



Meeting Summary
May 8, 2015

Council Members Present:

Carlo Colella, Vice President for Administration and Finance (Chair)
Linda Clement, Vice President for Student Affairs
Steve Fetter, Associate Provost
Russell Furr, Director, Environmental Safety
Scott Lupin, Associate Director, Environmental Safety, and Director, Office of Sustainability
Rob Hermstein, Assistant Director, Department of Engineering and Energy
David Cooper, Assistant Director of IT Operations
Bryan Quinn, Director of Technical Operation, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Ori Gutin, Director of Sustainability, Student Government Association
Matthew Dahlhausen, Graduate Student, Mechanical Engineering

Guests:

Stephen Reid, Environmental Planner, Facilities Management

Meeting start time: 1:00pm

Meeting Highlights

Welcome and Review of April 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Carlo Colella, Vice President for Administration and Finance, welcomed the Council members and called the meeting to order.

Annual Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Status Report

Stephen Reid, Environmental Planner with Facilities Management, presented the annual Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Status Report to the Council. The recommendations contained in the report were issued by the Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Workgroup in 2013, and the report was finalized in spring of 2014. Now, a steering committee and various subcommittee regularly meet to address the recommendations. It has been a year since those subcommittees began meeting, and it has been decided that several "priority initiatives" should be pulled out of the original report and given immediate attention. The priority initiatives are as follows:

- Create and fund a full-time, Water Resource Manager position within Facilities Management
- Address the cooling towers and discharge from the indoor pool at Eppley Recreation Center
- Develop an asset inventory and analyze impervious surface areas on campus
- Conduct water capture/water reuse feasibility study (water audit)
- Pursue and complete Campus Creek restoration project
- Develop a campus-wide watershed plan/strategy
- Develop internal funding mechanisms and seek ways to generate funding for these projects

As a university, we are making progress on these recommendations. Prioritizing specific recommendations will help to focus resources and attention on projects that will ultimately have a big impact on campus water use.

University Sustainability Fund Projects

Ori Gutin, Director of Sustainability for the Student Government Association, presented four University Sustainability Fund Projects for the Council to review:

Greek Composting Initiative

A group of students affiliated with Greek Life submitted a proposal requesting \$8,432.00 to expand composting to all 21 chapter houses at the university (currently, only 14 of the chapter houses have the ability to compost. The funds would be used to purchase indoor and outdoor compost bins and compostable bags. The Student Subcommittee recommended approving the request for \$5,932.00, excluding a request to fund incentives. The Council voted to approve the request for \$5,932.00.

Small Footprint Pledge to Install Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

The Office of Sustainability and LEAF Outreach Team submitted a proposal requesting \$1,500.00 to provide a free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) to each person who commits to changing out an inefficient bulb through the Small Footprint Pledge program. The Council voted to approve the request for \$1,500.00.

Sustainable Tailgating

A group of students from the College Park Scholars Environment Technology and Economy program submitted a proposal requesting \$2,666.00 to improve waste diversion at tailgating events through the use of better signage on dumpsters. The Student Subcommittee recommended approving the request for \$2,130.00, excluding a request to fund the purchase of trash bags. The Council voted to approve the request for \$2,130.00.

Sustainability Mini-Grants Year 2

Ori Gutin of the Student Subcommittee submitted a proposal requesting \$10,000.00 to retain and expand the current mini-grants program within the University Sustainability Fund. This would increase the amount of funds allocated for small, low-budget sustainability projects from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 next year. Given the high volume of interest and mini-grant applications this past year, increasing the funding for the mini-grants program could allow more projects to be funded in the future. The Council voted to approve the request for \$10,000.00.

In addition, Scott Lupin, Director of Sustainability, discussed possible changes to the structure of the application process for the 2015-2016 Sustainability Fund cycle. The Council agreed to move the priority application deadline from October 1st to October 15th to give faculty and staff additional time to submit all application materials. The Council also agreed that the second application deadline on January 15th should be open to faculty and staff applications, in addition to applications from students. However, all applicants will be encouraged to submit their proposals on the priority deadline date of October 15th in order to ensure a more timely decision.

Matthew Dahlhausen, Graduate Student in Mechanical Engineering, suggested creating a process for Council members to review and vote on Sustainability Fund Projects online. After a short discussion, the Office of Sustainability elected to look into the feasibility of this idea, and determine if having Council members review and vote on low-budget projects (<\$25,000) remotely would be successful.


New Ideas/Issues from Committee Members

Scott Lupin, Director of the Office of Sustainability, discussed several projects that his office has slated for the upcoming year. These projects include managing the newly-formed Carbon Offset Workgroup, updating the Climate Action Plan (and meeting with stakeholder groups over the summer months to discuss necessary revisions), and redesigning the Office of Sustainability's website.

In addition, Carlo Colella recognized and thanked several Council members who have reached the end of their term on the University Sustainability Council:

- David Lovell, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Margaret McFarland, Director, Real Estate Development Program
- Ori Gutin, Director of Sustainability, Student Government Association
- Matthew Dahlhausen, Graduate Student, Mechanical Engineering

Adjourn: 3:00pm



Sustainable Water Use and Watershed 2015 Annual Report

University Sustainability Council

Stephen Reid
UMD Environmental Planner
May 8, 2015

Why Water and Why Now?

- Increasing costs for water and sewer services
- Existing and forthcoming regulations increasingly more stringent
- Critical infrastructure is aging and need to start planning for long-term maintenance to ensure reliability
- UMD has a history of sustainable environmental excellence

To address these emerging issues, the Sustainability Council established the Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Workgroup in 2012.

- The Workgroup issued several recommendations in October, 2013
- Sustainability Council reviewed and approved 13 recommendations in March and April, 2014
- The 13th recommendation was to provide an annual progress report to the Sustainability Council



UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
**SUSTAINABLE WATER USE
AND WATERSHED REPORT**

May 2014



 sustainableumd

Activities Since Approval of Final Report

- Facilities Management took the lead role
- Created a Steering Committee and Subcommittees for each initiative
- Subcommittees focused on feasibility, scope, and resources needed to implement
- Recognize need to prioritize recommendations
 - These issues are complex and technical
 - These initiatives are related to each other or require a sequential implementation approach

Priority Initiatives Staff are currently working on:

- Create and fund a Water Resource Manager Position (Rec 1)
- Address cooling tower and Eppley Pool Pac discharges
- Develop asset inventory, asset condition, and analyze impervious areas (Recs 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12)
- Conduct water capture/reuse feasibility (water audit) and prioritize strategies for reducing potable water consumption (Recs 2, 3, 4, 5)

Priority Initiatives Staff are currently working on:

- Develop internal funding mechanism and seek ways to generate funding (Recs 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10)
- Pursue Campus Creek Restoration (Rec 11)
- Develop watershed plan/strategy (Recs 1 thru 12)
 - existing and anticipated MS4 permit requirements
 - Water harvesting/reuse
 - Integrate infrastructure conditions and lifecycle replacement



Water is the best of
all things

Pindar (Olympian Odes)

Questions?