

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 6, 2013

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the TRUSU Boardroom,
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 4:30 pm.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE		
Present:	D. Crespin-Mueller; T. Dickinson; M. Gordon; H. Hove; J. Gudjonson; J. Lam; D. Parkes; S. Purdy (Chair); L. Tabata; P. Tsigaris	
Participating by Teleconference:	None	
Regrets:	M. Harrison (on maternity leave); C. Huscroft; S. Learie; B. Mackay; G. Read; I. Rich-McQuay; J. Sparks	
Guests:	A. McLellan (TRUSU); N. Yao (Office of Environment and Sustainability)	
Others:	J. Gordon (note-taker; Office of Environment and Sustainability)	
CALL TO ORDER	<i>The meeting being duly constituted for the conduct of business, the Chair called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm.</i>	
INTRODUCTIONS	<i>The newest member of the EAC--student, Melissa Gordon--was welcomed to the committee.</i>	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<i>It was moved (J. Lam) and seconded (J. Gudjonson) that the agenda be adopted as distributed.</i>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<p><u>Minutes of October 2, 2013</u> <i>On motion duly made by J. Lam and adopted by P. Tsagaris it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 2, 2013 as distributed.</i></p>	
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	<p><u>Renewal of EAC membership for existing Members</u> J. Sparks was not present to report on the renewal of membership on the EAC for three existing members: P. Tasigaris, D. Parkes, C. Huscroft. S. Purdy will contact John to ask him to report on this at the next meeting.</p>	

S. Purdy

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	<p><u>Student Members</u> TRUSU nominated J. Lam (second term) and M. Gordon to sit as student members on the EAC for the 2013-2014 term.</p>	
	<p><u>TRU Environmental Achievement Award</u> P. Tsigaris will talk to J. Sparks and report back about where things are at re having the award become a regular award given out at April TRU staff awards ceremony.</p>	P. Tsigaris
	<p><u>Tom Owen Environment Sustainability Award</u> J. Gordon reported back that the TRU Office of Environment and Sustainability will put the Giant e-bike it bought several years ago on the auction block at the TRU Foundation Gala Auction in Feb.. The bike retails for approx. \$2500 so a minimum bid of \$1000 will be assigned to it. All sale proceeds will go to fund the Tom Owen Award which has approx. \$5000 in it right now.</p>	
	<p><u>EAC website</u> http://www.tru.ca/senate/committees/eac.html J. Gordon reported that a number of updates and additions to the website have been made. He will add the following suggestions to the site: updates to Minutes and Agendas; and add links (TRU Eco Club, TRU Environmental Law Club, Enactus). His suggestion of a committee photo was agreed upon and he will organize one for the Dec meeting. Please let him know about suggestions for improvements to the site.</p>	J. Gordon
PRESENTATIONS	None	
REPORT OF COMMITTEES	<p><u>TRU Strategic Priorities Advisory Committee (SPAC)</u> An EAC sub-committee (Susan, Jim, Sharman, James) is tasked with presenting a letter to the SPAC, regarding the EAC's recommendation of ensuring the final version of the TRU Strategic Priorities document has strong environmental sustainability goals and values in it. Susan will coordinate the preparation of the letter by later in November.</p> <p>T. Dickinson--who sits on the SPAC--reported that he believes that the main reason that environmental sustainability did not come up</p>	S. Purdy

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in the two TRU community surveys (about what members of the community believe should be strategic priorities) is because the issue of environmental sustainability is now considered a fundamental part of the university and so is no longer considered to be a priority to pursue.

SPAC Town Hall Meetings

All members of the EAC are encouraged to attend and/or promote any of the following town hall meetings to voice their opinions about environmental sustainability priorities at TRU:

All EAC members

- Tue. Nov. 26 - Coast Kamloops Hotel & Conference Centre, Columbia Room; 6 - 8pm
- Wed. Jan. 15 - Campus Activity Centre, Mountain Room; 4 - 6pm
- Thu. Jan. 16 - NorKam Secondary School, Cafeteria 6-8 pm

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sustainability Grant Fund (SGF)

J. Gudjonson updated the EAC on the SGF:

- Delighted with getting eight Pre-Proposals
- Realizes the deadline dates aren't ideal due to tight timeline due to exams; this will be amended for next year.
- Next steps: accepting the Proposals by Nov 30; having the Review Committee (Jim, Peter Tsigaris, Dorys Crespin-Mueller, Warren Asuchak, Susan Purdy, Denise King, Jenn Lam, Ashley Evans) meet in early Dec to determine the winners; and finally announcing the winners before the end of December.

J. Gudjonson

J. Gordon will update the SGF info on the TRUOES site with examples from other universities who have had a similar fund for many years.

J. Gordon

Electric Vehicle Suitability Assessment program

18 TRU cars and light trucks were entered into the program in which will have data loggers installed into them for 3 weeks starting in mid-November to determine whether they are suitable to be replaced with either electric or hybrid vehicles once they are at the end of the lifecycle. The loggers track

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regular driving patterns. Most of the vehicles are from Facilities, but also some from the Welcome Centre, Research and the Warehouse.

Composting Pilot Project

The project is 99% confirmed. A large electric in-vessel composter from Jora Canada will be installed in the ground floor of the Culinary Arts building for a six month pilot project starting in early/mid-December. The reason for choosing this site is because of the easy access to food scraps to feed the composter and, because of the steady stream of TRU community members entering the building, it means it can act a good spot for a composting demonstration site. A TRU co-op student will be hired to lead the first four months of the pilot to take care of all aspects of the project including research to do with data collection and surveys, compost bin collection and maintenance around campus, monitoring for possible rodents and odours around composter, and, generally, ensuring all aspects of the pilot run smoothly.

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)

VDI is a system that will be headed up by Information Technology Services and rolled out in conjunction with TRUOES sometime in 2014. The plan is to eventually replace most computer terminals in favour of a virtual desktop, whereby the only hardware needed would be a keyboard, mouse and monitor. All data would be securely stored in the 'cloud' in the central server. Going to VDI would save approximately \$65,000/year in electricity since there would be no need to power all of the computers. On top of this savings, there would also be significant savings since there would be no need to upgrade hardware every 3 or so years.

Campus Sustainability Action Plan (CSAP)

Once the SPAC is complete, the process to update the CSAP will begin. The first stage in the process will be a third party review of the Office of Environment & Sustainability. Updating the plan should take 6-8 months.

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NEW BUSINESS	<p><u>Presentation on developing new course: Master of Science in Sustainable Economic Management (MScSEM)</u></p> <p>P. Tsigaris said the proposal for this new Masters-level course is ready and is being reviewed. Once the course is approved, 20-30 students will likely take it.</p> <p><u>Future direction of the EAC</u></p> <p>S. Purdy asked each member to bring their ideas about this topic to the next meeting for discussion.</p> <p><u>Update on Transportation Demand Management Study</u></p> <p>S. Purdy asked for an update on where things are at re the study, which was done last year. It was sent to all TRU VPs last year. Les and Jim will look at where things are at re the study and report back to the committee at the next meeting.</p>	<p>ALL EAC members</p> <p>L. Tabata & J. Gudjonson</p>
NEXT MEETING	The next meeting will be held on December 4, 2013 at 4:30 pm.	
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.	

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

Signature of Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Chair (if required)