

UA Sustainability Committee February 8, 2010 Meeting

Present: Fred Cowett, Jeannine Crouse, Frank DiSalvo, Fil Eden, Marty Hatch, Dan Roth, Zellman Warhaft

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Dan Roth will write draft letter regarding absence of mention of sustainability within the Strategic Plan for submission to the UA at its next meeting.**
 - **Committee members will review and revise this draft as needed.**
 - **Committee members are encouraged to attend the meeting to coordinate Earth Week activities scheduled for February 9, 2010 at 4:30 pm in Rice 300.**
 - **The next Committee meet is scheduled for March 8, 2010 at 12:15 pm.**
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AGENDA:

I. Consideration of Strategic Plan and Sustainability

- The Committee discussed the virtual absence of any mention of sustainability in the most recently published draft of the University's Strategic Plan.
- Committee members expressed concerns that this absence signifies an inadequate commitment to sustainability within the University's Administration and represents a backwards step from the commitment to sustainability made by former President Lehmann.
- It was resolved by the Committee to write a letter expressing these concerns addressed to the Strategic Planning Committee for submission to the UA for its consideration at its meeting on February 10, 2010.
- Dan Roth agreed to write a first draft of the letter and e-mail this draft to Sustainability Committee members for review and revision as needed.
- Committee members also agreed that suggestions would be made to other University organizations and constituencies interested in sustainability to write letters of their own expressing their additional concerns regarding the Strategic Plan to the Administration and Strategic Planning Committee.

II. Discussion of Organizational Meeting on February 9, 2010 to Coordinate Earth Week Activities

- The Committee discussed the role it should take on with respect to coordinating Earth Week activities.
 - The Committee has no resources of its own, nor the inclination, to put on events.
 - It might be more appropriate for the Committee to solicit a letter from President Skorton supporting the "theme" of Earth Week events.
- The Committee next discussed what it wanted to get out of the organizational meeting:
 - To help facilitate coordination between different groups.
 - To get groups to think about Earth Week as a whole as well as Sustainability Month.
 - To consider creative ways to introduce an Earth Week theme (not done last year).
- Committee members were encouraged to attend the organizational meeting and many confirmed they would do so.

III. Brief Discussion Regarding the Reorganization of Facilities Department

- ECOS no longer exists but has been merged with Energy Management as part of an Office of Energy and Sustainability.
- Roles of personnel within these offices may have changed.

IV. Schedule of Future Committee Meetings

- The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 8, 2010 at 12:15.