

Task Force 6
February 23, 2015
CBB 327

The committee goals for today's meeting were to discuss water usage on campus and sustainability curriculum as the last few parts of the information gathering before the final product is drafted. Scott Peters from the Academic Task Force committee will be joining the group mid-meeting.

Parker started the meeting by briefing the committee about the student government meeting with President Ruud and some students thoughts on sustainability. Parker asked President Ruud about a sustainability effort he would like to see across campus. President Ruud concluded that he likes creating a habit of sustainability, and having places in buildings like the library that have easy access to recycle bins. Parker received an email from Gabriella G., a student, about her thoughts on how sustainability could be incorporated with more aspects on campus. She mentioned how she had recently been in the Union and noticed the plastic eating utensils. Those could be replaced with a corn or soy base and be composted after use, reducing waste and plastic use. Another idea was instead of just having "Buy fresh, buy local" signs to label where certain ingredients specifically come from in the surrounding communities. Lastly, she mentioned the transportation efficiency on campus. Learning to use the bus system and routes was an effort that was not worth the use. With a car, you know where the destination is and the return time back. Basically, making UNI's bus system easier to use and more accessible could be beneficial to students, sustainability, and reducing unnecessary trips.

- It was suggested to create a survey on myUNiverse for students to see what they find appealing.

John S. continued the discussion with UNI's water usage, and showed the group slides about water data from 2011 and onward.

- Campus domestic water usage
 - Usage has reduced 25% in the past four years
 - Lowered enrollment is a factor in water usage
 - The sensor activated faucet implementation has reduced usage
 - The Bartlett transition – changing dorms into offices reduces water usage
 - The demolition of Baker Hall reduces usage
- Fixtures
 - Toilet handle flushing "choice" is not really intuitive.
 - Purchasing for buildings – certain fixtures have to be used due to code, but facilities chooses efficient ones if possible.
 - Sabin women's restroom calculates the amount of water to use by the amount of time an individual sits.
- Well water usage
 - Drop in 2011 due to Sabin construction – took out a well.
 - Usage has almost been cut in half.
 - Cannot compare UNI's data to other campuses – they don't have the data

- The water usage data is not shown online, but Kelly S. has the information readily available.
- The data was compiled from UNI's previous water bills from Cedar Falls
- Kelly S. – Find biggest changes of usage in the building list
- Eric O. – Find water data from schools in UNI's conference, as well as California campuses.
- The average person uses 80-100 gallons of water per day.
- Water usage had plateaued this year
 - Questions to how UNI can continue the drop using new technology and replacing inefficient faucets.
- Silurian Devonian aquifer – used by UNI and Cedar Falls

Catherine Zeman informed the committee of sustainability classes that students can enroll in, and the process of sustainability certification. Additional information was shown on the RRTTC website.

- Sustainability Certificate: Overview
 - The certificate requires one required class, and the rest are electives.
 - Each college has advisors for the sustainability certificate
 - It requires to choose elective courses in different areas – not just one department.
 - It was suggested to include Earth Science students as well into the program.
 - The Provost paid summer stipends to make the courses happen.
 - Workshops allow time to reflect and talk about sustainability.

Kathy Scholl had a presentation to give, but she was absent. Gowri presented the Prezi, "Envisioning UNI as an Outdoor Learning Space" in her place.

- A hands on learning experience if classes could go outside more.
- The UNI trail system - A good resource
 - Interdisciplinary aspects – teach students that the trails are out there to use and not just for outdoor focused classes.
 - Helps with stress relief and other supportive resources
- Prairie wetland – A collaboration with Cedar Falls
 - It's mostly their property that they allow the campus to use.
- Visible communication
 - Areas of development
 - Garden by CEEE – use it as a learning resource

Tolif H. also could not make the committee meeting today as well. His grant recommendations may be discussed in the next Task Force meeting.

Scott Peters briefed the committee on what the Academic Task Force was discussing in their meetings. He mentioned that optimally, the buildings themselves should be a learning aspect. Interdisciplinary opportunities shown in each building help get money for renovations and

development. That Task Force's final product aims to help merge the Academic and Master Plan when it is completed.

For the next committee meeting, the group may convene in an interior design lab for discussion purposes. The committee is working on getting a round table discussion with outside entities and Julia Bullard with her Community Partnership Task Force. Further details will be discussed at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20AM. The next meeting is scheduled for
March 9 at 8:00AM in CBB 327 (tentative location).