Sustainability Charter Committee

Monday, February 26, 2018

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Suite 1650, University Capitol Centre**

(Office of Sustainability)

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Update on Office of Sustainability Transition – Professor David Bennett
3. Recyclemania 2018 – Beth Mackenzie, Recycling Coordinator
4. Move-out 2018 – Beth Mackenzie, Recycling Coordinator
5. Next meeting and adjournment

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Barbara Eckstein, Heather Sander, Tony Senio, Rich Hichwa, Brian Thompson, Sophie Coker-Gunnink, Shaun Vecera, Matthieu Biger

**OTHERS PRESENT**: David Bennett, Beth Mackenzie, Liz Christiansen, Sara Maples, Don Guckert, Rich Hichwa, Jennifer Thompson

**UPDATE ON OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITION** - Dave Bennet thanked the group for helpful feedback on the CLAS proposal. He said a transition team has been formed and will be meeting soon with the intent of setting the direction for the development of the new office. Team members have met with key people, including the Deans, the Provost, and Don Guckert. The team will consider and refine the new office structure, and develop a first-year work plan. The hope is to get everything in place by fall 2018. Marc Armstrong and Eugene Buck are working on a new location. Don reminded the group that IT and administrative support must be provided by CLAS or the Provost.

**RECYCLEMANIA 2018** – Beth reported on the status of Recyclemania and the weekly activities planned for the six-week recycling competition. She has been coordinating with student groups, the UI Children’s Hospital and with instructors. A film screening of “Plastic Paradise” will be held this Thursday. Kathleen Brown, a student intern, has been assisting Beth and tabling each week across campus. Beth is planning a waste audit at IMU and is hoping to work with professors to provide student volunteers. Currently, the UI is second in the Big Ten, behind Rutgers, and ranked 27th nationally.

Beth also reported that the UI has not had any waste loads rejected with cardboard contamination. Jennifer thanked Beth for assistance with promoting recycling in UIHC. Beth also shared that a student group that wants to gain experience in consulting will be assisting with a special project to assess efficacy of removing some exterior trash and recycling receptacles.

**MOVE-OUT 2018** – Beth is coordinating with UI Housing and Dining to provide move-out recycling and donation carts for items for the Crisis Center. An additional truck will be necessary for this year’s move-out recycling because of the new residence hall, so there will be four trucks in total. Move-out begins May 4. She may be working with Salvation Army this year to accept materials. She’s looking for groups or organizations that can accept bedding materials – perhaps animal shelters?

Last year, volunteers were allowed to take up to three items for their personal use. She thought that worked well. The planning team will consider that policy again and perhaps come up with guidelines so that it can be used as an incentive for volunteers but not be a problem for operations.

**OTHER ITEMS** - Sara Maples reported that UI Purchasing has reached out to ask for assistance to include environmental performance measures in their policies. UI Purchasing wants to target office supplies, food and beverages, and scientific equipment for changes first.

Tony reported that the UI Athletics is joining the Green Sports Alliance. This topic will be added next to month’s agenda.

NEXT MEETING: March 26, 2018

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Office of Sustainability/1650 UCC