

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 3, 2015

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the Independent Centre Boardroom,
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:20 PM.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE (four vacancies: Board appointed, faculty, and two students)		
Present:	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of Legal Counsel); Tom Dickinson; Karl Fultz; Crystal Huscroft (Vice Chair); Dale Parkes; Susan Purdy; Wayne Singular (Chair); Peter Tsigaris	
Participating by Teleconference:	None	
Regrets:	Warren Asuchak; Jim Gudjonson; Hoberly Hove; Glenn Read; Amie Schellenberg; Marjorie Serack	
Guests:	Alex McClellan (TRUSU, Research Coordinator)	
Others:	James Gordon (note-taker; TRU Sustainability Office (TRUSO)); Natalie Yao (TRUSO)	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:35 pm by the Chair.</i>	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<i>On motion duly made by Tom, seconded by Karl, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<i>Minutes of January 6, 2016. On motion duly made by Crystal, seconded by Karl, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as distributed.</i>	
PRESENTATIONS	None.	
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	<p><u>On work of sub-committee looking at issues to do with entrenching and infusing sustainability into TRU curriculum</u></p> <p>Susan reported that she is working on organizing a time for the sub-committee to talk with Margret Asmuss, Sustainability Coordinator from the U of Sask. (who helped facilitate a process to get more sustainability into their school's curriculum). Susan will report back on the progress of this talk. A consultation process with TRU's Dept. of Geography and Environmental Studies has begun in order to help</p>	Susan

built a consensus-based decision-making process with these issues as discussions move forward. Dale Parkes mentioned that each year there is a teaching colloquium on campus, and that it would be a good idea to have 'sustainability in curriculum' as a topic of discussion for next year's agenda (typically it takes place on the first Monday of Reading Week in February. Dale will put together a draft proposal to this end for November 2016, and will report on this at the next meeting.

Dale

Possibility of changing scope and name of EAC to the TRU

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) (working title). Wayne reported that the changes to the Terms of Reference will go to the Board for their approval on February 5. The most significant changes are: a new position would be formed for an Aboriginal representative (Paul Michel has agree to sit for this), and, where it spells specifics around Voting Members, it would change from this current wording: "Five faculty* members, preferably including one Horticulture representative...", to "Five faculty* members, preferably including one TRU Wellness representative...". Wayne will report back on the outcome of the Board meeting.

Wayne

Using a new Moodle or Sharepoint Site. It was decided that having a Sharepoint site makes more sense than a Moddle site, so James will contact Charlene Myers about details on creating the option to store confidential or working files that only EAC members could access, plus reference style documents that the public can access.

James

Vision for EAC (from present up to 5 years in the future). Due to Jim being away, his and James' discussion on the AASHE STARS report (that TRU was a given a Gold rating for last May) was deferred.

Wayne opened up the floor to discuss the vision for the EAC and Karl raised the issue of the importance of sustainability regarding the human element (otherwise referred to as social sustainability). He mentioned that currently the Employee Assistance program is well used by staff, which raises the issue of whether people are taking care of themselves properly. Someone mentioned that faculty member Gilles Viaud has done research on quality of life issues.

Wasn't sure if there is an action item for this one? James will forward on to EAC members the scores that TRU received for social sustainability on the AASHE STARS gold report. James will also forward on the document with all comments on the EAC vision by certain members.

???

James

James

Discussion re TRU joining Canadian Colleges and Universities Environmental Network (CCUN). A request for institutional funding for the network has been differed due to the job action (since Crystal is unable to communicate with the Provost). Tom Dickinson said he would bring this forward to the Provost.

Tom

TRU Parking proposal issue that TRUSU is spearheading. Due to Warren's absence from this meeting, he reported via email that "The Parking Appeals and Advisory Committee has deferred any recommendations regarding TRUSU's parking recommendations to a meeting on February 18. The committee has both reports related to transportation demand management as reference material." James will forward on to EAC members these two reports.

James

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None, since Jim was away.

NEW BUSINESS

Crystal brought up the issue that there is concern by her department (Geography & Environmental Studies) that the Sustainability Grant Fund could be used to provide funding for initiatives in curriculum development, which is outside the purview of the Sustainability Office. She also talked about improving how the Sustainability Grant Fund is administered, by increasing the integrity of the whole process and including people who have knowledge and expertise in the area of each proposal. These people could be included in the panel used to vet the proposals.

CORRESPONDENCE None.

NEXT MEETING March 2, 2016; 12:20 to 2 pm in the TRUSU Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT Moved by Susan Purdy, seconded by Dale Parks.

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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