Sustainability Charter Committee

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

10:00 AM

**\*\*\* University Services Building Room 202 \*\*\***

AGENDA

1. Call to order – Art Bettis and Brian Thompson, Co-chairs
2. Strategic Scheduling of General Assignment Classrooms - Summer 2014
3. UI Biomass Fuel Project – Ferman Milster, UI Principle Engineer, Renewables
4. Charter Committee Discussion
5. Next meeting and adjournment

Sustainability Charter Committee

January 15, 2014

- Meeting Minutes –

Members Present: Ben Anderson, Art Bettis, Sara Maples, Tyler Priest, Ericka Raber,

Brian Thompson, Kelsey Zlevor

Liaisons Present: Liz Christiansen, Don Guckert, Dave Ricketts, Deb Tiemens, Marty Shafer

Others Present: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe, Ben Fish, Doug Litwiller, Ferman Milster,

Glen Mowery,

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Strategic Scheduling of General Assignment Classrooms – Summer 2014

Doug Litwiller introduced an initiative to strategically schedule classrooms during the summer 2014 semester in an effort to maximize energy savings.

This redesign creates a standardized class time for the four, six, eight and twelve week sub sessions with all classes held in General Assignment classrooms and ending by 6 PM. The scheduling of evening classes will be reduced to fewer locations across campus, which have evening activities or cooling and ventilation requirements.

Some of the items discussion included communicating the scheduling program to faculty, potential impact on Cambus service, and review of summer lighting standards.

The group agreed to support this effort. A statement of support will be drafted for review and forwarded to the Registrar’s Office.

UI Biomass Fuel Project

Ferman Milster provided an [overview of the UI Biomass Fuel project](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/56790754/Presentations/Sustainability%20Charter%20Committee.pptx) (will take a second or two to load) and the *Miscanthus* pilot project that is currently underway.

Committee members discussed the benefits and challenges of using *Miscanthus* as a biomass fuel, including the funding model, harvesting, processing, and transportation.

Further discussion items regarding the *Miscanthus* project, including costs, will be brought back to the committee when they have been developed further.

Don said there will be several issues that will be brought to the committee (likely this spring) for their input and support. Those issues will include the *Miscanthus* project, a green building certification program and a marketing and branding program.

Chart Committee Discussion

A retreat for core committee members will be organized for some time in January or early February to develop committee priorities.

A reminder to those members who haven’t yet submitted their short bio, Art and Brian asked the committee members please take a moment to get those in. They can be sent to Brian at Brian-Thompson@uiowa.edu

Committee members also discussed raising campus awareness of the group. Ideas included a general announcement to students, faculty and staff, a dedicated webpage for input and comments, and perhaps an article in Iowa Now and/or the Daily Iowan.

Next Meeting

**A retreat for committee members only is scheduled for Friday, January 24 from 1-4 PM in Room 2390 UCC (the executive conference room on the second floor of the UCC).**

**The next regular meeting of the committee is scheduled for Friday, January 31 at 10:30 in Room 202 USB.**

NOTE: For more information about the UI’s biomass fuel effort, please see this [link](http://sustainability.uiowa.edu/topics/the-university-of-iowa-biomass-fuel-project/).