

Council members present:

Rob Specter, Vice President for Administration and Finance (Chair)
Linda Clement, Vice President for Student Affairs
John Farley, Assistant Vice President for Administrative Affairs
Ann Tonggarwee, Assistant to President
Scott Lupin, Associate Director, Environmental Safety and Director, Office of Sustainability
Joan Kowal, Energy Manager, Facilities Management
Bryan Quinn, Director of Technical Operations, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Jay Elvove, Manager, OIT
Monette Bailey, Senior Writer/Editor, University Relations
Ross Salawitch, Professor, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences
Steve Hutcheson, Professor, Cell Biology & Molecular Genetics
Carol Rogers, Professor, Journalism
Clark Rushing, Graduate Student, Biology
Karina French, Undergraduate Student, English and Geography

Meeting start time: 9:00 am

Meeting Highlights

Discussion on Sustainable Buildings and Energy Sources Work Group Report and Recommendations

At the April 5th Council meeting, Carlo Colella, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Chair of the Sustainable Buildings and Energy Sources Work Group, presented a report from the work group. The report includes two policy recommendations and two additional strategies that, in combination, will help the university achieve its Climate Action Plan goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2020. Council members had a month to review the report and recommendations in preparation for today's discussion. The following is a summary of main points.

- The university receives \$500,000 per year in the Energy Reserve Fund for curtailing 9 megawatts of electricity during regional peak demand events. Energy Reserve Fund money is one instrument to pay for energy upgrades and renewable energy purchases.
- Deans/colleges should be recognized for their sustainability efforts.
- Deans/colleges should see real-time energy usage for their facilities.
- Collaboration within a building is important for achieving energy reduction goals. FM would meet with building stakeholders and explain the menu of options and resources.
- 2011 will be the baseline year for measurement but FM can count back to 2005 for a building that has been working on energy conservation since then.
- Renewable energy purchases would be blended into the campus utility rate and would not be the burden of any one unit.
- Ask the 50 researchers with the most energy intensive labs what they can do to reduce energy consumption.

Council members debated the value in adopting the work group's recommendations as campus policy or internal goals. A couple Council members raised concern about setting goals as policy and then not achieving those goals. Other Council members thought policy would be better since goals can be more easily ignored. Several commented that setting the goals in policy will show that the campus leadership is committed to achieving its Climate Action Plan targets and would encourage cooperation between units.

At the end of discussion, the Council voted in favor of advising the University President to adopt the Policy on Carbon Neutral New Development and the Policy on Implementing Energy Conservation in Existing Buildings. Rob Specter (Chair) suggested reconstructing the policies into simple policy statements with accompanying implementation guidelines that could be revised, as needed. FM and OS staff will prepare and send revised policies and implementation guidelines to the Council for final comment before being presented to the President's Office.

University Sustainability Fund – Final Student Subcommittee Recommendations

Karina French presented the Student Advisory Subcommittee's fourth and final round of recommendations for projects to be funded through the University Sustainability Fund. This last request was just to add \$1000 to the Terps Heart the Tap program in order to add a water bottle filling station in the Career Center. Vote: All in favor.

This marks the end of the 2012-2013 funding cycle of the University Sustainability Fund. The Fund started this cycle with \$311,454.79. A total of 18 projects received \$251,820 in grants, leaving \$59,634.79 to carry forward to the 2013-2014 funding cycle.

Campus/Community Development

Rob Specter concluded the meeting with a brief presentation about the university's evolving development goals in College Park. The City of College Park, Prince George's County, and university are working together to:

1. Improve housing stock and amenities and increase the percentage of owner-occupied homes
2. Improve local schools and expand childcare for university employees
3. Advocate for the Purple Line
4. Improve public safety
5. Improve sustainability throughout the community

Rob also mentioned that the university is considering developing a hotel and conference center on the parking lot behind Rossborough Inn.

Adjourn: 11:00 am