



### **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

9 a.m.

Via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kim Cordeiro, John Duggan, Kathleen Fitzgerald (Sodexo), Jessa Gagne, Dave Griffin, Lori Harris, Brittany Lorgeree, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

#### **1. January 25 Meeting Minutes**

Cheryl noted an edit to the minutes. The minutes were approved as amended.

#### **2. Luncheon with Reverend Daniel P. Horan, OFM**

Kim discussed arranging a luncheon on March 16 at noon for ESC members to meet with Reverend Horan. She will email an invitation.

Reverend Horan will be presenting the Saint Andre Lecture that evening at 7 p.m. entitled "We Are Creation Too: Learning From and Living Out Pope Francis's Laudato Si".

#### **3. Student Projects – Laundry, Year-End Move Out, Freshman Green Kits**

Greg discussed working with Professor Sue Mooney's Environmental Ethics students on several projects that should have measurable and observable outcomes. The students are considering developing a laundry contest, tracking student usage, and raising awareness on energy and water consumption. There was discussion about adding signage and the feasibility of turning off the hot water to washing machines.

The year-end move out is a big event at some schools. We could eliminate many items from our waste stream if we are well organized. It might be helpful to have colored roll-off bins to collect textiles for recycling and other items for donations to My Brother's Keeper, Salvation Army, etc. Dave can help determine the best bin locations for student convenience. Greg will contact Bay State Textiles. It was suggested that summer storage be available for students; however, this has been very costly in the past.

A campus sponsor is needed to coordinate the Freshman Green Kits program. This program is a great way to train freshmen to think green right away. The kit's products should be practical items – such as a bottle brush, not items that will just get thrown out. It was suggested that Green Kits be incorporated into orientation and distributed at that time.

#### **4. Sub-Committee Updates**

##### **Strategic Planning**

Craig discussed the annual Princeton Review survey (Green Initiatives section), which Deb coordinates with contributions from Luke Newman, Paul Ricci, Bob MacEachern, Kathy Falcone, Gina Herosian '23, Sue Mooney, Greg Wolfe, Andrew Leahy and Jessa Gagne. Based on over 25 data points from the survey, colleges earn a Green Rating score between 60 and 99. Colleges that earn a Green Rating score of 80 or above are highlighted in the annual *Guide to Green Colleges*. Stonehill has been included in the Guide from 2014 to 2021; however, our score fell to 75 this year. Jessa explained that the pandemic skewed some of

our data such as recycling/student and energy use/student, since the campus dropped by 300 resident students at one point. This is despite our enormous decrease in energy consumption during that time.

Craig explained that it is a priority to be included in the Green Guide for admission and enrollment purposes. He also discussed the recent and upcoming residence hall improvement projects to increase the number of students living on campus.

Waste Reduction - No update was provided.

#### Choose2Reuse

Cheryl explained that they are watching the website's container usage data closely and emailing students for their feedback on the program. Reminders have been posted on social media for students to remember to scan their green containers. It is important that each container gets hundreds of uses in order to be a sustainable program.

Greg noted that 300 containers is enough for now as the Choose2Reuse pilot program is only at the Commons – with 542 users to-date this semester. This will be ramped up at the other dining venues in the fall.

Communications/Marketing - No update was provided.

Real Food - No update was provided.

#### 5. **Upcoming Events**

- March 16 at 7 p.m. in Martin Auditorium: **St. Andre Lecture “We Are Creation Too: Learning From and Living Out Pope Francis’s Laudato Si”**, presented by Fr. Daniel Horan, OFM, Professor of Philosophy, Religious Studies and Theology at St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, IN.
- March 30 (tentative): **Stonehill Climate Summit**, organized by professors Eric LeFlore and Martha Hauff, in conjunction with the *Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice* organized by Bard College.
- April 4-24: **FSNE’s 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge**. For information and registration, click [here](#).

Last year, Greg and Craig participated in the Challenge, and they had five-minute discussions daily on that day’s topic. It makes you more thoughtful, on a daily basis, and they highly recommend participating. You can spend as much or as little time as you want on the Challenge.

Brittany suggested that campus groups participate in the Challenge and have structured discussions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

#### **Upcoming meetings:**

March 29 at 9 a.m.

April 26 at 9 a.m.

***Please remember to send information about all campus wide sustainability-related initiatives to Deb in order to be captured in the next Sustainability Report.***

Submitted by Deb Norton

**Annual Princeton Review Survey - Student Life Section / Green Campus Questions**

Contributors:

Luke Newman

Computer Purchasing

Paul Ricci

Integrated Pest Management

Facilities for Bicyclists

Bob MacEachern

Cleaning Products Purchasing

Waste Diversion

Kathy Falcone

Condensed Work Week

Telecommuting

Gina Herosian '23

Active Student Organizations Focused on Sustainability

Sue Mooney

Sustainability Learning Outcomes

Undergraduate Program in Sustainability

Faculty Engaged in Sustainability Research

Sustainability Research Incentives

Greg Wolfe

Office Paper Purchasing

Campus Fleet

Mass Transit Programs

Food and Beverage Purchasing

Vegan Dining

Andrew Leahy

Career Center Guidance on Green Jobs

Craig Binney

Committee on Investor Responsibility

Jessa Gagne

Building Operations and Maintenance

Building Design and Construction

Indoor Air Quality

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Clean and Renewable Energy

Energy Metering

Student Commute Modal Split

Employee Commute Modal Split

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Carpool/Vanpool Matching

Cash-out of Parking

Carpool Discount

Local Housing

Prohibiting Idling

Car Sharing

Bicycle Sharing

Sustainability Coordination

Climate Action Plan

Top Three Undertakings that Represent our Environmental Commitment

Princeton Review Green Ratings:												
NE10 Conf	College	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	UMASS-Amherst	85	99				96					97
x	Bentley University		92				97			98		93
	Boston College		83				77					90
x	Le Moyne College		69				74					85
	Bryant College	72	76				81					84
	Holy Cross	92	92				84					83
x	St. Michaels College		93				96			82		82
x	Pace University		65				69			81		79
x	U of New Haven		60				60					79
x	<b>Stonehill College</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>75</b>
x	Adelphi University		93				78					66
x	College of St. Rose		60				60					65
*	Merrimack College		65				67					63
	Providence College	69	69				60					63
x	St. Anselm College		60				60					63
	Quinnipiac University		73				75					61
x	AIC		60				60					61
x	Southern CT		85				87					60
x	Franklin Pierce University		74				60					60
x	Assumption College		61				60					60
x	Southern NH		87									60
	Bridgewater State	61	61									60
	Average		76				74					72
	(a score of 60 means the institution did not fill out the survey)											
			8th				6th					10th
	* Merrimack no longer NE10 Conference as of 2018											