

## Sustainability Charter Committee Minutes

Tuesday, September 22 @ 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM via Zoom

**Present:** Matthieu Biger, Michelle Fravel, Joseph Haggerty, Erin Irish, Laurie Ponto, Emily Manders, Melissa Meisterheim, Heather Sander, Silvia Secchi

**Absent:** Isabella Blackman, Jenna Hammerich (*Excused*), Sam Schauer

**Ex Officio:** Rich Hichwa

**Liaisons:** Stratis Giannakouros (OSE)

**Staff:** Blake Rupe (OSE) & Beth MacKenzie (OSE)

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements
  - a) Membership
    - i. Heather Sander is on sabbatical and replacement is Silvia Secchi
    - ii. Joseph Haggerty is a new student member
3. Updates 2019-2020
  - a) ANF
    - i. Conversations with farm bureau have been halted due to COVID, along with ANF sponsored football game. This allows more time to discuss the approach to addressing this.
  - b) TIAA
    - i. Issue: what kinds of companies are being invested in - are they sustainable?
      - e.g. farmland in Brazil is a large part of the TIAA investment portfolio and the practices on this land is not representative of the sustainability committee ideals
    - ii. Consider discussion with climate friendly investment groups that we have relationships to discover ways to handle this (e.g. Hannon Armstrong – a partner of Engie's in UI Public Private Partnership)
  - c) 2020 Goal Reporting
    - i. Reporting on 2020 goals is planned for Winter 2020-2021, with final reporting on Earth Day Spring 2021
4. Getting sustainability to be sustainable, embedded, and inalienable on our campus: a discussion
  - a) Tying sustainability with DEI
    - i. Environmental justice may be suggested as a consideration for a focus of the DEI committee, perhaps a meeting between sustainability/DEI committee could be pursued as a next step
      - Provide some examples of ideas as to why this is valuable or what is hoped to be accomplished in introduction to the DEI committee on this topic
      - Lack of diversity on ANF website and curriculum creation could be an example of projects that would span both committees
  - b) UI and Collegiate Strategic Plans
    - i. How do we interject ourselves into the strategic plans?
    - ii. Current plans are lacking in inclusion of sustainability
      - Step one: take inventory of each strategic plan and assist in enacting plan or insert suggestions/additions as needed

- iii. Final versions of strategic plans are now not due until summer 2021 due to COVID delays
  - iv. Consider inviting Cornelia Lang, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, to the next meeting to discuss her goals for DEI/sustainability
  - v. Consider inviting other Deans as well
    - May invite multiple Deans to one meeting to allow for them to hear one another
    - May consider inviting health-related Deans to same meeting along with hospital representation as well.
  - vi. So much as changed (and may not return) since COVID so that needs to be included in strategic plans
  - vii. Stratis is working on a committee to develop university wide sustainability guidelines for campus planning
    - e.g. Can we demolish the buildings with worst energy efficiency because people won't need to be on campus going forward – save money in energy and also sustainability win as well
    - e.g. parking and transportation impacts from working on home permanently as well
  - c) Other
    - i. Sarah Maples at Tippie College of business surveyed admin vs student related to sustainability related priorities and was able to find high priority areas of focus. This survey could be shared at other colleges as well.
5. Virtual ED 2020 – Early Discussion
    - a) Thursday April 22, 2021: “Restore our Earth”
    - b) Climate literacy will remain a goal of the programming but with virtual delivery, may consider Earth Week instead of just one day to allow for expanded programming
  6. 2030 Sustainability Goals Framework
    - a) How can SCC help 2030 sub-committee
      - i. Next step is to request that the President shares the framework with the broader university (UIHC, athletics, etc.) to ask them to provide a response as to how they will contribute and who will be the primary contact. This will allow for more authority to have true participation.
  7. Other 2020-2021 thoughts: open to the floor
    - a) Actions
    - b) Engie Collaborations
      - i. Consider requesting to partner on projects outside of securing the endowment funds
    - c) Guests
      - i. Consider inviting democratic and republican legislative representatives
  8. Next meetings: TBD
  9. Adjournment