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*MEETING NOTES*

Friday 27 November 2015 / 8:30 – 10:00 am / AH 527

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<b>MEMBERS</b>	T Chase (Chair), L Benko, D Cherwaty, J Crivea, R Konecsni, R Petry, C Reyda, N Wagner
<b>GUESTS</b>	A Bagha, K Forbes (sustainability intern), A Palma (sustainability intern)
<b>REGRETS</b>	J Dale, S Robinson ( <i>URGSA Representative</i> ); URSU Representative

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**1. Call to order at 8:33 am.**

**2. Agenda, together with meeting notes of 25 September 2015, received without emendation.**

**3. Composting Project**

Third-year Biology student Atiyah Bagha presented on campus composting, drawing on her visits to several Ontario universities including Guelph, Ryerson, and Toronto. She is part of an RPIRG working group on composting, and noted that some sister universities have set very ambitious diversion rates (72% at Toronto, for example), as well as introducing vermicomposters, aerobic composters, rooftop gardens, and other sustainability initiatives on their campuses. She challenged PACS to involve high school students (something that could be combined with recruitment efforts) and work with current students and faculty members to advance composting on our campus while reducing the amount of material taken to landfills. A discussion followed regarding up-front and capital costs for some of these initiatives, the need to understand the business case for them, and the need to ensure we do not raise expectations beyond levels we can fulfill.

**4. Update from Sustainability Coordinator**

Sustainability co-ordinator Carol Reyda provided updates on the *Sustainability and Community Engagement Fund* (of the 9 projects funded last year, 7 are complete; there is approximately \$30,000 to be allocated in the current year; allocations will be recommended by a committee with majority representation from students); *BUS 413 Social Marketing* (Dr Cismaru's class is investigating issues such as bottled drinks, transit, and fitness); *Transit directions on UR Events Page* (now in place); *Sustainability Strategic Plan* (now approved in principle by President Timmons, with a launch event being planned for mid- to late January with PACS and the President in attendance).

Further discussion on the SSP centred on the advisability of having designated individuals, perhaps members of PACS, facilitating individual foci (e.g., waste, transit) within the SSP, and the implications for PACS membership structure.

Carol was congratulated for her efforts in getting the University of Regina into the AAHSE's STARS reporting system. U of R data are now publicly accessible at

<https://stars.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-regina-sk/report/2295/> .

**5. Update from ad hoc committee on terms of reference**

Revised terms of reference will be brought to PACS for discussion at the 29 January 2016 meeting.

**6. Annual Report to the President**

With several minor changes, the report was approved for transmission to the President.

**7. Open Educational Resources**

The Chair noted that the province has fulfilled its commitment to provide \$250,000 over three years for the preparation of Open Textbooks. The University of Regina Press, under the leadership of Bruce Walsh, will be the co-ordinating office on our campus for these efforts.

**8. Sustainability Certificate**

PACS unanimously endorsed the certificate proposal as being congruent with the University's sustainability initiatives. Like all program proposals, the certificate proposal will make its way through the various collegial bodies for discussion and approval.

**9. RCE Saskatchewan Update**

L Benko and R Petry updated PACS on recent and upcoming RCE events, including the 4 May 2016 recognition event to be held at the Treaty 4 Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle.

**10. Federal Government mandate for Environmental & Climate Change**

The Prime Minister's letter to the new Minister of Environment and Climate Change was circulated.

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**ADJOURNMENT at 10:03 AM**

**NEXT MEETING 29 January 2016 8:30 – 10:00 AM (AH 527)**

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