
MEETING NOTES

27 January 2017 / 8:30 – 9:30 am / AH 527

MEMBERS T Chase (Chair), E Boyle (*for N Wagner*), D Cherwaty, J Crivea, J Dale, C Reyda, R Petry, A Rutko,

REGRETS R Khanam (*GSA rep*), R Konecni, N Okere (*PACS student support*), S Young (*Leave*)

1. **Call to order at 8:30 am.**
2. **Agenda approved with the addition of one item: *Geothermal update*. Meeting notes of 25 November 2016 received without emendation.**

LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

3. Fair trade campus certification initiative: update

D Cherwaty met with B Welsh to further discuss the reality of becoming a Fair Trade Certified campus. The requirements are achievable but the cost increase may not be something the University Community is prepared for. PACS members agreed that full certification is pre-mature but certainly something to work toward. University vendors will be encouraged to offer fair trade options and the communications sub-committee will work on communicating the benefits of fair trade options. As fair trade options become more popular PACS will re-visit becoming a fully certified fair trade campus.

4. Communications campaign update

The communications sub-committee meets after each scheduled PACS meeting to discuss outcomes and various initiatives coming from the meetings. This sub-committee is actively using the Sustainability list serve and plans to continue to provide updates on Sustainability to the President for inclusion in her monthly emails to campus.

WASTE, ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION

5. Reduction of paper coffee cups: potential campaign?

A Rutko advised members that the President of URSU approached Chartwells with the idea of offering student incentives (10% off their purchase or punch cards offering a free coffee) for using their own cups. The outcome of that conversation is not known and A Rutko will update PACS as information becomes available. Members discussed additional possibilities like working with the bookstore to offer UR coffee mugs at a discount and/or providing coffee mugs to new students as swag at orientation. J Crivea will discuss this possible campaign idea with the communications sub-committee.

6. Coffee grounds recycling pilot program

The coffee grounds recycling pilot project started this week and start-up expenses have been incurred. PACS agreed to cover those start-up costs using the funds from the sustainability community engagement fund. If this project is deemed successful the project team will explore how it will be funded on an ongoing basis.

The communications sub-committee will work with the project team and external relations to bring some profile to this sustainability initiative.

OPERATIONS AND OTHER ISSUES

7. PACS support: N Okere

Nwakaku Okere, past sustainability intern, has been hired part-time to provide support to PACS. Her primary duties are to organize and maintain the UR Sustainability email address, maintain an online presence through Facebook and Twitter, update the sustainability website with current and relevant information, and to work on announcing and supporting this year's SCEF.

N Okere brought to PACS attention an email regarding the amount of paper magazines being wasted. Numerous issues of *Degrees*, *Carillon*, *The Crow* etc. are being printed and not being read. Members discussed options around reduction and the communications sub-committee will work with URSU, UR Alumni, Journalism and other necessary partners to bring this sustainability initiative forward.

Funding for a permanent Sustainability Coordinator position will be requested in the 2017-18 budget. The Chair will keep the committee updated as necessary.

8. Indigenization representation on PACS

Members agree that at this point there is no real need to have permanent representation from the Office of Indigenization or the IAC but that an open invitation to join meetings still stands. J Crivea is a member of both PACS and the IAC and will continue to share necessary information between both groups.

9. Geothermal Update

A working committee has been created and the project continues to receive positive feedback. The cost of this project is high and the working committee is looking to industry for their interest and potential funding opportunities. J Dale and E Boyle will work with external relations to generate a story outlining the previous and current energy costs, the reduction that has already been seen and how geothermal energy can further reduce costs to this University.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 9:35 AM

NEXT MEETING 31 March 2017 8:30 – 10:00 AM (AH 527)
