

Sustainability Charter Committee Minutes

Monday, February 15 @ 9:00-10:30 am via Zoom

Present: Matthieu Biger, Michelle Fravel, Joseph Haggerty, Erin Irish, Megan Lindmark, Melissa Meisterheim, Laura Ponto, Heather Sander, Sam Schauer

Absent: Libby Smith, Amanda Thompson

Liaisons: Ben Fish, Stratis Giannakouros,

Ex Officio: Jill Irvin, Glen Rogers, Tony Senio

Staff: Beth MacKenzie

Guests: Tanya Uden-Holman

1. Announcements – Open to all present

- David Brown (UI Landscaping Services) was invited to be a guest at a future meeting

2. Impromptu new business for this agenda – Open to all present

- UISG's student garden is expected to break ground this year (location is near Catlett residence hall); output from the garden will go to the food pantry which will be relocated to Hubbard Park
- Grant for cold storage received by the Office of Sustainability
- Significant funding has been secured to be directed toward the Prairie to enhance the projects; acknowledgement was given to Committee ex officio member Tony Senio for his efforts in moving this project forward
- Dr. Bullard will provide a lecture on March 1 focused on environmental justice
- On April 19 there will be a speaker from the Ocean Collectiv: Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson
- One Sustainable Iowa (Collaboration between Iowa Regents and private university and colleges): event list expected to grow over the next couple of weeks

3. Strategic Communications and Sustainability at Iowa

- Met for the first time on 2/12/21 to discuss ongoing efforts to include sustainability as a focus on ongoing communications
- There seems to be a strong commitment from the President's office to communicate a positive sustainability message from the University
- Ideas for topics
 - Water quality (tying in Ashton Prairie Project)
 - P3 project: reaching the milestone of being 100% off coal will provide a good opportunity for public communications
 - 2020 goals report
 - Students efforts
 - Sustainability GE requirement
- A goal for the committee is to brainstorm ideas that would be attractive to publish. Ideas that would be useful in attracting students, faculty, and staff to Iowa would be of interest
- While publicizing efforts is important, continuing to place most focus on furthering sustainability efforts is key.

5. Earth Day update

- Emailed people who volunteered last time to speak and half have agreed to speak again
- UI dancers will provide video of their performance last year that had a climate associated theme
- Volunteers to assist with organizing include Sylvia, Shellie, and Matthieu

6. 2030: Seeking working group leads

7. Tanya Uden-Holman – Assoc Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of the University College

- Tanya shared her perspectives on sustainability and health from her previous position in Public Health.
- In her current position, Tanya has involvement with general orientation/onboarding of students which could offer opportunities for sustainability education in the future.
- Incorporation of sustainability into university strategic plans was also introduced; Tanya felt she could keep this in mind as she is involved in these discussions in the future.

8. Next meetings:

a) Mar 15, 2021 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

b) Apr 19, 2021 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

c) May 17, 2021 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

9. Adjournment