

Environmental Stewardship Council  
Meeting Notes  
April 18, 2013

In attendance were: Maura Tyrrell (chair), Melissa Amaral, Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Nicole Casper, Kim Cordeiro, Jessa Gagne, Bob MacEachern, Tom McGrath, Bridget Meigs, Paul Ricci, Lisa Richards, Cheryl Schnitzer, Kelly Treseler, and Greg Wolfe.

The meeting started at 12:30PM in the Merkert-Tracy Conference Room.

1. Meeting Minutes for March were approved
2. Hot Water Initiative Update
  - Postcard size posters will be attached to the washing machines to encourage students to wash in cold water.
  - Posters will be printed and hung in the laundry room. Suggestions will be printed on the posters such as using larger loads.
  - Since the students get to wash and dry their clothes for free. The students behavior shows that instead of doing three (3) loads of laundry per week, the students have doubled the amount of laundry they are doing per week.
  - Many schools don't offer a hot water option.
3. Grab the Green
  - This event was held from April 15<sup>th</sup> thru April 19<sup>th</sup> and was sponsored by the Compost Committee. The dining services suspended the use of all to go containers, and only reusable containers were allowed. The event went very well. In the future the committee would like to permanently get rid of plastic.
4. Sustainable Agriculture Class Presentations- Green Fund
  - The sustainable agriculture class visited Vermont to learn a number sustainable farming technique to use at our farm this season. There were many stops along the way. The group spent the weekend of April 13<sup>th</sup> and experienced many ideas about sustainability. They visit Ben and Jerry's ice cream, Vermont Compost, Morse Maple, and Fable Farm.
  - The presentations were held in the College Center room 106. The presentations could be created on E-learn so that green groups could view the video from the presentations.
5. Food Recovery (EPA)
  - A webinar was offered by the EPA on March 26<sup>th</sup>. The webinar focused on the waste of the food and how we can reduce that waste.
  - How much food is wasted at the all you can eat buffet and in the preparation of meals.
  - Work with Sodexo to see if we can get the information to put into an excel spreadsheet.
6. Real Food Initiative
  - There is a campaign to increase real food by 20%, this will be achieved by incorporating local, sustainable, and fair sources of food.
7. Print Management

- Jeff Bliss and the sub group reviewed various options for a sustainable recycled paper as the college's default. These included from eucalyptus, FSC certified papers, and paper produced at regional paper mills.
  - They are currently researching ways to measure the carbon footprint of all the options to choose the paper with the most sustainable impact.
8. Earth Day Party
- The Earth Day Party will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30AM-1:30PM on the Quad.
  - There will be thirty tables setup and a band will be present. This party is to celebrate the campus sustainability efforts.
9. Green Tips
- Jessa Gagne will send out the green tip. The green tips will include how to donate gently used items such as furniture, appliances, and clean clothing that are no longer wanted. Also, nonperishable food will also be collected. There will be boxes placed in the residence halls.
10. Green Fund Status
- Green Kits were funded from the budget for FY13. The kits will be given to the incoming freshman in September 2013. Some of the items included in the kit are to-go containers and small recycling bins for the student's room.
  - 13 projects were funded this year.
  - The budget for FY14 will be \$10,000.

The meeting ended at 1:30PM.