

Council Members Present (via Zoom):

Carlo Colella Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer (Chair)
Scott Lupin Assoc. Director, Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk; Director, Office of Sustainability
Kelley Bishop Assistant Vice President, Division of Student Affairs
Maureen Kotlas Executive Director, Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk
Susan Corry Director, Engineering & Energy
Bryan Quinn Director of Technical Operation, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
Eric Wachsman Director, MD Energy Innovation Institute; Professor, Materials Science & Engineering
Stephanie Lansing Professor, Environmental Science & Technology
Giovanni Baiocchi Associate Professor, Geographical Sciences
Jennifer Hadden Associate Professor, Government & Politics
Laura McBride Graduate Student Representative
Marie Panday Undergraduate Student Representative; Campus Forest Carbon Project Member

Guest Attendees:

Rachel Lamb — Maryland Sea Grant State Science Policy Fellow, MD Dept. of the Environment; Campus Forest Carbon Project Team Member
Camille Delett; Maddy Albee; Amelia Patterson; Jarrett James — Campus Forest Carbon Project Members
Christopher Ho — Civil Engineer, Facilities Management

Meeting start time: 11:00am

Meeting Highlights

Welcome

Carlo Colella welcomes all Council members and guest speakers to the meeting.

Sustainability Fund Proposals – M. Panday

Marie Panday presented to the Council on the Sustainability Fund budget and proposals (Appendix A). In addition to the proposals discussed in the November meeting, the Sustainability Fund Review Committee is moving forward three additional proposals:

- *Future of Sustainable Food:*
 - This project requests funding to offset the associated costs of switching food procurement to more sustainable options, specifically locally grown grains, plant-based meat alternatives, and seaweed. The cost covers the difference between current procurement expenses and the more sustainable option.
 - The Council **unanimously approved** this project proposal.
- *Building Hope, a Podcast about Projects of Possibility:*
 - This project was previously discussed in the December 2021 Council meeting and has returned with an updated budget that removes the faculty salary, graduate student costs,

domestic travel, and design costs. The proposal also saw an increase in the number of undergraduate student positions available.

- The Council **unanimously approved** this project proposal.
- **UMD Wye Research and Education Campus iTree Analysis:**
 - This proposal requested funding to conduct an extensive iTree analysis on the WyeREC property, building on a recent inventory of 29 acres of the space. The funds are matched by WyeREC and support undergraduate student involvement.
 - The Council **unanimously approved** this project proposal.

Including Forest Carbon in UMD’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory and CAP 3.0 – R. Lamb; C. Delett; M. Panday; M. Albee; A. Patterson; J. James

This presentation by the Campus Forest Carbon Project student research team highlights progress towards monitoring and reporting campus forest carbon flux. Funded by the Sustainability Fund, this project was specifically created to help the university calculate the carbon sequestered by campus forests using high-resolution LiDAR and 3D optical imagery data. The project has since expanded in scope to include models capturing the carbon storage potential gap, the impacts of land use changes on UMD’s carbon storage, and ideal locations for reforestation. It has also started the process to create a peer-verified carbon offset protocol (Appendix B).

Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Report (2021) Follow-Up Discussion – S. Lupin

While the Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Report was endorsed by the Council, a few Council members shared feedback and questions to discuss. In summary:

- The 2021 Water Use and Watershed Report captures current progress in high-priority areas and identifies the Water Workgroup and Steering Committee goals for the next three to five years. It may not directly correspond to the goals in the 2014 report as attempts to meet these goals, new conditions, and increased knowledge have altered the high-priority areas. Additionally, the 2021 report refrained from including projects that are tied to larger initiatives like the NextGen Energy Project or the Facilities Master Plan renewal.
- The State of Maryland strictly regulates stormwater and UMD is extensively permitted. For example, at all redevelopment and new construction all stormwater runoff is required to mirror pre-development conditions, preventing flooding and ensuring quality control. Compliance with stormwater regulation varies by site, nullifying the usefulness of a campus-wide required stormwater management approach or minimum requirement.

Open Forum –

The Sustainability Council thank Chris Ho and other members of the Water Workgroup and Steering Committee for their continued efforts to manage stormwater on campus. Chris Ho was also lauded for his work on the campus creek restoration project.

Adjourn 1:00 pm

Appendices:

Appendix A: Sustainability Fund Proposals (March 2022)

Appendix B: Including Forest Carbon in UMD’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory and CAP 3.0