
MEETING NOTES

Friday 28 November 2014 / 8:30 – 10:00 am / AH 527

- MEMBERS** T Chase (Chair), L Benko, D Cherwaty, Kandra Forbes (*sustainability intern*), R Konecsni, R Petry, C Reyda, N Wagner, and S Wray (*GSA rep*)
- GUESTS** K Arbuthnott and M Burgess (Skype)
- REGRETS** J Dale, J Crivea, S Young, and D Zemlak
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1. Call to order at 8:30 am.

2. Agenda approved as received. Meeting notes of 18 June 2014 received without emendation.

Item 4 RCE updates, University of “Saskatoon” should be University of “Saskatchewan.”

3. Official acceptance of annual report

The Committee endorsed the Annual Report for the reporting period September 2012 – June 2014. The final report will go to President Timmons the first week of December.

4. AASHE Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Rating System (STARS)

The Committee had a discussion on STARS relating to certification, initiatives and fees. The Chair noted some of these initiatives can be done in house as opposed to using external means. The first assessment at the University of Regina has been finished. C Reyda recommends it be made official and public so anyone on campus can access it. She would like President Timmons to endorse the assessment. She will submit the report to the President.

5. Review of Sustainability Strategic Plan (Reyda/Arbuthnott)

C Reyda and K Arbuthnott provided a review of the Sustainability Strategic Plan and the committee discussed it. The guiding principles in this plan give the University direction. A key take away is the great work the University is doing, something with which many are unfamiliar. The Chair thanked them for all the work and time spent on developing this plan.

The Committee had a further discussion regarding the development of a sustainability policy. With a draft of the Sustainability Strategic Plan going forward, discussion centered on next steps, particularly implementation. N Wagner volunteered to be the owner of the policy and will work with Reyda on the first draft, with the Chair of PACS being the Executive sponsor.

6. RCE Updates

L Benko spoke to recent and upcoming RCE events. The University of Saskatchewan will be hosting the 2015 RCE Recognition Event on 6 May 2015.

7. Update from the Sustainability Coordinator

The Chair brought the time to the Committee's attention and suggested dropping agenda items 7 and 8. C Reyda noted there were no new updates regardless.

8. Living Lab Discussion (Reyda/Arbuthnott)

See above.

9. Open Educational Resources (OER) with Mary Burgess, BCcampus

M Burgess of BCcampus joined the meeting to discuss open education resources. The University of Regina is interested in pursuing this idea and has had previous contact with M Burgess as a subject expert.

Burgess highlighted some of the advantages of open educational resources: cost savings to students, customization for students and faculty (enables faculty to update teaching resources based on student needs), availability for printing, easy accessibility for sharing, and the ability to localize information.

The Chair sees OER as a valuable commodity to the University community. The challenge is to help people understand their benefits.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 10:15 AM

NEXT MEETING 30 January 2015 8:30 – 10:00 AM (AH 527)
