Sustainability Committee Meeting
2/3 2012
Murdock 231
2 – 3:30pm

In attendance: Caroline Scully, Jim Stakenas, Emily Mooney, Laurie Brown, Wayne Wells, Heather Quire, Felipe Aedo, Emily Borden, Elena Traister, Dan Shustack, Jason Brown, Nancy Ovitsky, Macy Fredericksen

Status of BERC Coordinator (Sustainability Committee Chair) staff position
-Sustainability Coordinator position ending March 9th (grant funding ran out)

Confirm Sustainability Committee mission/purpose statement, goals, decision-making structure, and membership
-developed out of Green Team meeting conversations over the past semester
-document put together by Caroline Scully & Elena Traister
(see attached document: MCLA Sustainability Committee mission & structure (draft 2-3-12))
-Went over document, read over goals, and need for membership that better represents the campus.
-Did not officially confirm the document

Report from Jim on planning for the future of sustainability at MCLA & general discussion
(How are we going to accomplish goals, given the status of the Sust. Comm. Chair?)
-Jim’s office taking on carbon calculator.
   -This semester, Environmental Studies intern, Richard Doucette will work on carbon calculator for 2011, supervised by Jim and Chuck

-Libby Macksey can send out meeting announcements

-New web person

-Wayne Wells from Computer Support Service will do electronic waste collections

-What are we doing for Earth Day?
   -Bernadette Lupo can do PR
   -Set markers about what we want to do
   -Environuts has some plans for week before & week after Earth Day (on a Sunday this year)
   -Encourage community involvement—info in the marketplace?

-Discussion about official campus committees
 - Four committees mandated by contract: Student affairs, Curriculum, Policy, All College

-Sustainability Committee could be an ongoing committee (like strategic planning) that exists even if not mandated by the contract
- Mission of committee—discussed

- Need to coordinate with those with expertise, even if they don’t have interest

- Need for oversight—pull together information

- Share successes

- The plan is to continue carrying out our responsibilities under the President’s Climate Commitment and to continue to move forward with all our goals for the semester and next year, as outlined in the MCLA Sustainability Committee mission & structure document.

- How do we do this without the capacity to do so?

- We need a person to take on the coordinator responsibilities & then to dole out responsibilities

- Do we want to strike anything from the list that we can’t now accomplish?

- Symposium with other colleges is planned—how will we do this? Emily Borden, MassPIRG rep. will be coordinating a meeting of area schools to talk about transportation.

- Rick Rubenstein from the Massachusetts School Sustainability Coordinators Consortium offered to host a sustainability meeting at MCLA.

- Caroline & Jim will set up next 3 meetings
  - Conversations to include Environuts plans, energy study, carbon calculator/report/intern
  - Future meetings should be about funneling/guiding information to save time

- Other meetings with experts to figure out what we can & can’t do. Can’t do both things at same time.

- These efforts are important to President Grant & the college.

Announcements:

President’s Climate Commitment Progress Report submitted 1/13/12—will be put on the web
  - Declared climate neutrality date of 2050

ENVI internship on campus sustainability & updating carbon calculator for 2011

MCLA Strategic Plan action plans submitted to Academic Affairs on 12/29/11

NuRides(www.nuride.com) -Need feedback from people on this carpooling system; comes from the state; designed for regular trips

Campus garden — A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Environuts report -Would like to see something on the campus quad—like an energy fare—something big —community outreach; aiming for reduced water bottle use; more hydration stations

Bike Share report -Bikes will hopefully be here soon—hopefully launch during Earth Week.