9/21/17 Sustainability Committee Meeting
Reitz 2340 Conference Room

**Present:**
Leslie Thiele
Dustin Stephany
Mark Robinson
Ariel Pomputius
Ravish Paul
Christopher Martinez
Terry Harpold
Ernesto Escoto
John Duncan
Leah Dosal
Matt Williams
Allison Vitt
Hannah Ulloa
Oppong Hemeng
**Phone:**
Liz Storn
Amy Stein

**Attachment:**
.pdf slides

1. Introductions of the Committee Members
2. Nominations & vote on chair
	1. Overview of the responsibilities of the chair
	2. Matt Williams opens the floor for nominations for a new chair
		1. Three nominations for John Duncan
			1. John Duncan was elected unanimously
			2. John Duncan accepted his nomination
3. Review of the Sustainability Committee
	1. Matt Williams reviewed the current charge of the committee
		1. The Sustainability Committee is a Joint Committee
		2. The charge of the committee relates perfectly to AASHE STARS
		3. Reviewed attendance policy and voting and non-voting members
			1. Confirmation from faculty senate that phone attendance is allowable for members who are off-campus (e.g. extension members, or regular members travelling). All others need to plan to attend in person.
			2. Per Faculty Senate, members are allowed 3 consecutive unexcused absences, after which they will need to be removed from the committee. Excused absences include a wide range of activities including lecturing, conflicting meeting with higher priority, travel.
	2. Campus sustainability highlights from Summer 2017
		1. Liz Storn and Allison Vitt discussed Campus Audubon Sanctuary
			1. Recertified
			2. Campus is currently on a 3-year recertification schedule
		2. Dustin Stephany discusses growth in LEED building certifications
		3. Bicycle Friendly University certification
			1. Jacob Adams (not present) led certification
			2. Received silver status for a first time applicant
		4. Matt Williams discussed AASHE STARS accreditation
			1. Retained silver status
			2. Would like to resubmit within the next year
4. Overview of AASHE STARS gaps
	1. Matt Williams discussed the current STARS reporting gaps and gave a brief presentation **(attached)**
		1. The Sustainability Committee is tasked with determining where and how their efforts can help bridge these gaps
	2. Discussion by Terry Harpold on ideas for academic-related credits
		1. How requirements from course syllabi could count
		2. The possibility of implementing a course policy or creating a General Education requirement tied to the Learning Outcomes credit
		3. Providing an incentive for course instructors
	3. Discussion by Ariel Pomputius and Terry Harpold on research-related credits
		1. UF libraries are trying to focus more on Open Access by providing more information on benefits (or lack of negative consequences), which can overcome the hurdle of hesitancy from researchers
		2. Christy Shorey from Institutional Repository and the UF Library Green Team would be asset in support (per Ariel Pomputius)
		3. Current monetary support is from OA grant that is on a first-come, first-serve basis
			1. Would like to see more funding opportunities
	4. Discussion on perpetuity of the Campus Climate survey
		1. Co-linked with Counseling & Wellness and Diversity
		2. Does UF want a standing survey for employee satisfaction?
	5. Final Question
		1. Amy Stein asked if the Support for Research credit would apply to the moneys allocated to sustainability graduate students for travel support
			1. The credit only applies for funding for direct research
5. Putting in place a Recycled Paper Policy
	1. Matt Williams discussed previous committee’s discussion on the paper purchasing policy with previous committee member Damian Adams
		1. That policy is Tied to LEED Existing-Building certifications, and also in AASHE STARS
		2. Future meetings focusing on whether policy comes forward or not
6. Other Business
	1. Terry Harpold is working with Cynthia Barnett on creating an outline for a formal course policy on sustainability
		1. Discussion on including easily implementable examples as well
	2. Matt Williams discussed potentially bringing in a graduate student as another voting member
	3. Upcoming Events
		1. In Attachment
			1. Butterfly Fest
			2. Community Weatherization Coalition’s fall volunteer training
			3. Climate Communication Summit
			4. Sustainable Transportation fair and EV Expo
		2. Mentioned by Terry Harpold
			1. Imagining Climate Change will be hosting speaker from Rachel Carson center (10/23-34) talking about the future of the Anthropocene
			2. Film Scholar talking about climate change (November)
		3. Mentioned by Amy Stein
			1. Levin College will be hosting Solar Celebration
				1. Celebrating solar panel installations
			2. Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference focused on climate change
		4. AASHE conference

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45ish