**UF Sustainability Committee – Minutes**

**Date:** March 27, 2025  
**Time:** 12:30-2:30 PM  
**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Attendance**

**Members:** Andrew Zimmerman, Craig Moneypenny, Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig, John Duncan, Austin Britton, Jeanne Ewert, Matt Williams, Jessica-Jean Stonecipher, Jessica Sheffield, Dustin Stephany, Leslie Thiele, Jiangxiao Qiu, Flora Iff-Noel

**Excused:** Mariela Pajuelo, Angie Brown, Carmen Bruno, Zoe Richter, Kristin Joys

**Absent:**

**Guests/Non-Members:** Kaylee August

**Call to Order:**

**Jessica Sheffield** called the meeting to order at 12:31 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**John Duncan** moved to approve the minutes from the February 20th, 2025, meeting. **Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig** seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Jessica Sheffield** provided an update on the Malachowsky Hall tour for the April meeting. She mentioned that she had an email out to the College of Engineering to inquire about reserving a conference room. **John Duncan** offered to help with meeting space across the street if needed. The tour is scheduled for April 17th. The committee discussed whether to have the meeting first and then the tour or vice versa. **Leslie Thiele** suggested having the meeting first so that those attending via Zoom could participate in the meeting before the tour.

**Champions for Change:**

**Kaylee August** shared the current voting results for the Champions for Change nominations. Nine people had voted, and there was a tie between Liel Shachr, Terry Harpold and Ignition Packaging for the fifth winner. **Jeanne Ewert** abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest, as Terry Harpold is her spouse. **Kaylee** suggested breaking the tie by voting in the chat. **Kaylee** shared the document with the descriptions, and **Jessica** reminded everyone of the projects each nominee had worked on.

After some discussion, **Matt Williams** approved awarding six winners instead of five. The committee agreed and voted to recognize six winners: Ignition Packaging, Liel Shachr, Terry Harpold, Ann Wilkie, Lauren Burkow, and Operation T.R.A.P. **Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig** moved to approve the six winners, and **Flora Iff-Noël** seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the motion was approved.

**Old Business:**

**Jessica Sheffield** provided an update on the information sharing documents for departments. She mentioned that they were unable to use the Faculty Senate or Human Resources mailing profiles for information sharing. The project will be back-burnered until next year. **Flora Iff-Noël** suggested sharing the information within their departments informally. **Matt Williams** noted that some programs mentioned in the document were not currently supported and should not be advertised. He agreed to review the document and provide feedback on which programs to remove.

**Office of Sustainability Updates:**

**Kaylee August** provided updates on upcoming events. The Sustainability-In-Action Showcase will be held on April 9th from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Reitz Union Breezeway. The Champions for Change Ceremony is scheduled for April 23rd from 4 PM to 6 PM at the O'Connell Center Center Court Club. **Kaylee** also shared a link to the [2025 Earth Month](https://sustainable.ufl.edu/2025/02/22/uf-earth-month-2025/) events listed on their website. **Matt Williams** discussed the UF REEF and Whitney Labs receiving solar energy from Florida Power and Light's utility-scale solar program. He mentioned that about 40-45% of their electricity consumption is coming from solar. John Lawson from the Office of Sustainability will deliver the plaque to REEF this weekend, and the plaque for Whitney Labs will be delivered in May.

**Roundtable Discussion:**

**Flora Iff-Noël** asked if current politics were impacting any sustainability projects at UF. **Matt Williams** responded that while there had been no significant impacts yet, there were ongoing discussions about budget cuts and changes to language on websites. **Jiangxiao Qiu** mentioned that some programs, like the geospatial program within the National Science Foundation, had been impacted.

**Matt** noted that UF was reviewing language related to social equity and environmental justice to ensure compliance with state guidelines. **Kaylee August** suggested that the committee consider participating in AASHE's webinars to discuss issues faced by campuses nationwide. **Matt** agreed and mentioned that the Southeast region had the most immediate impacts discussed in the webinars. **Kaylee** offered to send out information about the webinars and the survey AASHE was conducting to gauge campus issues.

**Meeting Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 PM following a motion by **Jeanne Ewert**, seconded by **Flora Iff-Noël**.