

Sustainability Charter Committee Minutes

Friday, November 20 @ 9:00-10:30 am via Zoom

Present: Matthieu Biger, Michelle Fravel, Erin Irish, Megan Lindmark, Emily Manders, Melissa Meisterheim, Laura Ponto, Sam Schauer, Silvia Secchi

Absent: Joseph Haggerty, Amanda Thompson

Liaisons: Ben Fish, Stratis Giannakouros

Staff: Beth MacKenzie, Blake Rupe

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements
3. New Business Items
4. Updates
 - a) "TIAA" resolution
 - i. Report from Faculty Council discussion
 - In January representatives from TIAA will come to the Faculty Council to meet/discuss; Council will delay their vote on the resolution until after hearing from TIAA representatives
 - The sustainability committee endorsement of the resolution seemed valued
 - Next step for the sustainability committee will be meet with Staff Council about this topic
 - ii. Discuss working towards joint resolution with Staff Council and others in Shared Governance
 - b) SCC co-chairs will be meeting with DEI Charter Committee co-chairs today 10:30am
 - i. DEI committee is very interested in collaboration as they recognize that many issues that have overlap between the two committees.
 - ii. An example of an overlapping issue is the UIowa land acknowledgment.
 - There is desire to have this land acknowledgement message more widespread along with physical acknowledgements. A message has been placed on the main page of the OSE website.
 - iii. Suggestion is to investigate how other campuses are merging these two committees around the country.
 - c) 2030
 - i. 2030 Goals survey – first look at answers:
 - 3200 responses so far, approaching 5-10% response rate
 - 80-90% agreed that sustainability should be part of the strategic plans of the university and individual colleges
 - 250 responses were from UIHC employees which provides optimism as the committee works toward expanding sustainability objectives to UIHC
 - May consider additional surveys that assess climate literacy which are likely better suited for a research-focused effort
 - ii. Requesting President share 2030 framework with the broader university
 - Will include survey data to strengthen request to President
 - iii. Addition of a sustainability course to Gen Ed requirements

- It will be implemented as an overlay/emphasis in a course that is focused on something else.
 - There are concerns that the GE committee overseeing the approval of courses to count as sustainability is not qualified; alternatively, the sustainability charter committee could be utilized for its expertise
 - Cornelia Lang will be in attendance at the December sustainability committee meeting to discuss this course approval process so this concern can be addressed at that time
5. Other 2020-21 thoughts: open the floor
 6. Next meetings:
 - a) Friday Dec 11 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM (Guests: Cornelia Lang (CLAS); Rod Lehnertz (FM))
 - b) Spring '21: scheduling discussion
 7. Adjournment