



Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting

Thursday, November 7, 2013

3:30 p.m.

Merkert Tracy 250-251

MINUTES

Attendees: Craig Binney, Kaylie Bissonnette '14, Bruce Boyer, Deb Carpenter, Nicole Casper, Kim Cordeiro, Jennifer Heine, Devin Ingersoll '14, Dan McDowell, Bob MacEachern, Tom McGrath, Bridget Meigs, Sue Mooney, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer, Maura Tyrrell, and Greg Wolfe

The meeting started at 3:30 p.m. in the Merkert-Tracy Conference Room and was chaired by Prof. Susan Mooney.

1. Meeting minutes for October 10th were approved.
2. Student Printing – This discussion centered on whether or not to continue free printing for students. Many colleges allow students a fixed number of free prints (i.e., 150 per semester) and ask that students bring a personal printer to school. However, there are many issues with taking away free printing including the considerable tuition cost and different majors have different printing requirements. The aim is to eliminate the wasteful and accidental printing that currently occurs. Eliminating the abusive free public printing in the library would also be essential. A coin operated printer just for general public use is a good idea.

Tom McGrath spoke about centralized printing areas with print release stations that IT will be implementing next semester in both Stanger Hall and MacPhaidin Library. With print release stations, although a print request is sent to a printer, it does not actually print until an individual logs into the release station and selects their request in order for it to print.

At the next ESC meeting, Tom will further discuss IT's printing initiatives and will share campus-wide printing data so that this discussion can continue with the available data.

Greg mentioned that a Stonehill alum is currently working on a project to determine the complete carbon footprint for each of our three paper choices.

3. *Stop the Drop* – Results are not quite available pending receipt of the number of residents in each residence hall. Unfortunately the Holy Cross Center's dining hall shares a water meter with the remainder of the building, so it is more difficult to determine students' water usage in this building. Upon initial review, all but one residence area reduced the per-person per-day water consumption for October when compared to September.

Jessa will finalize the data and share results shortly.

It was agreed that at the December meeting we will discuss ways to continue this drop in water usage going forward and also review the percentage drop in water usage from October to December 2012 vs. October to December 2013.

Sue mentioned that there is a student group working on another energy usage contest to be implemented next semester.

4. Nissan Leaf – Sue’s new pure electric Nissan Leaf gets approximately 100 miles on one charge. It is easy to charge: overnight on 120 volts, 4 hours on 240 volts, or 30 minutes for 80% charge on a home charging system. Charging stations are available in many public parking areas.

There is no engine (no oil, no exhaust); it is basically maintenance free and very quiet. It has good pickup and rides great on the highway. Available rebates can keep the price below \$20,000.

5. Additional Recycling Bins – Bridget noted that in certain areas (Martin Institute, in particular), it can be difficult to find recycling bins. For recycling to be successful here, bins have to be easily accessible. Some feel they should be in every classroom, but this requires more time for custodians to empty these bins.

Bob indicated that attached trash/recycle bins are being installed throughout campus in many public areas, inside and out.

6. Zipcar – Usage for the 2 cars is up by 36% this year, and the number of enrolled drivers is currently at 198 vs. 145 this time last year. This is a great way to remove cars from campus, and parents need to know that students do not have to be on their insurance policy, saving money and hassle. Usage will have to increase significantly in order to have a third Zipcar available. The majority of time these are being used is Friday through Sunday. Ideas discussed to increase Zipcar usage: Prohibit sophomores from having cars on campus; raise parking costs.

Enterprise is also getting into the car sharing business.

7. Green To-Go Containers – Greg provided the group with sales info on Sodexo’s to-go containers. At this time last year 41,626 to-go containers were sold vs. 32,767 this year, which is a 21% decrease. Hopefully this trend will continue. These containers cost \$0.34 each while the green reusable to-go containers are being offered for \$3 each. Use it 9 times and it pays for itself.
8. Other Business-

Devin spoke about the Food Truth group’s work with Sodexo to help ensure that their vendors and food producers are being socially responsible – locally sourced, organic, fair trade, etc. Ultimately, the group is hoping for a commitment from Fr. Denning to make this a campus-wide initiative.

The *Banana Split to Commit* event held on October 24th (Food Day) was very successful, with 280 people signing a petition in support of purchasing more “real” food on campus, while enjoying fair trade chocolate, bananas, local ice cream and chocolate sauce.

Despite the College's new visual mark, we should continue to use our supply of old letterhead. Potentially, a student-led group will be collecting the remaining paper at the end of the year to have it made into note pads. Bottom line – do not recycle yet.

Perhaps you have heard the loud noises coming from across Route 138. There are three machines driving in the many posts for the new solar field. This work began on November 5th and should be completed shortly.

9. Upcoming Events –




On November 11th at 3:00 p.m., the Food Politics LC will be presenting their Photo Essays about the systems that support the production, purchasing, preparation, marketing, distribution, landfilling, recycling and composting of food at Stonehill.

On November 12th at 7:00 p.m., students of LC 318 Science & Ethics of Climate Change will be presenting "Climate Change in our Community" in Alumni Hall. This is one of 8 community-wide presentations for these students, providing an overview, impacts on our community, a Q&A session, and suggestions on taking action.

There will be a Green Execs committee meeting on November 18th at 12:30 p.m. in Dining Commons A to discuss plans for Green Night.

On November 25th Martin Institute Fellows will present a local farmers' discussion panel where they will share challenges and successes and how they define sustainability economically, environmentally and socially on the farm.

10. Future Agenda Items –

-  IT Printing Initiatives
-  *Stop the Drop* Results and Continuing the Trend
-  Upcoming Events

The meeting concluded at 4:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 5th at 3:30 p.m. in Merkert-Tracy 250-251