

# **JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

## **Fall 2015 Roster**

### **Students For Sustainability (2)**

1. Laura Berry
2. Rachel Steffen

### **Student Association Environmental Sustainability Director & another member of Student Association**

- 1.
- 2.

### **Residence Hall Advisory Council (1)**

1. Jacob Schimmel (in a month expect a replacement- Chris Dziekan)

### **Green Fund Coordinator**

- 1.

### **Faculty or Instructional Academic Staff Representatives (5)**

1. Seth King
2. Barrett Klein (*Convener & Newfound Chair*)
3. Kelly Nowicki-Vanrooyen
4. John Ready
5. Lindsay Steiner

### **Academic Staff Council Representatives (3)**

1. Victor Hill
2. Dennis Rodenberg
3. Larry Slezniow

### **Classified Staff Council Representatives (2)**

1. Isaiah Burish
2. Rebecah Neitzel

### **STARS Assessment Coordinator (1)**

- 1.

### **Environmental Studies Program Faculty or Academic Staff Representative**

1. Shannon Amberg (*Secretary*)

### **University Center's Sustainability Coordinator**

1. Drea Higgins

### **Environmental Health, Occupational Safety, and Sustainability Program Manager**

1. Dan Sweetman

## JCES Sept 18, 2015

### Attendance:

Rebecah Neitzel  
Kelly Nowicki  
Dan Sweetman  
Shannon Amberg (Secretary)  
Larry Sleznikow  
Drea Higgins  
Barrett Klein (Chair)  
Dennis Rodenberg  
Victor Hill  
Lindsay Steiner

Guests: Nadia Carmosini, John Palmer, Chuck Lee

Selection of Chair: Larry nominated Barrett; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan; all in favor.

Selection of Secretary: Shannon self-nominated, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kelly; all in favor.

### Presentation by John Palmer on status of UW-L Vermicomposter:

- UW-L has had a vermicomposting partnership program for 5 years
- However, for the past year the system has had no home.
- Mayo Health has joined the partnership and it is likely that UW-L will be turning the ownership of the system over to Mayo
- Mayo will provide a new location for the system near Washburn gardens.
- Mayo is looking for any interested students to intern with them.
- John did not know any specifics about the internship (i.e., duties, pay vs volunteer); however, students who are potentially interested should contact him and he will pass their information on to the caretakers of the vermicomposter
- Moving forward, UW-L is looking to try to add post-consumer organic waste; right now it is just pre-consumer waste because it must be well-sorted and students do not do a sufficiently good job at sorting.
- They are also looking at a dehydration system which should kill seeds

### Presentation by Chuck Lee from Friends of the Marsh (professor emeritus)

- Chuck provided a pamphlet on Friends of the Marsh and came to talk to JCES to make the group aware of ongoing plans for potentially building a road through the marsh.
- The group has been closely monitoring the transportation plans being developed for the City of La Crosse by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)
- DOT released proposals last week that project plans into 2050.
- The plans are said to use a Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL) approach
- The plans also use a "Level of Service" approach to quantify need for roads. This approach has been widely discounted because it only counts the number of cars using roads, it does not include buses, bikes, pedestrians, or look at the number of people within a car.
- The City of La Crosse has recommend that Level of Service not be used, but DOT continues to use it.
- The plans should work at limiting impacts to the environment, neighborhoods and businesses but little has been done to address the environment.

- An approach that the City is interested in using is called “Traffic Demand Management” or TDM. New businesses built in the city must incorporate into their business and operational plans ways to limit the demand of cars by their employees or clients. In this way new business must also try to solve traffic problems
- There will be an information meeting on Wed. Sept. 23 at Central High School. Chuck would share the time with Barrett who would pass it on to JCES.

Barrett concluded the meeting by asking JCES to send him ideas for this year’s charges which would be discussed at the upcoming meeting in two weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

## JCES October 2, 2015

### Attendance:

Shannon Amberg (Secretary)  
Barret Klein (Chair)  
Seth King (Assoc. Physics)  
Dennis Rodenberg  
Isaiah Burish  
Dan Sweetman  
Lindsay Steiner  
Larry Sleznirow

### Guests:

Rob Tyser

### **Discussion of Chancellor's Report:**

- General overview of the report
- It was asked (by Dennis) if there was a response from the Chancellor, but Barrett was not certain if there was. Was going to follow up.
- No questions about the report

### **Update on STARS rating Silver:** – Rob Tyser, Biology Professor Emeritus –

- Reviewing highlights of the report compiled by Kelly Nowicki
- Revisiting lack of resources to support a sustainability coordinator; lacking compared to other UW campuses (Parkside and Superior have no sustainability coordinators). La Crosse has a partial FTE that is not permanent allocation.
- Discussing what allocation would be necessary to carry out coordination of sustainability activities on campus (including STARS coordination); including 50% or 100% FTE appointment.
- Review of the STARS program layout and process for new JCES members.
- Recently attained Silver rating and not too far from a Gold rating – campus and community engagement could improve as well as the operations area.
  - Community service gets lower rating (student community service, not necessarily environmental sustainability related)
  - Employee educator program (low points)
  - Use of clean/renewable energy (low points) – mandated to buy a certain amount of clean electricity, but it's not a substantial amount.
  - Waste minimization (low points)
- Oversight of sustainability webpage – who needs to take that on? (Larry willingly does that work right now)
- Strengthen Greener Living committee in Residence Halls

### **Proposals for calls to action for Fall 2015**

Rob Tyser's ideas

- Develop a strategy by which the UWL Sustainability website can be regularly reviewed and kept up to date
- Careful review of our 2015 STARS report to see where our greatest need/opportunities are for improving (or maintaining) UWL's sustainability efforts.

- Creating a vision for a “UWL Sustainability Center” (its mission, structure, resource requirements) that could be conceptually supported by UWL Admin and funded by the UWL Foundation.
  - Consistency of people at the top would allow turnover of student interns that would help the center’s efforts and provide training.
  - Comments on this – not sure the feasibility of getting donors to support if administration isn’t fully on board. Maybe focusing on the more feasible efforts – tracking student community service, faculty/staff engagement, etc. (focus on the STARS categories that
- Given the 3-ringed circle model of sustainability (economic/social/environmental), should JCES consider a name change?
- Submit a STARS report once every two years to stay on top of the effort.
  - Forming a subcommittee for focusing attention on STARS

Shannon’s ideas:

- Plants in Centennial? (see notes on Google doc) We need to talk with Doug Pearson about this at a large scale, but maybe a student adopt-a-plant program?
- Integrating environmental sustainability points in walking tours of campus?

Barrett’s ideas:

- Development of JCES website, complete with mission statement, members, downloadable documents (bylaws), past and present student involvement, invitations to participate, etc.
- Continuation of sustainable purchasing efforts (i.e., purchasing green products at UWL; last year we formed a subcommittee that began to tackle this topic).
- Replacing toxic, disposable markers with nontoxic, reusable whiteboard markers (e.g., Auspen).
- Harter’s recycling plant field trip tour – anyone interested in a tour? Student want to make a video of the process at Harter’s? They have approved this and encourage it so people can learn about the recycling process. Dan Sweetman has \$2000 available for a student project to create a short video about the recycling process. Or pursue waste minimization and recycling enhancements on campus. Any student interested in doing this? Spread the word.
- Nick Nichols – guest speaker in JCES?

Barrett concluded meeting by asking JCES to send him ideas of students who could attend JCES, and invite students to work on aspects of STARS that we need student engagement (internships).

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

## JCES October 16, 2015

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein  
Victor Hill  
Kelly Nowicki  
Rob Tyser - Guest  
Seth King  
Laura Berry  
Rebecah Neitzel  
Isaiah A Burish  
Drea Higgins

1) Discussion on what the mission of the Committee currently is and if our name represents appropriately what we are charged to do. As we pursue a name change we want to consider our mission. Victor read our mission outloud and it was agreed that a name change would be appropriate to encompass the triple bottom line, not just the “environmental” part. Name change suggestions:

- a. Joint Committee on Environmental Sustainability
- b. Joint Committee on Sustainability
- c. Joint Council on Sustainability
- d. Joint Council on Campus Sustainability

Barrett will solicit additional names and we will look for a vote at our next meeting.

2) Discussion how to get Digital Measures to accommodate marks of sustainability. Patty Fairchild and Aaron Monte both were supportive of adding/adjusting the platform. Barrett will send out an email to the committee to ask for volunteers to pursue how/what this change will look.

3) An updated list of the JCES membership will be sent to Judith Albert by Barrett. A discussion ensued about filling the remaining spots with names.

4) Review the call to action:

1. Website subcommittee was discussed - possibly at next meeting we will discuss and bring to a vote for an official website coordinator/subcommittee as well as including projects in which faculty, staff and student organizations have done on campus to make environmental issues and sustainability more visual. Victor Hill kindly agreed to head this up.
2. Plans to invite Steve Sisul - Purchasing coordinator, or one of his team members into a JCES meeting so we can engage him with respect to sustainable purchasing. Included in this could be a discussion on buying non-toxic markers (Auspen).
3. Field trip/guest speakers including more students of Harters/Dynamic Recycling and Nick Nichols

Announcements:

1. A student of Barrett's is working as the intern with Mayo and Vermicomposter
2. Isaiah Burish announced that he has the Men's Track team volunteering to help clean up the graffiti on the bluff.

## JCES October 30, 2015

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein  
Shannon Amberg  
Kelly Nowicki  
Nadia Carmosini (guest)  
Isaiah Burish  
Dan Sweetman  
Drea Higgins  
Lindsay Steiner  
Steve Sicul (guest)  
Paige Frendahl (student)  
Laura Berry (student)  
Victor Hill  
Larry Sleznikow  
Rebecah Neitzel

- 1) Discussion of Green Fund schedule - everyone is okay with application submission and review process and deadlines.
  - a) Questions of whether or not we are getting the word out about availability of Green Fund monies to students, faculty, & staff.
  - b) How to get the word out better - online advertisement through the website?
  - c) Date on applications for green fund needs to be removed; now; suggestion to change the due date to first friday of November for fall semester & and the third friday of March for spring semester instead of specific dates.
  - d) Communicate with Ian Wright to update the website date
- 2) Move to approve minutes from October 2 & October 16
  - a) Kelly N. moved to approve Oct 2nd minutes, Barrett 2nds - approved unanimously
  - b) Victor H. moved to approve Oct 16th minutes, Kelly N. 2nds - approved unanimously
- 3) Forming a permanent subcommittee to handle the website information and updating
  - a) Kelly moved to approve; Barrett 2nds this
  - b) would there be interest for students in SFS to take over this responsibility? Laura Berry student representative is willing to search for interest in the club for someone to attach student articles on JCES website; could this student also be responsible for updating our website? Shannon asked if this could be an internship opportunity? Lindsay Steiner - professional writing students have internship program, may be interested.
- 4) Voting on Barrett's Nom du Jour - QH or Earl of the Earth :)
- 5) STARS subcommittee - Maggie McDermott, Rob Tyser, Laura Berry, Rachel Steffen
- 6) Dan Sweetman - checking with facilities about plants in Centennial Hall; facilities will not support the placement and maintenance of plants at this time.
- 7) Dan Sweetman - environmentally responsible-preferred purchasing policy - Steve Sicul here to discuss the possibilities; need to evaluate what is available, what is compliant to our current standards and what we can control vs. not control; he is willing to keep high awareness of the areas where environmentally friendly purchasing could be improved and or even an option; procedures for contract purchasing and may take some close examination. Willing to find out if there are existing areas for shifting purchases, or vendors who can offer products that would fit this. We don't have a centralized purchasing department - each area of buying would need to be

addressed (e.g., engineering, grounds, dining services, etc.). Who are the key stakeholders that are responsible for driving use (buying products for use in buildings)?

- a) Barrett asking about use of plastic silverware and dishware for one-time use on campus - Steve S. suggests talking with Chartwell's to work out different strategies. Shannon offers up that Campus Catering is very willing to use reusable plates and cups for events on campus. Matter of increasing awareness on campus for those who organize events with food.
  - b) Shannon suggests that JCES works on educating campus community about selecting reusable eating-ware for campus events; Kelly N. suggests we work with Chartwell's to make it an obvious option when ordering online catering.
  - c) Steve S. suggests that we work with Chartwell's on tracking the volume of use of both disposable and reusable eating-ware so we can set a benchmark and see how far we've shifted over time (could we get STARS points for this???)
  - d) Invite Chartwell's decision-makers to JCES meeting to discuss possibilities.
  - e) Drea H. suggests we look at the campus buildings that we have control of and look at which products we can work on replacing with eco-friendlier options, and maybe we'd see more impact in that effort. Dan Sweetman elaborates on the green cleaning policy for campus and availability of green cleaning materials for all campus buildings. We cannot ever be 100% green cleaning because EPA does not allow any disinfectant to be categorized as green cleaning.
  - f) Dan Sweetman - do we want to have a sub-committee that looks closely at purchasing policy? Action item for next meeting? Tabling this for today, but will get it on the agenda for next meeting and revisit again.
- 8) Old Business - Steve Carlyon about offensive graffiti on the bluffs; spoke about cleaning up on Earth Day 2016 - with the biology club & track team (not sure of the number of people needed); media present to build awareness; could be good for JCES raising awareness and sustainability topics.
- a) power-washing is the plan, but this could contribute to erosive damage; need to test out what method of removal would be best (maybe wire brushes).

Meeting adjourned at Noon.



## JCES November 13, 2015

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein	Spenser Garcia (Student Senate Rep)
Shannon Amberg	Lindsay Steiner
Kelly Nowicki	Laura Berry (SFS representative)
Dennis Rodenberg	Paige Frendahl (SFS representative)
Rebecah Neitzel	Rachel Steffen (SFS representative/Green Fund rep)
Isaiah Burish	
Drea Higgins (UCenters)	
Nadia Carmosini (guest)	
Rob Tyser (guest)	
Miles Pitman (student)	

Voting members approve minutes from Oct 30

- Kelly Nowicki moved to approve
- Victor Hill seconded
- Minutes approved - all in favor

Review of the Green Fund Bylaws and the approval criteria for proposals - Barrett highlights main points

- Nadia stresses that it's JCES's responsibility to make recommendations about each proposal (we filter based on project appropriateness related to bylaws) for the Student Senate to make a decision on final approval.

### JCES presentations and discussions of Green Fund Application/Proposals

#### 1. Vermicomposting Application

- a. Joe Kling, Joe Cotner, and Pam Hartwell from Hillview Agriculture Center - asking for support from Green Fund to help provide student intern funds, supplies, and salary for time spent on the project (partnership between UWL, Hillview, and Mayo Health)
- b. Vermicomposter diverts thousands of pounds of food waste at UWL from the landfill and turns it into compost that is donated to several organizations in La Crosse; Creates a product called "Vermigold" (that is both donated and sold).
- c. Questions about internships, student involvement, and tours with school groups - active community involvement.

#### JCES discussion of the proposal

- Questions about how the money would be used for salary that is non-UWL staff; some stipend money for student interns; other questions about budget monies
- Suggest strong consideration for supporting this project based on the Green Fund judgment criteria (highly favorable), but Student Senate will have to make a decision about money being used to pay salaries.
  - Members believe it fits the criteria for proposal (highly recommended because it fulfills most of the criteria under high priority projects)
- Kelly calls to question on the proposal - with specific considerations about use of money for salaries (non-UWL persons), and applicability of project to UWL sustainability efforts.
- Move to vote on the proposal- (Barrett)
  - 13 in favor (approving with specific considerations); 0 nay; 0 abstain

### **Consideration of Victor Hill's - ZimRide application**

- Victor recuses himself from any voting, as this is his proposal
- Description of the proposal - \$6,000/year to help run the program for the next 3 years OR for just one year; pending a written contract with Enterprise
  - Question about why students would pay for this service when there is a free program already (resident halls, FB groups) - Victor explains this program has a level of protection for students (customer service, vehicle insurance coverage, other protection, etc.).
- Money goes to Enterprise to provide this service to UWL
- Nadia suggests we fund for one year and see what happens, collecting data on usage.
- Kelly moves to approve for one year and collect data on usage to see if it increases (Lindsay seconds); Reluctance to fund more years than that if the program is not worth it to students.
  - Barrett moves to vote - 8 in favor (of approving for 1 year), 3 nay, 1 abstain

### **Consideration of Dan Sweetman's application for replacing lights in the Stadiums**

- Discussion of the payback of the project (not a lot of payback), too much budget goes to labor, and replacing with more florescent bulbs rather than something more energy efficient (LEDs).
- Spenser - call to question
  - Barrett - moves to vote to not consider the proposal based on concerns mentioned above - 12 in favor (of non-consideration), 0 nay, 0 abstain

### **Consideration of Sue White's proposal for new shower heads in REC**

- Members are happy to approve at the highest priority (fits well with the high priority criteria for the Green Fund applications)
- Barrett motion to consider proposal for highest priority (Shannon 2nds)
  - Drea moves to vote - 12 in favor (of approving), 0 nay, 0 abstain

### **Consideration of Sue White's Solar Tower Lighting on the fields**

- Questions about light pollution on the fields that are right near the marsh (biodiversity); nothing about maintenance of the units (is that significant); are on-campus lights used more because these fields are not lighted? Does this increase our carbon footprint?;
- Drea- motion to not consider the proposal due to lack of information about maintenance and install, use of energy to charge the solar towers when needed, and concerns about impacts of new lighting in this location (Barrett seconds) on homes and biodiversity with lighting being so close to the marsh.
  - Kelly moves to vote - 12 in favor (of non-consideration), 0 nay, 0 abstain

Meeting adjourned at noon.

## JCES Meeting December 11, 2015

Final Meeting of the semester

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein	Rebecah Neitzel
Larry Sleznikow	
Spenser Garcia (Student Senate Rep)	
Shannon Amberg	Lindsay Steiner
Kelly Nowicki	Laura Berry (SFS representative)
Dennis Rodenberg	Paige Frendahl (SFS representative)
Isaiah Burish	
Drea Higgins (UCenters)	
Nadia Carmosini (guest)	
Rob Tyser (guest)	

Approval of minutes from November 13

- Kelly Nowicki moved to approve
- Victor Hill seconds
- All in favor

Spenser Garcia gave an update on the SUFAC approval/voting on the Green Fund applications.

Nadia Carmosini presenting summary of ideas on bringing sustainability into course curriculum from the AASHE conference in October. Discussion on program guidance in integrating sustainability ideas and programing into various UWL courses.

- Suggestion of using CATL as a way to promote to instructors/faculty on campus
- Idea of bringing in Creative Change consultant to train a few people on campus to then disseminate and teach others on campus OR to have a conference style meeting/course that can train faculty/instructors in the process of understanding and integrating ideas into courses/curriculum.
  - Discussion of possibilities of bringing this to campus or the region for interested faculty to attend.
  - Green Fund as a potential source of support for cost of workshop?

Kelly Nowicki - a few words on sustainability coordination in the UW system.

- Considering a 25% reassignment for spring to tie up some sustainability coordination questions and tasks across campus (because of lack of sustainability coordinator position).
- Provost said it won't be funded through Provost office and CLS can't cover it.
- No sustainability coordination in the spring.

Gratitude for Larry Sleznikow's service to JCES!! Recognition for his attendance, ideas, support, & service. Cake for all of us!

Barrett's discussion of Creative Imperatives festival (Science & Art is the theme)

- Anyone with ideas can contribute

## JCES Spring 2016 Meeting Minutes

**February 5, 2016**

### **Attendees:**

Dan Sweetman  
Lindsay Steiner  
Seth King (Physics - faculty representative)  
Kelly Nowicki (Management - faculty representative)  
Maggie McDermott (guest)  
Dillon Montour (student guest)  
Rob Tyser (guest)  
Dennis Rodenbuerg (Academic staff council representative)  
Owen Hendrickson (student guest)  
Spenser Garcia (Green Fund Coordinator)  
Bobby Piper (SFS representative)  
Laura Berry (SFS representative)  
Rachel Steffen (SFS rep and Green Fund Coordinator)  
Rebecah Neitzel (Classified Staff Rep)

#### **1. Introductions of all present**

a. Sorting through consistent member attendance and roster positions; identifying current members and those who are no longer attending or holding permanent roster positions

#### **2. Discussion of subcommittee to continue coordinating sustainability on campus**

(discussion led by Kelly Nowicki, Rob Tyser, Shannon Amberg, Nadia Carmosini)

- a. Trouble in securing a position for sustainability coordination (no funding)
- b. JCES take on a working group for moving forward on solutions (considering current budget environment and lack of support)
- c. Putting together a vision and plan for moving forward
- i. Barrett moves to form an ad-hoc subcommittee for planning and visioning of sustainability coordination on campus. Shannon seconds.
  1. Discussion - what does the sustainability coordinator accomplish on campus? Clarification of subcommittee - financial considerations, logistics, partnerships and collaborations for support, creating a description of what this coordinator would do, time releases for the person doing the position(?), funding an on-going position, etc.
  2. Rob, Shannon, Kelly, Nadia, & Dan Sweetman will work on the subcommittee.
- ii. Call to question - voting on the ad-hoc subcommittee
  1. All in favor = 13; 0 abstain; 0 against

3. **Updates on Green Purchasing policy** - Steve Sissel has had to bow out of the initiative to create this. Is this something that JCES can take over? May not be feasible at this point if the purchasing experts on campus are not available presently for working on the effort (staffing shortage).

a. Apparently this is happening unofficially already, but not due to specific policy.

#### **4. JCES web presence on campus -**

a. Organizing/compiling a list of sustainability events - could JCES host this on our website?

i. What is the best platform for putting info on events out there

ii. Social media presence?

iii. Getting word out that events can be submitted to university calendar

b. subcommittee to manage or work through these issues

c. student presence in this effort (interns, etc.) to keep everything updated

d. do we need a representative from University Communications in JCES?

How do we get our name and information out there better?

5. **Review of subcommittees of last year**

a. Purchasing policy - this has been disbanded temporarily due to unavailability of university purchasing experts

b. Forming a subcommittee to propose sustainability modifications explicitly within Digital Measures to help track how faculty and instructional staff are integrating sustainability learning into curriculum and teaching, as well as a way to summarize how sustainability efforts are carried out across campus (STARS tracking).

c. Barrett moves to form a subcommittee for forming suggestions on using Digital Measures to incorporate sustainability elements in teaching, service, scholarship in faculty assessment. 1-2 people to find out the shift and the buy-in from the Provost. Barrett willing to talk to Betsy about the feasibility. Shannon is reluctantly willing to follow up with this.

i. Who is interested - 10 vote in favor; 0 nay; 0 abstain

6. Will cover JCES alternative name suggestions next meeting

7. Consider sustainable fitness center proposal

8. Green Fund proposal advertisement

Meeting adjourned at noon.

## JCES February 16, 2016

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein  
Dan Sweetman  
Victor Hill  
Max Gietzen (New RHAC senator)  
William Doering  
Kelly Nowicki (Management - faculty representative)  
Dennis Rodenbuerg (Academic staff council representative)  
Spenser Garcia (Green Fund Coordinator)  
Bobby Piper (SFS representative)  
Laura Berry (SFS representative)  
Rachel Steffen (SFS rep and Green Fund Coordinator)  
Rebecah Neitzel (Classified Staff Rep)  
Nadia Carmosini (Guest – Chemistry)

Called to order at 11:04

1. Approval of minutes from February 2 meeting.
2. Rachel Steffen was to bring to the committee a discussion/suggestions on changes to the Green Fund grant application. The committee discussed possible changes/improvements to the application. Spenser, Rebecah and Rachel will discuss and bring changes back to JCES the for the next meeting.
  - a. Comments were being taken on the Green Fund grant application and any changes that are recommended.
    - i. Set a day of the week and week of the month of March and October. If the date is too late in the semester it pushes the Senate discussion and vote into May, so it strong encourages first Monday of March and late the first Monday of November in the Fall semester.
    - ii. Suggestion was to make this an online form. An option is to create a Qualtrics survey but change it into a form, but a suggestion was to make sure the person filling out the form can see the entire form.
3. Victor Hill brought to the floor for discussion the UWL Sustainability website and changes he is working on. We should consider having a “second” to know how to update the website, however, Victor has no plans to leave. What became clear is that at the end of the academic year or start of the academic year, make sure we have a transition in place for those who might be rotating off of JCES to make sure there are no gaps in
4. Barrett discussed his conversation he recently had with Aaron Monte regarding Digital Measures and implementing some aspect to track sustainability research/interests with faculty and staff in sustainability related topics...this would help with pulling information with STARS as well. Looking for one or two people to participate in a subcommittee to figure out how to implement how, where, what...into Digital Measures. Nadia and William Doering offered to help Barrett with this initiative.
5. Rebecah spoke to Chartwell’s regarding their new sustainability intern who we would like to include in our meetings. Barrett also offered some time to Kevin Weis regarding his sustainable fitness center near campus.
6. Bobby Piper discussed the event put on by Coulee Region Climate Alliance named “Acting locally for Climate Sustainability” on March 5<sup>th</sup> at First Congregational of La Crosse from 2-5 pm.
7. Barrett is looking for any ideas on how to bring sustainability into the Creative Imperatives festival which is on February 29-March 1. If you could get any ideas to Barrett as soon as possible as the festival is in 10 days.
8. Discussion followed on the name of JCES. Joint Committee on Sustainability, introducing the idea of “responsible” or “innovation”.

Adjourned 12:01

## JCES March 4, 2016

### Attendance:

Barrett Klein  
Dan Sweetman  
Shannon Amberg  
Rachel Steffen (SFS rep and Green Fund Coordinator)  
Laura Berry (SFS representative)  
Max Gietzen (New RHAC senator)  
Dennis Rodenbuerg (Academic staff council representative)  
Spenser Garcia (Student Association)  
Nadia Carmosini (Guest – Chemistry)  
Rob Tyser (Guest)  
Alycia Munson (Guest student)  
Judy Arney (Guest student - intern with Chartwells)

Called to order at 11:04

1. Approval of minutes from February 16 meeting.
2. Subcommittee on Sustainability Coordinator reports to group and opens discussion with JCES and student representatives about ideas for moving forward with funding and filling the position.
  - a. Rob Tyser gives an overview of status of the position and the lack of funding support for the position, the low probability of funding support from UWL administration, and the need to have someone in place to keep momentum with current sustainability efforts and successes.
  - b. Open discussion to students in attendance of the possibility of using the Green Fund for providing the initial salary support for the position, with the intent that JCES will work to coordinate cooperation with UWL Foundation and other community organizations to support the full funding of the position.
    - i. Student feedback - some people very much for it, others will be very against the idea of using funds; Spenser - many people in SUFAC will be very against this because of the bylaws. Need to talk with John Covari who is the faculty advisor for SUFAC for insight into the discussion that would happen with students. Main concern - does this set a faculty salary precedent? We may need to adjust the bylaws that Green Fund can only support the sustainability coordinator position or only a certain percentage of fund money can be used for faculty support.
3. Spenser presenting idea of purchasing plants for residence halls and the new student center. JCES recommends that a Green Fund application for this.
4. Discussion of using Digital Measures to track how faculty engage in sustainability activities or efforts in their own work on campus. Working on proposals for modifications to the system that would be easy to navigate.
5. Victor has been able to update the JCES website with current information.
6. Judy Arney - new intern with Chartwell's working on sustainability efforts with dining service on reducing waste and including more sustainable options; coordinating with SFS on wider-university efforts. Asking JCES to keep her in mind for sustainability ideas and helping to increase sustainability on campus.

Meeting adjourned 12:00 noon.

## JCES Meeting April 8, 2016

### Attendees:

Laura Berry  
Max Gietzen  
Victor Hill  
William Doering  
Rachel Steffen  
Spenser Garcia  
Barrett Klein  
Lindsay Steiner  
Dennis Rodenberg  
Shannon Amberg  
Rebecah Neitzel

### Guests:

Rob Tyser  
Brandon Noble  
Judy Arney

Move to approve minutes: Kelly Nowicki; Barrett seconds. All in favor.

Discussion of Green Fund mini-grant Application:

1. Car Share Program brought forward by Spenser Garcia
  - a. Offering spots for parking on campus to keep the program up and running; available to students for car-share use. A number of other UW campuses already participate.
  - b. Move to approve the proposal for providing support for the Car Share Program: Shannon; Rachel Steffen seconds; 11 vote in favor, 0 oppose

Brandon Noble is the new SFS representative for JCES (replacing Rachel Steffen who is now the Green Fund Coordinator).

No progress on sustainability measures integrated into Digital Measures yet due to administrative priorities and busy schedules; topic will be revisited in the near future.

Discussion of random business that has come to JCES attention

1. Square-foot gardening kits made by Wiscorps and available for \$49; discussion of potential for Green Fund mini-grant to buy a few and award to students during Earth Week.
2. Update on what events are going on during Earth Week - Laura Berry gives an update on some events planned.
3. Judy Arney - Whitney center presentation on Love food Not waste campaign, adding up food waste over time (April 19th).
4. La Crosse Mayor's Neighborhood Conference - Food in the City: Growing, Sourcing, and Cooking
  - a. Neighborhood tables - discussion of how some neighborhoods are not well-represented because of the transitional nature of residents (students as primary residents of some neighborhoods)

Update from the Subcommittee for Sustainability Coordination

1. Kelly Nowicki gives a short update



- a. Moving the discussion across the university to the people who would be in a role to make decisions about funding or offer verbal support for this type of effort.
- b. Preparing for a presentation with SUFAC next Monday to discuss student support of the proposal to use Green Fund money for 2 years of support at 25% FTE.

Move to adjourn (Kelly); Shannon seconds. Meeting adjourned at 11:49 am.

## JCES Meeting April 22, 2016 (Earth Day!)

### Attendees:

Rebecca Neitzel	Kelly Nowicki
Max Gietzen	Dan Sweetman
William Doering	Brandon Noble
Rachel Steffen	Shannon Amberg
Spenser Garcia	Dennis Rodenberg
Barrett Klein	

### Guests:

Rob Tyser  
Judy Arney  
Alycia Munson  
Ellie Meyer  
Bobby Piper  
Nadia Carmosini

Move to approve minutes: Barrett moves; William seconds. All in favor.

Bobby Piper (SFS) addresses JCES about the organization Seize the Grid and the potential for campaigning to transition the UWL campus to an individual energy budget in the UW system.

- Investing in renewable energies right now there is no real incentive because of how money is allocated year to year (use it or lose it); big question of “why is there no incentive to use renewable energy on campus?”
- Seize the Grid tries to help campuses attain individual energy budgets - they are working with students to petition administrators to sign on to this project. Using student desires to create change on campuses.
- Typically pushed through a sustainability coordinator (but UWL does not have one) - bringing it to JCES to keep the effort alive through the coming years. Requires a fair amount of coordination to work with several campus groups and the refining of university operating standards.
- What can JCES provide in support?
  - Motion that JCES provides support and guidance to Students for Sustainability as they conceptualize and carry forward a Seize the Grid campaign for the UWL campus (Shannon moves); Kelly Nowicki seconds. 11 voting members in favor; 0 nay; 0 abstain.

Discussion of Sustainability Coordinator position on campus

- Kelly N. give an update of the status of securing the position - Green Fund proposal did not make it through SUFAC; proposals to Dr. B. Hetzel and Dr. B. Morgan for support of a partial position have been turned down.
- Discussion of strategy to move forward
  - Reaching out to Student Life to share ideas and come up with options
  - Formal recommendation from JCES that sustainability coordination be included into the strategic planning process as part of the end of year report to the Chancellor.
  - Recruiting more student clubs to get involved and create a petition among students to move toward securing a position.

Update on Digital Measures and capturing sustainability through scholarship/teaching/service activities by faculty and staff.

- Progress in finding ways to integrate the tracking into Digital Measures
- Priority would be to communicate this to campus (all who submit to Digital Measures)

Meeting adjourned at noon.

## JCES Meeting May 6, 2016

### Attendees:

Rebecca Neitzel	Kelly Nowicki
Max Gietzen	Dan Sweetman
Brandon Noble	Lindsay Steiner
Rachel Steffen	Shannon Amberg
Dennis Rodenberg	Laura Berry
Barrett Klein	

### Guests:

Bobby Piper  
Nadia Carmosini

Move to approve minutes (Shannon); Rachel seconds. All in favor.

Role of JCES in creating a document highlighting environmental sustainability that can be brought into the UWL Strategic Planning sessions. This could be helpful support and backing for conversations in planning sessions and priorities for UWL efforts in the future. Discussion and fine tuning of the JCES Resolution for Inclusion of Environmental Sustainability in the UWL Strategic Planning Process.

- Suggestion to add transportation to the bullet points on the JCES resolution.
- Suggestions to adjust the text to reflect in the very last sentence “included in all current (2016) and future institutional strategic planning discussions and decisions at UWL.”
- As is, draft planning documents at university level do not mention environmental sustainability - JCES pushing to bring it to the conversation (encouraging involvement in the discussions in the current and future discussion); also requesting representation at the next planning meeting.
- Kelly moves to approve and forward the JCES Resolution on to administration for inclusion into the strategic planning process; Dan seconds. 12 in favor; 0 nay; 0 abstain.

Discussion of who will be reprising their role on JCES and how to eliminate absenteeism at meetings.

- Concerns brought to the Committee on Committees about non-active appointees; Representative on Committee on Committees said they can extend a “non-invitation” to inactive voting members.
- Each current member is asked to indicate in writing their intention to serve next academic year and the specific role.

Identifying Calls to Action for next fall

- Continue to pursue the Sustainability Coordinator position
- Appropriate Committee name change - from JCES to something that more accurately describes the group.
- Pursuing the capturing of sustainability activities/service/research in Digital Measures
- Inviting representation from upper administration to attend JCES meetings at times; asking for more of presence on the committee.
- Building awareness of JCES on campus to inform students, faculty & staff about what we do on campus - what are the ideas?
  - Having an online hub where all links for environmental groups are listed and described.
  - JCES coordinating (with other environmental clubs/groups) an on-campus eco-fair, sustainability festival, or Earth Fair on campus.
- Bringing in off-campus community stakeholders for knowledge sharing and building collaboration - how can JCES collaborate? How can we help each other?
  - Building a group of these leaders to talk regularly on initiatives?
- Speaker series using Green Fund funds.
- Posting JCES meeting times on digital boards on campus.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.