

President's Sustainability Leadership Team (PSLT) Meeting

Southwestern Illinois College
Belleville Campus • Marsh Room
Tuesday, August 16

Minutes

Present:

Dr. Susan Barker
Dr. Mark Eichenlaub
Jody Lauf
Barb Mueth

Susan Pflug
Melanie Reinhardt
Brad Sparks
Karen Stallman

Dr. Valerie Thaxton
Bob Weck
Dr. Katherine Witzig
Bernie Ysursa

Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2011

Minutes from the February 16, 2011 meeting were approved prior to this meeting.

IGEN Update

Dr. Thaxton informed the committee that \$2 million IGEN Grant Award for FY2012 was accepted at SWIC's July Board of Trustees Meeting.

Director of Green Jobs/Green Economy Initiative Hiring Update

It was determined that the vacancy for full-time position of Director of Green Jobs/Green Economy Initiative be postponed until future funding is more solidified. Dr. Susan Barker has been filling that vacancy on a part-time basis until such a determination has been made.

Green Committee Update

Dr. Witzig stated that the Green Committee is active and in the process of soliciting new members through a mass email as well as through the Green Your Curriculum (GYC) Workshops planned for faculty and staff during opening week. The Green Committee is currently focusing on various clean-up projects around the campus.

Green Curriculum

Credit

Mr. Sparks stated there are a number of courses for the fall semester offering Green Certification. They include Green Building Methods, Alternative Energy Sources, and Energy Auditing which will prepare students for Building Performance Institute (BPI) Certification tests in Energy Auditing and Building Envelop. Mr. Charles James (Jim) Laing was recently hired as a full-time Construction Management Technology Program Coordinator. Mr. Laing, who is a former architect, will be able to bring much expertise in the new *green* direction.

The SWGCC Automotive Repair Technology Department is in the process of converting the car used in classroom teaching into an electronic vehicle. Electric charging stations will be installed at the new Liberal Arts II Building location as well as one at the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus.

Non-Credit

Ms. Lauf stated that College for Kids offered six sustainability programs and Kids on Campus offered one sustainability program during their prospective summer sessions which served a total of 41 students.

The Garden Project at the East St. Louis Community College Center constructed new gardens at the East St. Louis sight where they were able to teach gardening to students of all ages.

Greening Your Curriculum (GYC) Workshops

Dr. Witzig informed the committee that some schools and businesses are placing sun solar panels over parking spaces to pipeline energy into the grid while at the same time providing shade to parking spaces. She plans to explore possible grants to provide the same scenario at SWIC in our new parking spaces for the Liberal Arts II building.

Two GYC workshop sessions are being offered to faculty during opening week. The workshops will be presented by Dr. Susan Barker, Director of Green Jobs/Green Events Initiative and Sherry Wimmer, Art Instructor for SWIC. The focus of the workshops will be on the significance of GYC and the planning of a green project that will be carried out in the spring.

Recycling Committee

Ms. Pflug reported the following items under consideration by the recycling committee:

- Solar compactors
- Signage on bins at ball fields
- Refillable stations
- Pursuing a contract with USAGAIN to recycle clothing
- Investigating recycle bins with multiple slots for various recyclable items
- Items that could be collected for monetary reimbursement

It was suggested that SWIC have an Awareness Campaign to encourage students to be more mindful of their liter the costs involved to take care of their trash and how those costs factor into their tuition.

Sustainability Center Update

Ms. Stallman shared information about events that have taken place since the last PSLT meeting.

SWIC has been the recipient of two awards for its recycling efforts of the prescription drop box; one at the Chester Police Department and another at the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department.

The Green Expo may be scheduled again this year in conjunction with the Easter Egg Hunt that takes place at SWIC. Ms. Stallman will explore the possibility of partnering the event with Get Up & Go, a health and education organization that could educate the general public on healthy practices.

Zero Waste Facility

Ms. Stallman stated that she has been working with Physical Plant to discuss energy-saving lighting possibilities and waste disposal as post-consumer waste is a major concern after events serving food.

Water Filling Stations

Ms. Stallman reported that there will be three water filling stations installed in the Belleville Campus Main Complex. The Recycling Committee is investigating the feasibility of purchasing collapsible, refillable water bottles.

Nature Preserve Cleanup

Mr. Weck informed the committee of the Invasive Species Awareness and Campus Clean-Up Day scheduled for Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 to noon. The focus for the day will be on eradicating the Bush Honeysuckle.

Green Computer Highlights

Dr. Barker presented a brief slide show informing the committee of the green information available to everyone on a computer housed in the Sustainability Center located in the library. The computer is available for use to anyone wanting to learn more about sustainability.

Other Issues/Updates

It was requested that Dr. Eichenlaub be added to each PSLT Agenda to provide grant updates.

Ms. Lauf would welcome any suggestions for a different recycled art project to do for Art on the Square in May.

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Notes taken by Barb Mueth