Minutes for the Sustainability Committee meeting 4/11/11 MUB 398 3-4:30pm

Attending
Anastasia Fiandaca, Kristen Charles, Joy Durighello, Denise Louie, Michelle Gorthy, Erika Delacorte, Deborah Levy, Carlita Martinez, Jana Zanetto, Chantilly Apollon, Avi Asherov

Guests: Jayne Altaffer, Bob Boles

Minutes taken by Jana Zanetto

3:10 call to order

1. Minutes from last meeting approved.

2. Task Force report backs:
   - Grants (Kristin): Deborah, Erika, and Kristin met to get grant-writing started. To be more focused and effective, they decided that to foster a culture of sustainability on campus, an area of little or no resistance would be the best starting point, such as teaching & learning. They are considering a grant to establish a project similar to SCANS or MIP, and perhaps using the Pondereosa Project as a model, with mentor teachers working with peer learners to infuse curriculum with a sustainability perspective. Learning could focus on affective or cognitive aspects of sustainability curriculum. The working group identified 7 possible funding projects for their grant-writing focus. Committee responses: extend the project beyond instructors to staff and to explore service-earning options and community partners.

   It was resolved that Kristin pursue the grant opportunities which she had presented.

   - Website (Chantilly): One concern is setting up the website in the most logical place for it to be found on the CSF website, along with the most appropriate and likely search terms (green, environmental, sustainable). Those working on the website hope to find some time after final exams to have something ready for next semester.

   - Water Bottles (Deborah, Erika): Don Newton has been appointed to head the RFP process for contract renegotiation. He has already contacted Deborah and Erika (after a long period where this committee’s members were not getting any replies to inquiries about the process) suggesting that the RFP group work towards a contract that will
     1) reduce the use of plastic bottles,
     2) replace the use of bottled water for tap water
     3) reduce the energy consumption of machines

   Two proposals are that outdoor machines (Ocean campus has none that we know of) be solar-powered and that carbonated beverages be sold in aluminum cans. Carlita mentioned that aluminum cans takes more energy than plastic bottles to create. Carlita also plans to join Erika, Deborah, and another task force member to attend the Board of Trustees’ sub-committee meeting at which this item is to be discussed, this Thursday, 4/14

   A resolution was made to ask the water bottle task force to explore energy use of these machines. .
• Landscaping (Denise): She asked that the committee pass a resolution that the landscape policy of the Sustainability subcommittee be to avoid and remove any and all invasive plants on all CCSF campuses. She explained that the reason is that the removal of invasive would be cumbersome to take on each plant separately. [For reference, Denise previously reported that the following plants are defined by the California Invasive Plant Council as invasive:
  * pampas grass
  * cotoneaster
  * gazania
  * Monterey cypress
  * kikuyu grass
  * helichrysum
  * oxalis
  * Himalaya blackberry]

  The committee questioned the practicality of this resolution, and Denise clarified that she wished to simply clarify our policy, not necessarily for it to be put into practice at this time. The committee expressed appreciation for Denise’s work on this issue, but no action was taken.

2. Priorities for the future  Deborah and Erika reminded us that their year as co-chairs is ending. They stated that to continue in those roles, the priorities that they would pursue would be narrowed to developing the website and grant writing. They reminded the group that at the next meeting we will vote for next year’s chair(s).

Next full Sub-Committee meeting: Monday May 9, 3-4:30, MUB 398.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40.