

Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes for April 6, 2006

Present: Will Backe, Erika Bailey-Johnson, Anna Carlson, Lois J. Jenkins, Wendy Larson, Rich Marsolek, Jessica Schaum, Pat Welle

Erika Bailey-Johnson and Wendy Larson, Co-Chairs, convening

Students for the Environment Report

Earth Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 22, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, in Memorial Hall. Other activities will be taking place all week, including speakers and displays, and a lakeshore clean-up on Friday at 2:00. BSU's Center for Environmental, Earth, and Space Studies (CEESS) will have an exhibit on Saturday. For more info, call 755-3645 (DNR).

Goals

As per Pat W.'s suggestion, the EAC voted to add to our goals matrix the achievement of full funding for the **Sustainable Campus Endowment** within the next two years. He reports that we are two-thirds of the way there (\$6,700).

We then went through the list of **goals** and identified who would have primary responsibility for each goal, at least initially, based on who had suggested it be added to the matrix. Bill Maki will have ultimate responsibility for implementing many of the goals -- for these, the EAC will need to keep in regular contact with him, both as a reminder and for updates on progress.

The goals listed below are being worked on by the EACers indicated. For a full list of the goals, refer to the email sent you on March 29, or contact Erika (Erika.BaileyJohnson@st.bemidjistate.edu) or Wendy (wlarson@bemidjistate.edu). Look over the list and select the goals you would be most interested in helping achieve.

- Community service component in People and the Environment courses -- Pat W.
- Establish Campus Sustainability Coordinator -- Erika
- Increase recycled content of paper, etc. -- Wendy
- Explore transportation alternatives -- Kyle
- Expand native planting, etc. -- Erika
- Solid waste reduction & recycling -- Ryan
- Documentation and recognition program -- Lois
- Sustainable Campus Endowment -- Pat W.

Conferences

🌐 The **Midwest Environmental Ethics** conference, "Making Ethics Visible," will be held at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul on May 6, and is in part sponsored by the Minnesota Association for Environmental Education. Anna and Erika will be attending; perhaps they will glean strategies for educating the BSU community on sustainable campus issues. A pdf of the conference brochure is at <http://naaee.org/maee/PDFs/Ethicsconferencebrochure.pdf>. The timing of the

conference coincides with the **Living Green Expo** at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds (May 6-7).

- 🌐 The inaugural UMACS (**Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability**) conference will be held May 17-19 at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN. Several EAC members will be attending. For more info, go to http://www.umacs.org/Conference/UMACS_2006.htm

Membership

Wendy reported on the status of **member involvement** in EAC. She will attempt to persuade members with infrequent participation to relinquish their seat to allow interested others to participate. Faculty and staff will also be invited through the Fac_Staff listserv to attend EAC meetings; this may help us build up a recruiting pool. Bill Maki will also be reminded that the food service needs to provide a representative to the EAC once the contract negotiations are final.

Miscellaneous

- 🌐 Related to the Sustainable Campus Endowment, it was suggested that we contact Marla Patrias, Director of Alumni Relations, about getting a piece in the *Horizons* magazine about it and the Tailwinds project.
- 🌐 Wendy will contact Bill Maki re whether any of the **governor's executive orders** (specifically the one mandating recycled content in office paper) apply to MnSCU institutions, because she had seen an email from MnSCU stating that the order mandating temperature set points in state buildings does not apply to the UofM or MnSCU.

The following is Bill's response:

"I cannot give a precise answer regarding executive orders as each are a bit different as far as how MnSCU is treated. MnSCU and the U of M are exempt from many of them because we have different status than state agencies.

"We were officially exempt from the one regarding energy, primarily because of our dormitories. I take the position that the one regarding recycled paper pertains to us since it is state law and pertains to use of state resources."

Thanks,
Bill

- 🌐 Erika/Wendy will contact Bill Maki re whether continuation of funding is certain for **wind energy** at BSU through academic year 2006-07.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Larson