

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
December 14th, 2011
10 a.m.

Attendance:

Dave Bahr, Erika Bailey-Johnson, Tim Brockman, Dana Danielson, Laurie Desiderato, Hannah Hutchins, Lesa Lawrence, Rich Marsolek

Guest: Brett Cease

Topics:

SFE Report

- New student came to last meeting with an idea of doing a green-type of Twitter on the student portal page; met with Andy Bartlett to discuss, next will meet with Sam Parsons
- Do it in the Dark coming up in February
- Earth Week will also keep everyone busy

Sustainability Office

- Bottled Water – focusing on education
- Student Printing Policy – Student printing has been monitored in the campus labs for the past year, so now we have a baseline of use. Will work with Student Senate to figure out next steps. Do we want to reduce *use* or *paper* (what is the goal and how do we get there?)
- Fleet Vehicle Policy – Currently looking at what other schools are doing. Will involve education, fuel efficiency, and use.
- Sustainable Procurement Policy – Currently looking at what other schools are doing. Trying to categorize purchases.
- Campus Conservation Nationals – The 6 residence halls at BSU are part of a national competition to reduce electricity use starting Feb. 6th and lasting for 3 weeks.
- Donate, Don't Dumpster – collecting stuff in the residence halls until Dec. 16th
- Traditional Skills Workshop – “Green Your Holidays” held on Dec. 8th
- Greenhouse Gas Inventory – nearly done with the FY 11 update; needs to be entered by Jan. 15th, 2012 onto the ACUPCC website
- Poster Campaign – “What do *you* do?” posters showcasing faculty, staff, and student sustainability-related actions
- Vermiculture – today is the last day of the pre-consumer food audit; about 250 lbs of waste per week; working on a location and feasibility currently
- Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop – workshop for MnSCU faculty will be held at BSU March 29th – 31st; Erika is looking for people to help with workshop logistics; Laurie and Lesa volunteered to be on the Workshop Committee

Department Office Sharing

- Dana Danielson (Central Receiving): use both sides of the paper, recycle aluminum
- Dave Bahr (Physics): patent-pending energy conversion material, biomass CHP project for the Residential Halls
- Tim Brockman (Tech Studies): trying to eliminate paper use in classes (using D2L)
- Lesa Lawrence (Financial Aid): uses “Image Now” to scan documents instead of paper copies
- Laurie Desiderato (Psychology): installed a geothermal heating system for home

- Brett Cease (MNGreenCorp): working on GreenStep Cities for the City of Bemidji, working with the local school district to increase recycling, going to have weekly Sustainability topics at Rail River Folk School starting in 2012, building a yurt!
- Hannah Hutchins (student): bike, recycle, plans to wrap presents in used paper, seeks out environmentally-minded artists, buys her food in bulk when possible

Master Facility Plan

- Should we keep using the same consultant to do this? Seems like it would be good to get some fresh eyes. Is this a MnSCU policy? Who makes the decisions?

ACUPCC Progress Report

- The Climate Action Plan (CAP) Progress Report is not due until Jan. 2013 (thought it was 2012!)

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Bailey-Johnson and Hannah Hutchins