UFSC Minutes

Called to order at 10:10am

Megan Walker-radtke

Allen Masters

Ruth Steiner

Mark Robinson

Kyle Rodriguez

Kitty Emery

Ravi Srinivasan

Jackie Ayers

Connie Nicklin

Agenda

1. Office Updates
	1. Previously discussed projects continue: GHG inventory, STARS, composting @ the Reitz Union and across campus
	2. New projects: Champions for Change: nominations due by 23 February 2015
		1. Link available on Sustainable UF website
	3. Journalism health/wellness/environment unit is ongoing for students. If any members have stories that might be appropriate please contact Allison Vitt.
		1. info@sustainability.ufl.edu
	4. Pepsi Challenge deadline is March 1st 2015
2. Old Business
	1. Recognition for Chris Machen
		1. Kitty and Ruth have discussed over email and have chosen two solutions:
			1. Nominate CM for champions of Change
				1. Once nominees are recognized an email goes out to confirm that winners are open to being publicly acknowledged. Need to confirm this with CM before offering award.
				2. Will need to determine who will write the letter of support
				3. Committee will nominate through Chair Cataldo
			2. Solicit donations from past members of the UFSC to donate to an appropriate organization (St. Francis Pet Care or Opportunity Scholars)
				1. offer committee expertise
				2. offer to collect needed supplies
			3. OOS to create list of past members to encourage donations
	2. STARS Gaps Task Force
		1. Ravi discussed the progress so far. (Mark, Megan, Matt and Les met prior to today’s meeting) They discussed the categories and identified a task to follow-through on.
			1. They will look over the list of offered classes with each member having a subset to review. They plan complete this by next Thursday (February 19th 2015)
				1. ~6,400 syllabi have been pulled for content analysis by Seaton, the graduate student working on the project.

3,000 have been identified as likely possibilities

The process may further reduce the number in the near future.

A final decision will be made on each course by the task force. More information should be available on a plan to go forward after next week

* + 1. Discussion of STARS system
	1. Prairie Project
		1. Working with our Graduate intern Ashley Walsh.
		2. Currently cleaning up the listserv to send out invitations to pertinent faculty
			1. The call will go out to all departments
			2. If committee members know of any candidate for participation they are encouraged to invite them to consider attending
		3. Considering inviting graduate students to participate in a combined workshop with faculty. they have previously had their own separate work shop.
1. New Business
	1. Scott Fox attended the meeting to discuss Transportation and Parking Service’s carpool program.
		1. He expressed a passion for the carpool program. The TAPS team aspires to improve the carpool program. A challenge has been in identifying the primary goals of the program.
			1. Should the program focus on size and scope or should the program focus on providing the largest boost to campus sustainability?
		2. He provided a brief history of the carpool program.
			1. 12 years ago the president of UF determined that a robust program was needed, which caused some changes to be made.
			2. A program was started shortly afterwards and has continued through today.
		3. Recently, the loss of some carpool parking to construction has caused the relocation of carpool spaces, which upset a faculty member who campaigned to change the carpool program.
			1. A change that occurred is to reserve spaces in carpool areas only until 9:30am, giving carpool participants to chance to arrive to work, and making the spaces available to others later in the day.
			2. Some questions: How will enforcement of violations work? What will the communication strategy be to educate on the program? What about those with childcare issues? What about those who do not arrive during regular business hours?
				1. TAPS is crafting answers to these questions currently.
			3. TAPS anticipates a smaller carpool program. However, it may end up being a more effective program due to the effects of the changes.
		4. Discussion of the details of the carpool system and the changes.
		5. Discussion of the reduction of parking supply on campus.
			1. TAPS has an agreement with the county/city to limit the number of spaces on campus.
			2. Was a plan in place to replace parking that is being removed?
				1. A great deal of planning went into the removal and replacement. The UF Master Plan addresses any changes initially. The plan generally fills the interior of campus with buildings and moves parking to the perimeters of campus.
				2. The multitude of customer groups that must be considered creates many problems and the perception that planning did not take place. ADA considerations and executive considerations often take precedence as a matter of course.
			3. Master plan identifies three new garage locations to better serve the academic core of campus and across from Flavet Field
				1. A traffic study will be completed to determine the viability and traffic impact of placing each garage.
			4. The continuing growth of all aspects of campus (students, faculties, administration) causes a continuing hunt for new solutions to expanding parking spaces.
		6. Discussion of improving cycling infrastructure on campus.
			1. Can an incentive be created to encourage cycling through the decal system?
				1. This topic has been discussed in many other forums. TAPS is an auxiliary service with no budget provided by the university or state. They must generate revenues to cover expenses ($2.7 million per yr in bond debt for three new parking garages) ($600 million a year in utilities) ($2 million in salary) ($1 million on structural maintenance of parking garages) ($1.5 million on RTS for on campus service)
				2. The office depends on decal revenue ($7.5 million per year) and fines revenue. Tickets are important to make sure spaces are available for those who disregard regulations.
				3. An increase in fines is likely to be approved soon.
				4. The short answer: funding problems keep new transportation solutions from being implemented.

Vanpool is in the works right now.

* 1. Discussion of possible funding options for transportation and parking improvements followed once Scott Fox left the meeting.
		1. Interest expressed in supporting the Campus Cab program somehow
	2. Discussion of parking and transportation systems at other campuses.
		1. Light Rails on campus
		2. No parking at all
		3. Underground parking lots
		4. University owned vehicles all checked out via carpool

Meeting adjourned at 11:35am