

South Seattle College Sustainability Committee Interest Meeting

11/11/15

Attendees:

- Ian Siadak (staff) – ian.siadak@seattlecolleges.edu
- Erin Barzen (staff) – erin.barzen@seattlecolleges.edu
- Keith Neal (student)
- Christa Colouzis (staff) – christa.colouzis@seattlecolleges.edu
- Eric Steen (staff) – eric.steen@seattlecolleges.edu
- Tim Walsh (faculty) – tim.walsh@seattlecolleges.edu
- Ameila Nguyen (student)
- Ryan Lonergan (student)
- Paige Talbot (faculty) – paige.talbot@seattlecolleges.edu
- May Lukens (staff) – may.lukens@seattlecolleges.edu
- Alison Pugh (staff) – alison.pugh@seattlecolleges.edu
- Shane Brookman (student) –
- Frank Ashby (staff) – frank.ashby@seattlecolleges.edu
- Janet Kapp (faculty) – janet.kapp@seattlecolleges.edu
- Libby Schoene (faculty) – Elizabeth.schoene@seattlecolleges.edu

Minutes:

- Why did people come today?
 - Amazed by lack of conversation about sustainability (Paige)
 - Want to move from environmental compliance to environmental leadership (Christa)
 - Save money from conservation efforts (Eric)
 - Build on existing student and Georgetown sustainability groups (Ryan, Shane, Alison)
 - Want to focus on long-term planning at the college (May)
- Overview
 - Purpose of meeting is to present current sustainability structure across District, find what folks want to see at South, and hopefully form a group heading into 2016.
- Current sustainability structures
 - District Sustainability Coordinator provides high-level sustainability planning for all three colleges
 - Focused on resource conservation and increasing opportunities for student involvement in sustainability activities
 - Position only full time for past year
 - Leads District Sustainability Committee
 - Faculty and staff from each college
 - Share best practices between campuses

- Drafted District Sustainability goals this year
 - North Seattle College has a student-funded full-time sustainability coordinator since 2009
 - Leads the NSC sustainability committee
 - Composed of volunteer students, faculty, staff
 - No official recognition or role on campus
 - Broad advisory role for sustainability efforts on campus with an eye toward student involvement
 - Administers the NSC sustainability fund (created by students)
 - Seattle Central has a Sustainability Council since 2014
 - Composed of volunteer students, faculty, and staff
 - No official recognition or role on campus
 - Focus has been on waste improvements and student events
 - Environmental Health and Safety staff at Central and South do lots of “sustainability” related projects that often go unnoticed.
- Sustainability at South
 - Past efforts
 - Facilities projects focused on energy and water conservation and monetary savings
 - COWS garden
 - Fry oil re-use
 - Interconnection partnership for electronics re-use and recycling
 - Sustainable Building Science Technology program
 - Envirostars certification for certain programs
 - South Seattle College sustainability assessment
 - STARS assessment done in 2013, Bronze rating received
 - STARS is a national college sustainability ranking program
 - **Ian to send STARS report out to group**
 - Everyone agrees a training on current practices at south and across the District would be very helpful
 - **Ian to prepare this for next meeting**
- Future efforts – what this group wants to see
 - Better waste diversion on campus, expanding composting
 - Embed the sustainability committee within higher level structures that currently exist
 - Frank says College Council and E-Team may be a good fit
 - **Ian to take this topic to Chancellors’ Cabinet later this month**
 - Create a campus-wide committee
 - Representation by students, faculty, staff
 - Needs to have both grassroots and admin support
 - Fold existing and newly formed student and Georgetown sustainability committees into a larger, more diverse body
 - **Ryan to take this proposal to Student Sustainability Committee**
 - **Alison to take this proposal to Georgetown Sustainability Committee**

- Focus on student involvement and student success through sustainability projects
 - Trail project through Greenbelt behind campus (Tim)
 - Regular communication to students about sustainable practices and academic/volunteer opportunities
- Next Steps
 - Set up another meeting to:
 - Go more in depth about current practices and efforts to find low-hanging fruit projects that the group could pursue
 - Discuss opportunities get this group sanctioned by administration
 - Develop a cohesive structure and leadership for group
 - What commitment can you make to the group? What capacity do we have collectively to support on endeavors?
 - Ian to schedule next meeting after Thanksgiving