - we've had a huge decrease in coal since FY 10 to mostly natural gas in FY18
- Annual CO2 emissions
- Virginia Tech GHG Emissions Progress - we are ahead of our goal for 2025, but to reach 2050 goal we will have to introduce renewable energy.
- Recycling Rates History

Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges: 2019 Edition

- The Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges 2019 profiles institutions of higher education that demonstrate a commitment to sustainability across campus infrastructure, academics, career preparation, and more.
- VT scored a green rating of 97 out of 99 (up from 96/99 last year)
- VT Ranked Number 12 out of 413 colleges
 1. College of the Atlantic (ME)
 2. State University of New York—College of Environmental Science and Forestry
 3. Dickinson College (PA)
 4. University of Vermont
 5. St. Mary's College of Maryland
 6. Chatham University (PA)
 7. Bowdoin College (ME)
 8. Colby College (ME)
 9. Colorado State University
 10. Stanford University (CA)
 11. American University (DC)
 12. Virginia Tech
 13. Agnes Scott College (GA)
 14. University of California—Berkeley
 15. Bates College (ME)
- [Article](#) in VT News
- Princeton Review [Press Release](#)

Statement from Virginia Tech President Timothy Sands on the Climate Action Commitment

- Revisit the Climate Action Commitment, particularly energy consumption
- Under supervision of Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer Dwayne Pinkney
- Ad-Hoc Committee: faculty, facilities operations, representatives of E&SC, and students from an advisory group
- Awaiting guidance on how to proceed
- Goal is to have the revised VTCAC reviewed using the university governance process, for presentation to the Board of Visitors in November 2020
- Statement found [here](#)

Open Discussion

- General discussion on the current VTCAC and which university locations it is applicable to

Next Meeting on January 27, 2019, Burruss Hall, Conference Room 130, at 2:00pm

Meeting Adjourned