Joint Sustainability Meeting

05/18/2017 1:00pm

Reitz Rm 2340

Attendance:

John Duncan

Liz Storn

Terry Harpold

Oppong Hemeng

Ernesto Escoto

David Looney

Matt Williams

Connie Nicklin

Phone:

Ravi Srinivasan

Mark Robinson

Tara Cataldo

1. Welcome
   1. Liz leaves campus tomorrow
      1. She will continue working on behalf of the office remotely on some data projects
      2. David Looney recognized Liz’s excellent contribution to UF during her time here
2. Office of Sustainability Update
   1. STARS Evaluation is underway
      1. We now have a 112 page report on the status of our STARS process as well as our progress in contrast to peer institutions
      2. We plan to submit STARS no later than 5/31/2017
   2. Maya Patel has joined the office as Strategic Projects Manager
      1. She will be working with the Strategic development plan project as well as other projects
      2. She has been working on our STARS report as well
3. New Topics
   1. Reitz Union Update - John Duncan
      1. The Reitz Union Administrative Team is interested in joining the GROW office sustainability program
      2. Reitz Union Paper Towel Recycling roll-out has occurred
         1. These paper towels are blended with campus pre-consumer food waste and sent to Watson’s for composting
      3. There is a continuing discussion of waste/recycling/compost bins in the Reitz Union
      4. Results of a recent survey are becoming available as well
   2. Athletics Update - Oppong Hemeng
      1. Discussions have started about logistics for waste handling at the stadium for the upcoming football season
   3. Terry Harpold discussed his personal commitment to include sustainability in his course syllabi
      * 1. Choosing electronic editions of textbooks
        2. Discouraging disposable food containers and water bottles
        3. Etc
      1. He inquired as to the possible value of establishing guidelines such as these as a necessary part of other course syllabi, similar to language that is currently required, such as accessibility measures
         1. Does the Sustainability Committee support taking the lead on this sort of measure?
            1. This sort of measure would likely need to go through the Provost and/or the Faculty Senate
            2. We need to establish the protocol to have this measure enacted and the language of any potential statement
            3. Terry Harpold volunteered to draft proposed language and to determine the protocol for establishing a measure such as this

Chair Looney and the committee expressed support for this

* + - 1. Matt Williams suggested that a measure like this could aid in improving our campus STARS rating as an encouragement to improve sustainability learning outcomes across the curriculum
      2. David Looney proposed that there may also be value in establishing sustainability topics such as these in syllabi for starting conversations in campus academics
      3. Ravi Srinivasan expressed support for the policy but had small reservations around the issue of enforcement
  1. Ravi Srinivasan shared that he has been awarded a City of Gainesville/University of Florida Development Plan grant
     1. He has been having some trouble gathering the data he needs for his project but is working on it
  2. Tara Cataldo discussed the new first floor renovation in the Marston Library and its receipt of a LEED Minor Projects Gold level
  3. World Ocean Day display in Marston Science Library will be hosting Terry Harpold’s collection of climate fiction related to oceans June 8th, 2017

1. Paper Policy Discussion
   1. A group will be named to continue progress on the Paper Policy Update
      1. Tara Cataldo agreed to continue working on the project before she rolls off the committee at the end of the summer
         1. She will schedule a meeting of herself, David Looney and Mark Robinson
      2. Discussion of the committee visiting Austin Cary Forest
         1. A follow-up will be sent out to gauge the possibility of this
         2. Matt Williams suggested that the committee seek a counterpoint representative to the UF Forestry representative that Damian Adams had previously suggested
            1. Matt and David Looney will continue that discussion and get back to group with additional details
2. Meeting Adjourned 1:34pm