

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Planning Committee

Campus Governance

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**Planning Committee Meeting
Prairie Lounge
Wednesday, April 3, 2013**

Present: Margaret Kuchenreuther (chair), Jim Barbour, Charles Cain, Michael Eble, Julie Eckerle, Jim Hall, Arne Kildegaard, Jane Kill, Sarah Mattson, Lowell Rasmussen,

Absent: Leslie Meek, Jordan Wentle

Guest: Troy Goodnough, Sustainability Coordinator

- ▶ Margaret brought the meeting to order. She introduced Troy Goodnough, UMM's Sustainability Coordinator. Also, she explained part of Troy's purpose with the Planning Committee is to introduce a resolution proposing establishment of the "Green Team" as subcommittee reporting to the Planning Committee.
- ▶ Troy joined the meeting to explain the function of the Office of Sustainability and update the committee on sustainability initiatives at UMM. One of these is the "Green Team," which has been active since 2009. Originally, this team was a part of the CRPC, but when the constitution changed, that official relationship was suspended. The Sustainability Coordinator position was established in 2006 through the initiative of Lowell Rasmussen and reported to Plant Services. In the meantime, the Office of Sustainability has been established, with the Green Team under its auspices. Now the Green Team no longer has a home in the UMM governance system. University-wide there is only one campus (UM, Rochester) that does not have an Office of Sustainability. At this meeting, Troy will present:
 - 1) The Office of Sustainability's mission, vision, and areas of work - so people know what the Office of Sustainability actually does
 - 2) The University of Minnesota System-wide Sustainability Report - so people can learn more about UMM's sustainability work
 - 3) The resolution to integrate the "Green Team" as a subcommittee of the Planning Committee. We are required through our sustainability commitments to have a "Green Team." It is important for us to be able to say that our work exists within the sphere of campus governance. At a minimum, the Green Team/Office of Sustainability would make a yearly report to the Planning Committee about sustainability progress and goals and receive some feedback.

The Morris Office of Sustainability exists for the following:

Vision: To see the Morris campus and community grow as a model of sustainability principles, practice and excellence.

Mission: The Morris Office of Sustainability (MOOS) works collaboratively with students, faculty, staff, and community partners to advance our shared sustainability aspirations. MOOS engages in the following areas:

Coordination:

We seek to be a resource and connector to the campus community and broader public. Our goal is to connect people, resources and interests together.

Accountability and Reporting

We work to: assess our sustainability progress, identify areas for future progress, celebrate the progress we have made, support champions for change in our community, and prompt future actions.

Communications, Messaging, and In-reach

We work to provide information to the campus community and broader public about the work that Morris is doing to advance sustainability.

Education and training

We work to provide opportunities for campus community members to learn more about sustainability and to access opportunities to improve their knowledge of sustainability principles and practice.

Faculty and staff support

We work to support faculty and staff to implement their sustainability-related goals in the classroom, in their research, in their programs, and in their day-to-day work.

Innovation, program creation and development

We work to identify potential areas for sustainability advancement and then create or support existing programs to further our progress. We work to find resources to create or strengthen programs.

Outreach, engagement and educational efforts with external partners

We work to develop relationships with external partners with shared sustainability aspirations, identify opportunities for collaboration, and to advance those opportunities with action. We also work to create

external educational opportunities that help inform the public about sustainability and to provide them with the knowledge and skills to further their own efforts.

Culture change

We work to catalyze and create a culture of sustainability on campus that is authentic and active. We work to celebrate the progress that has been made, to encourage sustainability champions to continue their progress, to bring new people into the conversation and work, and to appreciate our roots and history as we create the future we want to live in.

The Office of Sustainability is staffed by:

Troy Goodnough, Coordinator
Anne Rittgers, Assistant Coordinator (until her recent resignation)
Paige Scarbouoruh, Green Corp
Laura Ann Hunt, Sustainability Intern
Laura Yourd, Sustainability Intern
Alicia Beattie--Composting
MCSA now has 2 representatives (Joey Daniewicz and Aaron Goemann)
Indy Hall has floor dedicated to sustainability

Another role of the Office of Sustainability is reporting. UMM receives many requests to fill out sustainability report cards. Among the things these surveys ask are: Do you recycle, how do you get your energy, and many physical things. We also need to report how this is being carried over to classrooms or other areas of instruction/information and research. How do you invest your endowment? Sustainability has a very large picture. At its core, it is about relationships, not only with the environment but also with people, now and in the future.

In addition, in doing this the office works with other offices in the system and we prepare reports to present to the Board of Regents. Every year we need to report on our progress. (To see this report for year 2012 please go to <http://www.uservices.umn.edu/sustainableU/>. This is a 108 page document and we will not post the entire document here.)

Another important element is the University of Minnesota Regents' Policy on sustainability. Our University system is one of the few across the country that has a system-wide Sustainability Committee. All coordinators routinely talk with each other, engaging and planning things with our students, jointly conducting activities and then of course bragging about what we have accomplished and are working toward in the future.

A few things UMM needs to feel good about; we:

- cut our carbon footprint by 33%
- produce 60% of our electricity with our wind turbines
- have a Welcome Center with a LEED Gold rating
- are 1 of only 31 institutions to receive an AASHE STARS Gold rating (Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Sustainability for Tracking And Rating System)

The Green Team is an attempt to improve communication among people involved in sustainability on our campus and is looking for a home. The following is what we propose:

RESOLUTION FOR TRANSITION OF THE SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE FROM THE FORMER CRPC COMMITTEE TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Whereas, UMM is committed to sustainability, demonstrated by her mission and vision statements, evidenced by her ongoing physical and educational transformation, and by her sustainability-related commitments,

Whereas, UMM currently has a "Green Team" subcommittee dedicated to sustainability, formerly of the CRPC Committee,

Whereas, UMM is a signatory of the ACUPCC, AASHE STARS, and other various sustainability commitments. By making these commitments, UMM is obligated to form a sustainability committee,

Whereas, the Planning Committee (PC) has responsibility to oversee the human and physical resources of the campus, and therefore, this proposed committee best fits under the purview of this committee,

Therefore, be it resolved that the PC will oversee the Sustainability Subcommittee (“Green Team”), and the PC will work to examine sustainability-related issues that need attention on campus,

Let if further be resolved, that this Subcommittee would be chaired by the Campus Sustainability Director, and would have broad membership from across campus, including (10 people total)

- a. A chair/campus sustainability coordinator and assistant coordinator
- b. Two facilities staff members
- c. Representation from the Office of Residential Life (1)
- d. Representation from the faculty (1- either the Coordinator of Environmental studies or a designate)
- e. Representation from the students (2—appointed in consultation with MCSA)
- f. Representation from food services (1)
- g. Representation from communications (1)

- ▶ Margaret asked if there were any questions for Troy or discussion of the resolution. It seems that this resolution is under the purview of the Planning Committee.
- ▶ Julie said it seems logical for Troy to be on this Committee. She realizes it has to go back to several areas for approval; however, it makes sense for the Coordinator of the Sustainable Office to be part of this committee.
- ▶ Next meeting:
 - 1) we will vote on the resolution proposing the Green Team as subcommittee of this committee (after people have had time to read the resolution, think about it, see if it needs to be amended, etc.)
 - 2) Jim Hall will talk to us about the IT Audit.
 - 3) we also should have more data about our comparison group.

At the final meeting of the year, the goal will be to finalize our comparison group.

- ▶ Julie asked what the procedure is to allow the Sustainability Coordinator to become an ex-officio member to this committee?
- ▶ Margaret said she believes we have to recommend it to the Steering Committee, and they will bring it to the Campus Assembly and make an amendment to the constitution. This is to make it official...although anyone can come to meetings at any time because they are open to the public.

The next meeting is April 17th beginning at 4:00 pm.

PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING WILL BE IN THE MOCASSIN FLOWER ROOM.