



Meeting Summary May 5, 2014

Council members present:

Carlo Colella, Vice President for Administration and Finance (Chair)
Linda Clement, Vice President for Student Affairs
Susan Corry, Energy Conservation Manager, Facilities Management
John Farley, Assistant Vice President for Administration and Finance
Steve Fetter, Associate Provost
Ori Gutin, Director of Sustainability, Student Government Association
David Lovell, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Scott Lupin, Associate Director, Environmental Safety, and Director, Office of Sustainability
Margaret McFarland, Director, Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development
Bryan Quinn, Director of Technical Operation, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Carol Rogers, Professor, Journalism
Scott Tjaden, Graduate Student, Environmental Science and Technology
Eric Wachsman, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering, and Director, Energy Research Center

Guests: David Cronrath, Dean, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Russell Furr, Director, Department of Environmental Safety
Annie Rice, Student Sustainability Committee, Student Government Association

Meeting start time: 1:00 PM

Meeting Highlights

Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Report

Recommendations approved with amendments discussed at April 4 Council meeting and detailed in the approved minutes.

Education for Sustainability Workgroup Report

David Cronrath, Chair of the Education for Sustainability Workgroup and Dean of the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, presented an overview of the workgroup's objectives, process, learning outcomes, and recommendations. See Appendix for the full workgroup report.

Council members discussed some of the recommendations, including the possibility for a Living Labs portal/clearing house and the benefits of virtual information versus physical signage.

Sustainability Fund Revisions

Scott Lupin and Ori Gutin presented recommendations to revise the University Sustainability Fund process for a pilot year to begin September 1, 2014. These recommendations, which were designed around fostering greater student involvement and expediting the review process, included:

- An orientation for student members of the Subcommittee to learn about sustainability initiatives and background on campus.
- Mandatory minimum criteria for projects- Makes specific criteria mandatory for a proposal to move forward for review by the Student Advisory Subcommittee. The Office of Sustainability will review submissions for the mandatory criteria, and those that do not meet the minimum will not go forward. This will better manage the Subcommittee's workload, number of meetings and shorten the total review period.
- Further revision of the review criteria to better reflect the weighted factors that are considered in approving proposals.
- Staggered deadlines: Move the proposal submittal deadline for the faculty, students and staff from November 1 to October 1 and add second deadline, January 1, for students only. This will provide students and student organizations additional time to develop a project proposal. At most, 75% of funds would be allocated to proposals submitted by October 1. The subcommittee will keep at least 25% of the fund in reserve for proposals submitted by January 1.

These changes were approved for a pilot year.

New Ideas

Council members discussed an apparent gap in communication for some projects on campus that involve sustainability. Many people are unaware of sustainability when it is not visible – for example, in the University House Renovation. The university should highlight sustainability aspects of major events and programs including Maryland Day, the new Hotel and Visitor Center, and other major projects.