

# February 2011 Working Group Minutes

## General updates:

- Eckstein Hall received LEED-Silver ([News Briefs article](#)).
- The Zipcar program has been going well and we anticipate a surge in members prior to the beginning of the fall 2011 semester.
- The student group Students for an Environmentally Active Campus (SEAC) has partnered with Campus Dollar Plus who will be taking over SEAC's Market Basket program. Campus Dollar Plus will now offer the Market Baskets and will be the new pick-up location.
- Sodexo, the Milwaukee Community Compost Network, and the Office of Sustainability sat down to discuss the possibility of starting a composting program at Marquette University. The goal is to begin a pilot project beginning next fall at the Straz Tower dining location.
- MUSG is planning another Green Week. This year's Green Week will be April 11 – 15.
  - The Joint Working Group meeting will be held on Monday, April 11 at noon in AMU 157. The meeting will be open to the university.
- The student co-chairs may have an opportunity to present to the Board of Trustee Committee on Governance and Administration on May 4<sup>th</sup> regarding working group initiatives.

## **Natural Resources Working Group: February 24, 2011**

Members present: Mr. Ronald Ripley, Ms. Jacqueline Walker, Mr. Peter Dombrowski, Dr. Jon Koch, Ms. Joan Sommer, Mr. Mike Whittow, and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members Absent: Ms. Kimberly Campbell, Prof. Alan Madry

### Updates

#### Update on solar project

- Solar Innovations, Inc. has provided new financing details for the proposed solar installation.
  - The rates are better on a per kWh basis, but the 25 year warranty is no longer offered.
    - With the reduced rates, the system could now be installed on a building using Primary electricity.
- The solar project would be able to log energy production data over time providing added educational benefits.
- Other schools in the area and around the state are installing solar panels.
- The group still recommends a visible location and ideally a building using Secondary electricity.
- MOTION: Given this particular project's cost savings and added benefits, the Natural Resources and Utilities working group unanimously endorses installing the system immediately.

#### Displaying building energy use

- Another project to look at in the future is sharing energy use data online.
  - Offers transparency and educational value.
  - Additional research will be required.

#### Round Table Discussion

- A company named Pristine Sun has approached the university looking to install large quantities of solar panels at Marquette. They are able to install solar car ports and parking lots.
  - Additional information will be requested from Pristine Sun.
- The Group will look into taking a tour of the Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful building sometime during the semester to learn about the various technologies used to operate their facility.

### **New Buildings Working Group: February 25, 2011**

Members present: Mr. Michael Jahner, Ms. Katherine Sanford, Fr. Michael Class, Ms. Lori Ozminkowski, Dr. Chris Stockdale, Mr. Mike Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members Absent: Mr. William O'Brien

#### Updates

- The Discovery Learning Center is scheduled to be completed in June. People will begin moving in while they continue to make final tweaks inside the building.

#### Goals for the semester

- The group will look at the possibility of touring the Discovery Learning Center during the semester.

#### Round Table Discussion

- Is there a possibility of using energy dashboards on campus?
  - Energy dashboards are online and allow one to see energy use on a per building basis.
    - Depending on the building's equipment, energy dashboards can either display energy usage in real-time or on a monthly basis.
    - These dashboards are useful for creating transparency, building-to-building energy conservation competitions, and education.
  - UW-Milwaukee utilizes energy dashboards in a couple of their new residence halls.
  - Layouts can be customized to match Marquette's needs.
  - Have been said to reduce energy consumption by 20 – 30%.
  - The group will continue looking at energy dashboards throughout the semester.
- Since there is not any more new building being built, the group might consider focusing on another area.
  - One suggestion was to change the group name from New Buildings to simply Buildings, encompassing all buildings on campus.

### **Recycling Working Group: February 14, 2011**

Members present: Mr. Jerry Kohn, Ms. Kelsey Seibert, Mr. Michael Cosgrove, Mr. Mike Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members absent: Mr. Don Kynaston, Ms. Patricia Berge, Dr. Jane Peterson

#### Updates

- The recycling rate for January was 28.30%.

#### Review area recycling poster

- The current recycling posters will soon be obsolete because they still mention the 30% recycling rate by 2011.
  - The group reviewed the current poster and suggested the new posters be relevant for a longer period of time.
    - The group discussed the goal of 50 percent by 2015. This equates to a 5% increase per year.
    - OMC will be contacted to see what they think.

#### Round Table Discussion

- SEAC has approached the Office of Sustainability asking permission to place stickers on paper towel dispensers to help educate people in order to use fewer paper towels when washing their hands. Stickers will be ordered and placed on paper towel dispensers around campus.

## **Supplier Working Group: February 14, 2011**

Members present: Mr. Todd Vicker, Ms. Sapna Patel, Mr. Craig Meyer, Mr. Mike Whittow and Mr. Andrew Seifert

Members Absent: Mr. Chris Porterfield

#### Updates

- We're still working with the Committee on Committees to find additional members to join the Suppliers working group

#### Goals for the semester

- The group will continue to look for a time when Intercity Supply and Bag can come in and present about their sustainability initiatives as well as their diversity story.
- Another possible presenter could be one of the construction and/or demolition companies partnering with Marquette.
  - What sort of efforts are these suppliers doing to recycle buildings and building components?
    - Cost benefits of doing this?
  - Marquette spends most on these companies.
  - Possible suppliers could be Opus or KBS.

#### Round Table Discussion

- This semester's supply swap is tentatively scheduled to take place sometime around Earth Day, April 22.
- QUESTION: Will there be a Dumpster Dump this year?
  - The Green Week planning group is looking into this and anticipates it will take place during this year's Green Week.
- In Intern in the Purchasing Department is working on a project for landscaping focusing on labor and snowplowing.
  - Is there an opportunity to look into sustainable landscaping?
- There has been some concerns about the amount of salt we use during the winter to melt ice.
  - Salt is being used more strategically to cut back on the amount Marquette uses.
  - In the end, this is a senior-level decision on what ice/salt expectations are for campus.