



Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

8:30 a.m.

Irish Studies Library

MINUTES

Attendees: Craig Binney, Kristi Burkholder, Deb Carpenter, Nicole Casper, Doreen DelMonaco, Kathleen Fitzgerald (Sodexo), Jessa Gagne, Dalton Griggs '21, Devin Kindred, Bridget Meigs, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Fr. Tony Szakaly, Juliana Walsh '22, Greg Wolfe

Excused: Bruce Boyer, Kim Cordeiro, Kathy Falcone, Patrick Keaney

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

1. Minutes for the February 26th meeting were approved as amended.
2. Sustainability Goals for Five-Year Strategic Plan -

Craig and Fr. Tony reviewed the Strategic Plan, explaining the eight focus areas. Fr. Tony is overseeing the Mission & Catholic Identity area of the Plan and feels that sustainability would be a great tie-in as it is a big part of the mission of the College.

It was suggested that sustainability be its own focus area of the Strategic Plan, but it would not be realistic at this time. Instead we will try to incorporate sustainability into each of the eight areas – including Mission. Designated ESC members will meet with the primary Planning Committee member for each focus area to find ways of incorporating sustainability – potentially 2-3 goals. These meetings will be held over the next several weeks, and on April 16th the ESC will reconvene to share and review these goals. ESC members will then follow up with the Planning Committee members to help incorporate the goals into their Strategic Plan submissions.

Craig, Jessa and Deb shared their suggestions for sustainability goals: incorporate sustainability in every major, reduce the College's energy intensity by 25% and purchase low/no emissions replacement vehicles. Cheryl added integrate waste into each area of the Strategic Plan.

Bridget discussed the benefits of having a physical location for the office of sustainability with a dedicated person to oversee it, create energy and organize initiatives on campus. Without an office and staff, it is not seen as a priority. It is important to have students highly involved and to have their perspectives as well. We need to work toward this.

<u>Focus Areas of Five-Year Strategic Plan</u>	<u>Primary Planning Committee Member</u>	<u>Designated ESC Member(s)</u>
New Academic Programs	Peter Ubertaccio	Bridget Meigs, Kristi Burkholder
Academic Program Delivery	Deb Salvucci	Bridget Meigs, Kristi Burkholder
Athletic Programs	Kevin Piskadlo	Greg Wolfe, Craig Binney
Diversity and Inclusion	Connie Cabello	Bridget Meigs, Greg Wolfe
Campus Master Plan	Craig Binney	Craig Binney
Impact of Generation Z	Joe Dacey	Dalton Griggs, Bridget Meigs, Greg Wolfe
Organizational Effectiveness	Lily Krentzman	Kristi Burkholder
Mission / Holy Cross Identity	Fr. Tony Szakaly	Bridget Meigs

3. Earth Month Update - Dalton discussed SEA's current plans for Earth Month including bingo, trivia, tie-dye, and a nature hike. Sodexo will have a no-straw week, and there will be an informational table for the Green 2Go program.
4. Green 2Go Update - Greg reviewed the impact of the Green 2Go program. Year-to-date, disposable container usage is down 76% from last year. 3600 green containers have been purchased, and it still needs to be determined if these are being utilized properly. They are much less sustainable, so hopefully they are being re-used as intended. Would an increase to \$5 per green container be an incentive? Should the single-use container increase to \$1? Possibly students can seek feedback on this idea.

The Waste Reduction Committee will be piloting a new container drop off location (honor system) at O'Hara Hall. Bob will coordinate the containers being picked up.

The idea of an app with a campus map locating container drop off locations could be helpful for students.

Education is key to the success of Green 2Go – understanding why it is important to return the reusable containers. Potentially, this could be included at the First Year Experience sessions.

5. Textile Bin Update – There are plans to have a larger bin available for the end of the year move-out. All donated items must be in plastic bags.
6. Composting Update – Greg and Bob will follow up with Justin at Black Earth.
7. Other Business -

Greg is seeking student volunteers to coordinate and assemble Green Kits this summer. Bridget suggested summer farmers or SEA could assist. It was also suggested that the reusable cups not be included in the Green Kit this year as most students prefer their own.

8. Upcoming Events -

March 29 - Bridget is speaking at the 2019 Mass. Sustainable Communities and Campuses Conference: Shaping the Future of Sustainability, held in Cambridge.

April 2-4 - Several Stonehill staff members and students will be attending the 2019 FINE (Farm to Institution New England) Summit held at UMass Amherst, where over 450 people are registered to attend.

April 16 at 8:30 in Irish Studies Library – ESC meeting (Sustainability in the Five-Year Strategic Plan)

April 30 at 8:30 in Irish Studies Library – ESC meeting (final meeting of the year)

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.