

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

March 4, 2015

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the Independent Centre boardroom,  
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 4:00 pm.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>Present:</b>	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of Legal Counsel, which John Sparks is head of); Tom Dickinson; Jim Gudjonson; Michele Harrison; Sharman Learie; Sofia Perkins-Taal; Susan Purdy (Chair); Wayne Singular; Peter Tsigaris; Robert Wisla	
<b>Participating by Teleconference:</b>	None	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Emma Bourassa; Hoberly Hove; Crystal Huscroft; Stacey Jyrkkanen; Linda Komori; Dale Parkes; Glenn Read; Les Tabata	
<b>Guests:</b>	Alex McLellan (TRUSU)	
<b>Others:</b>	James Gordon (note-taker; TRUOES); Natalie Yao (TRUOES)	
<b>CALL TO ORDER &amp; WELCOMES</b>	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 4:10 pm by the Chair.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<i>On motion duly made by W. Singular and seconded by P. Tsigaris, it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	<u>Minutes of February 11, 2015</u> <i>On motion duly made by S. Blackford and seconded by R. Wisla, it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as distributed.</i>	
<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	None.	
<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b>	<p><u>On work of sub-committee looking at issues to do with entrenching and infusing sustainability into TRU curriculum</u></p> <p>S. Purdy reported that she met with Jean Marcus, Associate Director for Teaching and Learning , Julian Zelany, Sustainability</p>	

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Pathways and Capstone Coordinator and Tara Ivanochko, Director of Environmental Sciences at UBC on Feb 20. They discussed the process UBC has used (starting in 2010, using working groups) to get to where they are now regarding the classification of courses as having one of four sustainability classifications: environmental, social, economic/technological, or, if there is a bridge between these three, 'sustainability focused'. 500 UBC courses are classified with one of these four, and this is done through a self-reporting system by the faculty teaching them. Further, UBC is instigating a new approach to integrating sustainability concepts in the curriculum through 'Sustainability Pathways' which includes including learning outcomes into existing courses that could include four attributes: Holism (Systems Thinking), Sustainability Knowledge, Awareness and Integration, and Agent for Positive Change. And having students take a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Introductory course on Sustainability and then a 4<sup>th</sup> year project. S. Purdy will meet with the EAC working group to discuss next steps.

S. Purdy

The discussion shifted to ideas on making our existing Leadership in Environmental Sustainability certificate more valuable to students (<http://www.tru.ca/services/beyond/les.html>). Two questions that arose were:

Is there a similar but more recognized and established international certificate that ours could somehow be included with?; and

What value do employers place on students who achieve the certificate, and does this give them any sort of advantage when it comes to seeking employment?

**Possibility of changing scope and name of EAC to the TRU Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) (working title)**

S. Purdy reported that the revised draft of the Terms of Reference for the new SAC will be discussed at the Senate Sub-Committee on March 11 at 3 PM at the CN Boardroom in the Clocktower. Anyone

All EAC  
Members.

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	from this committee is encouraged to join her.	
<b>REPORT OF COMMITTEES</b>	None	
<b>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b>	<p>J. Gudjonson reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There are currently five campus buildings that have had full energy retro-fits done, as part of the Continuous Optimization Program (COp), which is partially funded through BC Hydro (Science, A&amp;E, CAC, IB, and Trades). The COp program will continue with Old Main, HOL, and the William's Lake campus.</li> <li>b) In the name of reducing TRU's energy use from its outdoor lights in parking lots and above roadways (500 in total), new 'smart' technology LED lights will be installed by June.</li> <li>c) In collaboration with the local school district in William's Lake (which will provide most of the funding), the heating system of TRU's campus there will be upgraded to a new bio-mass boiler, which cut the campus' greenhouse gas output by 90%.</li> <li>d) The Sustainability Office has purchased an industrial grinder which will be used in collaboration with the in-vessel composter in Culinary Arts. Eventually, all campus retail food vendors will have to supply only 'compostable' wares (clam-shell boxes, coffee cups, plates, cutlery, etc.). The grinder will then be able to grind them all up into a pulp and then this pulp can be used as the carbon source for the composter. From the consumers' point of view, this system makes it very easy: they can simply put all of their leftovers—including the box it came in—into the compost collection bins.  In conjunction with this initiative, the office is looking into a reusable clam-shell system, whereby consumers buy one of them, and, once dirty, they can deposit it into a vending machine for proper cleaning/sanitizing in exchange for a token. Then, when they want a new one, they exchange their token for a clean one which they then can get their new lunch in.</li> </ul>	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	Tom reintroduced the idea of initiating some sort of office paper reduction campaign, similar to the Paper Cut Challenge campaign that Crystal spear-headed to launch this past fall, but which fell	

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short due to time constraints. The basic idea is to structure it as a percentage reduction of paper over a set time frame between faculties. The idea of structuring it as a 'Dean's Challenge' was put forth. In order to get details finalized for a Sept 1 start, the campaign would need to be worked on now. **Who will work on this?**

S. Purdy

Tom also wondered if there was some mechanism for TRU to get credited with sequestering carbon due to its 300 hectares of forest in Wells Grey Park, as well as other land there and around the Kamloops campus.

**CORRESPONDENCE** None.

**NEXT MEETING** April 1, 2015 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM in the TRUSU Boardroom.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.

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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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