

**Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

December 7, 2016

Committee meeting held in the Independent Centre Boardroom, Thompson Rivers University,  
Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:00 PM.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>ATTENDANCE</b> (there is one Board appointed vacancy)		
<b>Present:</b>	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of General Counsel); Karl Fultz; Jim Gudjonson; Jessica Heney; Crystal Huscroft (Vice Chair); Aanchal Mogla (new student member); Rory McKerchar; Courtney Mason; Michael Mehta; Amie Schellenberg; Wayne Singular (Chair); Peter Tsigaris;	
<b>Participating by Teleconference:</b>	None.	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Warren Asuchak; Tom Dickinson; Paul Michel; Susan Purdy; Glenn Read; Marjorie Serack	
<b>Guests:</b>	none	
<b>Others:</b>	James Gordon (note-taker; TRU Sustainability Office (TRUSO)); Aaron Wiebe (TRUSO); Natalie Yao (TRUSO)	
<b>CALL TO ORDER &amp; WELCOMES</b>	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:05 pm by the Vice-Chair. New student member Aanchal Mogla (Faculty of Law) was welcomed, and all members introduced themselves.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<i>On motion duly made by Courtney, seconded by Amie, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distribute.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	<i>Minutes of November 2, 2016. Due to missing information, it was resolved to table the approval of the minutes until the next meeting. Approving Minutes from ESAC Visioning Session of May 2, 2016. On motion duly made by Karl, seconded by Courtney, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED that since these are not official meeting minutes, to only include them in the ESAC Sharepoint site under 'Notes'.</i>	
<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	None.	

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MINUTES**

**Sustainability as the theme for the upcoming February 22 TRU In-Service Day.** Jim mentioned that he met with Larry Phillips, Lucille, Doris, and some other folks from the HR department. They're still looking for a keynote speaker or several speakers. Possible speakers include Doug McKenzie-Mohr, (best-selling author of the book *Fostering Sustainable Behaviour*), or perhaps someone who can speak about future trends (for example what is a vision for higher education or the energy sector in 20 or 30 years, or what do future generations think the future will look like?). Break-out sessions around the theme of 'what does the future look?' like could be very compelling. Also needing to be confirmed are details on are the main five or six themes for the day. Possible themes are: transportation, energy, waste, water, and health/wellness. Jim also mentioned that it's important to recall that the event is for staff and not students; as well that it's important to think about the connection between what we do at work and how this could be translated to what we do at home, and vice a versa. James mentioned that he will contact all members of the In-Service Day ESAC subcommittee about the possibility of an upcoming meeting (Tom, Karl, Wayne, Jim) .

**James**

**On work of sub-committee looking at issues to do with entrenching and infusing sustainability into TRU curriculum.**

Due to Susan's absence, all of these items are tabled:

- Re the February Teaching Practices Colloquium at TRU, Susan wants to quickly touch-base to see if anyone has submitted proposals.
- How things going re attracting TRU faculty to join the new ESAC TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee.
- On possibility of attending one of ASSHE's workshops on the 'nuts and bolts' of getting sustainability content into the curriculum (there is one Jan 5/6 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia).
- Her presentation to the TRU Senate in order to find out their views on embedding sustainability in the curriculum.

**Susan**

**Updates to new ESAC Sharepoint site** - James reported that he has not had time to do anything, but, with the help of Aaron Weibe, the new student coop student in the Sustainability Office, will pursue this

**James**

for the next meeting.

**Vision for EAC.** Wayne encouraged everyone to look over the visioning session minutes over the holidays, and he will discuss the main themes at the January meeting. James and Wayne will meet to lay out a basic discussion agenda.

All  
James &  
Wayne

Jim discussed how it would be great if this committee is interested in pursuing initiatives that correspond with initiatives that the sustainability office is pursuing (for instance 3 to 5 top choices), since this would lend credibility to the Office's efforts. In particular, he mentioned that he thought there was a great opportunity to 'move the dial forward' regarding a sustainability purchasing policy that would gauge all TRU purchases in light of over-all sustainability factors.

**Discuss joining Canadian Universities Environmental Network -**

- Tom's report is tabled (re if the Provost has approved joining network, and what next steps there might be).
- James asked if there was any interest in attending the May 24/25 conference in the Yukon, and there was not.

Tom

**Administration of the Sustainability Grant Fund.** Crystal described two types of grants available to UBC faculty for the promotion of sustainability in the curriculum. They include the following:

1. Pathway grants (2 year grants) that enable a faculty member to develop sustainability pathways (minors/certificates/credentials) within their discipline. This is also used to develop new courses to allow students to develop sustainability attributes.
2. Spotlight grants (1 year- \$5000) are used to revamp existing courses to allow students to develop sustainability attributes.

Previous grant holders become "Sustainability Fellows". Who meet weekly in order to support current grant holders by forming a community of practice. Crystal is still waiting to hear back on the process used to award the grants, and will report on this at the next meeting.

Crystal

**Waste/composting food from retailers on campus**

- James reported that a zero waste station (without compost) is being delivered to the TRU classrooms at the City’s water treatment plant. **James**
- Since discussion around this issue was not recorded in the Minutes from the last meeting, this topic was tabled, along with the bullet below. **Amie**
  - Jim to report on what Glenn Read and Jessica Papineau said about presenting to the ESAC on what Aramark does on issues to do with food waste and food options. **Jim**

**Ensuring proper process for awarding Environmental Achievement Award (now changed to Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award)** – Tabled by Wayne until the January 11 meeting. **Wayne**

**How to facilitate regular two-way communication between strategic campus groups and our committee.** Tabled by Wayne until the January 11 meeting. **Wayne**

**List of which committees ESAC members currently sit on.** James reported that has received responses from roughly half of the ESAC members. He will compile the list and send it to all ESAC members. **James**

**Chairperson position needs filling after January.** Wayne reported that he will have to step down from the chair after the January meeting due to his teaching schedule. He will continue to help with the two sub-committees has is currently on (In-Serve Day, and Sustainability Education in the Curriculum). **All**

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

None.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Metrio sustainability dashboard** –Aaron Wiebe, Sustainability Office coop student, has been setting up this real-time digital dashboard that will be input with data regularly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly on a broad range of sustainability, energy and other initiatives around the campus. Jim hopes to unveil it at the February In-Service Day.  
**Zip Cars** – TRU will have 2 hybrids sometime next semester, with more coming as soon as all systems are in order.  
**Energy Retrofit** - TRU will undergo another energy retrofit worth \$1.7 million in cooperation with Fortis over the next 18 months.  
**Energy efficiency projects for McGill off-campus housing** - TRU’s

new acquisition of the McGill off-campus housing presents many opportunities for energy efficiency projects. Approximately \$2 million will be spent to upgrade it. Michael Mehta mentioned that one of his classes looked at these buildings and concluded that they are very well suited for a solar PV installation.

**New Trades building** – once complete, it will be very energy wise, super-insulated, and will have a minimum of 10% of its power coming from solar installations.

**BC Hydro recognition** - TRU was just recognized by BC Hydro as the BC university with the highest percent reduction in electricity use.

**CORRESPONDENCE** None.

**NEXT MEETING** **January meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday**. Since classes don't start until January 9, the meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, noon to 1:30 in the Independent Centre Boardroom.

**ADJOURNMENT** 1:25 PM.

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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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*Signature of Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Chair (if required)*