

March 2010 Working Group Minutes

General updates:

On March 3rd, the student co-chairs presented the working group efforts to the Board of Trustee Committee on Governance and Administration. All four students felt the presentation went well and that committee members expressed interest in sustainability initiatives. The committee has also expressed interest in hearing updates on an annual basis.

For the first time, MUSG in collaboration with several other campus groups will be hosting Green Week April 6th – 9th. Events have been scheduled throughout the week which you can find [here](#).

Instead of having individual April meetings, all four working groups will have a joint session on April 6th in AMU 227 from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. This meeting will be open to the university.

New Buildings Working Group: March 31, 2010

Members present: Ms. Katharine Stanford, Mr. Bill O'Brien, Ms. Lori Ozminkowski, Fr. Michael Class, Dr. Chris Stockdale, Mr. Michael Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members Absent: Mr. Michael Jahner

Assess working group charge

- The group has been doing well reviewing new building green features, but lacks the expertise making it difficult to pass along green building suggestions.
 - It is still important to have the group because members are representatives of the new building projects and can relay different project information to others.
 - Especially since the new engineering school is being built.
- The group is passive at the moment but is looking for ways to become proactive.
 - One suggestion was to present various green building ideas to the community while continue information gathering for new buildings.
 - Another idea was to develop a map of green features that are in/on buildings so that people can identify them.
 - Could also make a Green Fact of the Week: "Why is the elevator in Zilber so slow? To encourage using the stairs."
 - Could install a plaque somewhere in the lobby where facts can be easily switched from week to week.
 - The green facts/information could also be displayed in the first floor offices such as Admissions, Bursar, etc. for new and current students to see.
 - Which other buildings have kiosks and TVs that could display the information? Could be building specific but could also be general campus sustainability.
 - Would Access TV be an option? New Employee Orientation?

- Another option could be to try and include some sustainability information into campus tours for prospective students.
 - Tour guides could demonstrate how buildings are green.
 - Include information on how the university is trying to lower operating cost to help stabilize their tuition.
 - Ex. Johnson Controls \$5 million campus retrofit.
- The group is also looking to find out how important sustainability and green buildings are to new students.
- Question: Could sustainability be put into the main new student orientation
 - Sustainability currently has a breakout orientation session but has not garnered the desirable amount of student attendees.
- Sustainability could be introduced into the dorms via RAs
 - Best way to do this would be to prepare the information ahead of time to minimize RA workload.
 - The information could include ways for students to green their rooms and how to reduce their impact in the residence hall.
- Could introduce a sustainability activity during orientation such as a “sustainability scavenger hunt”.
 - Ex. Find the rain garden; find the alternative fuel parking spaces, etc.
 - Want to include places we want the students to see.

Natural Resources Working Group: March 22, 2010

Members present: Mr. Ronald Ripley, Ms. Jacquelyn Gast, Ms. Joan Sommer, Dr. Jon Koch, Mr. Michael Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert.

Members Absent: Prof. Alan Madry, Ms. Jacqueline Walker, Mr. Peter Dombrowski

Assess working group charge

- The group has talked about several energy efficiency and renewable energy options, but has not made many recommendations.
 - The group will be creating an outline/report that will help guide this process.
 - The outline will include: monitoring, current energy consumption and energy alternatives.
 - The outline will become more detailed as we gather more information regarding energy efficiency and renewable energy.
 - It will identify what is financially feasible, and if it isn't, under what conditions it would be.
 - It will also rate projects for PR value, educational value, financial value, etc.

Building schedule test project

- The goal of this project is to scale back the hours certain buildings operate to save energy.
 - Engineering has agreed to test.

- The engineering building was running 24/7. Part of that is due to their computer labs operating.

Round Table

- Lighting
 - The rest of the LEDs for the Parking Structure 2 pilot should be here and will be installed soon.
 - The rest of the structure could be retrofitted with fluorescents which would be less expensive and still guarantee energy savings.
 - The Hospital parking structure has done this.
 - We should find out if they are satisfied with the retrofit and see what kinds of savings they are experiencing.
 - We would also have to see how they are in cold weather because fluorescents are less resilient in colder weather.
- Johnson Controls building system
 - The buildings on this system can be controlled to some extent which could be utilized to reduce energy consumption.
 - The system can turn off fans (heating and cooling source) at certain times.
 - The system cannot change a building from 72 degrees to 68 degrees.
 - There are a tremendous amount of thermostats (some 15 – 16,000?) on campus that helps control temperatures.
- Incidental energy users
 - Space heaters and refrigerators can become huge energy users.
 - Is there a policy on having a space heater? No, several people on campus use them.
 - Sometimes the building circulates heat poorly so it is understandable that a person would use a space heater.
 - Refrigerators can also be a problem.
 - Some people may have a community refrigerator and still have a mini-fridge for themselves.
 - Several departments may have multiple large refrigerators.
 - The department may require the extra space, but it might be worth looking into.
 - An option to document some of these could be a silent survey conducted by the custodial staff at night.
- Does this group's mission include helping other people outside of Marquette save energy?
 - The group may have opportunities to latch onto other social justice issues as well as teaming up with student organizations.
 - Example: Solar ovens for the developing world.

Supplier Working Group: March 25, 2010

Members present: Ms. Sapna Patel, Mr. Jay Kirk, Mr. Craig Meyer, Mr. Christopher Porterfield, Mr. Michael Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert.

Members Absent: Mr. Todd Vicker, Ms. Mary-Jo Goodwin

Student applied learning project

- The student applied learning project is a partnership between the Purchasing Department and the Supply Chain Center to help students get hands on experience in supply chain management
 - Students work on a sourcing project from start to finish within 15-16 weeks.
 - 2 students recently researched Request for Proposals (RFPs), wrote the RFP, sent inquiry questions to the prospective supplier, analyzed them, brought the suppliers in for meetings, and finally awarded the RFPs.
 - These projects were for plumbing supplies and HVAC filters and ended up working out very well.
 - This semester, 6 students are working on projects. 2 in-house and 4 others working for local companies such as Direct Supply and MillerCoors.
 - Students are learning about the supply chain from 3 different angles: class lectures, work, and a mentor at the employer to help further refine solutions.

Assess working group charge

- Currently, when the group brainstorms, it's hard not to bump into other working group charges.
- Long-term, these groups could be combined to create 1 or 2 working groups, but it's still important at this point to keep the 4 groups. It helps create traction.
- Looking at current policies, the RFPs already had some sustainability in mind.
 - More environmental sustainability and social responsibility aspects will be added to the RFPs in the future.
- The group would like to continue bringing in suppliers to hear how they as a company are sustainable as well as how they are making Marquette a more sustainable university.
 - The group will also need to find out how that information can be passed along to the Marquette community.
 - One supplier recommended to come in was ISB.

Recycling Working Group: March 8, 2010

Members present: Mr. Jerry Kohn, Mr. Casey Lembke, Dr. Jane Peterson, Ms. Patricia Berge, Mr. Michael Whittow, and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members absent: Mr. Michael Cosgrove, Mr. Don Kynaston

Updates

- Another recycling bin will be placed on the east side of the AMU.
 - Grounds staff say the outdoor recycling bins are being used.
 - They may be used more as the weather warms up and people are outside more.
- Wood recycling for theater productions.
 - Veolia agreed to recycle any untreated and unstained lumber.
 - Painted wood with screws are fine.
 - \$130 per dumpster load.
 - Theaters expense.
- Battery recycling for green week.

- Buckets will be supplied for the residence halls which are expected to be the busiest locations.
 - This week could also see the highest demand (worst case scenario) for battery recycling which could help determine costs if the program continues.
 - Popular batteries, such as AAs, have a cost for recycling.
- Single-stream recycling statistics
 - The last 4 months have a 22.4 percent aggregate recycling rate.
 - January was at 20.86 percent.
 - February was at 20.4 percent.
 - Majority of waste is said to come from the residence halls.
 - Colorado State has a recycling rate of 50-60 percent.
 - Started program in 2007 and promoted it through news papers and website
 - Notre Dame passes out recycling bags during their football games and includes those recyclables in university total.

Recycling

- Advertise more throughout campus.
 - We can talk to the Office of Marketing and Communication again to see how we can better advertise around campus.
 - Also track to see whether recycling rates increase during recycling promotion.
- Look at ways to reduce creating regular trash.
 - Example: Hand dryers vs. paper towels – this can go both ways because hand dryers use electricity to operate.
 - Reduce purchases, compost, buy recyclable items instead of throw-away, etc.
- Tucson Garbage Project.
 - If we wanted a breakdown of our trash, we could use student projects as a means to help identify what we're buying and throwing away.
 - Anthropological study.
- Group needs to find a long-term way to keep people interested and recycling.
 - Word of mouth will still be important.
 - Could start advertising in the Tribune or Warrior.
 - Possibly a monthly insert.
 - Space in the publications may need to be paid for, but is still worth looking into.
 - Need to use other venues besides the sustainability website and Facebook page to promote recycling.