

**President's Sustainability Leadership Team Meeting**  
**September 15, 2010**  
**1:00 p.m. ~ Seibert Conference Room**

**Attendees:** Dr. Georgia Costello, Dr. Valerie Thaxton, Bernie Ysursa, Ron Henderson, Rob Hilgenbrink, Dr. Mark Eichenlaub, Karen Stallman, Walter Arenstein, Jody Lauf, Brad Sparks, Bob Weck, Susan Pflug, Melanie Reinhardt

**IGEN Update**

Dr. Costello informed the team that the second installment of the \$960,000 grant funding should be received within 2-3 weeks. An additional \$600,000 from the ICCTA will be forthcoming as well. Dr. Costello expressed her appreciation to everyone who has been working on sustainability issues here at the college.

She discussed a radio interview she had just completed this morning on a segment titled, "*Winning Women*." She had the opportunity to share our green initiatives at the college and also volunteered to participate in any green projects being sponsored by the station.

Dr. Costello reported that The White House Community College Summit will be held on October 5<sup>th</sup> and SWIC has been invited to participate.

Dr. Costello shared that Rob Hilgenbrink will be attending an upcoming conference on weatherization and Karen Stallman will be attending the AASHE Conference in Denver which will focus on green jobs. She also mentioned that she would like to tie the Blues Fest into Earth Week activities for 2011.

**Green Jobs Report**

Karen Stallman stated she met with the deans and shared resources and initiatives that other community colleges are offering.

Karen is working with contacts at IGEN and the University of Illinois on development of online green courses. IGEN would like to offer something similar to the "ed2go.com" program. Karen and her colleagues are developing a survey to all community colleges to gather information on current offerings both credit and non-credit.

Karen met with the director of the Ethanol Center at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville regarding a possible partnership with their intern program. She noted there were several intern students from Lewis & Clark Community College. The Center is very interested in having some students from SWIC participate in their intern program as well.

**Groundwater Workshop Follow-Up**

Bob Weck reported that he worked with the Clifftop Alliance to develop a workshop at the Red Bud Campus which targeted a specific group of residents. The workshop was held on August 24<sup>th</sup> and hosted various speakers such as a professional geologist, fisheries biologist, and an administrator from the Monroe County Department of Health. The workshop was videotaped for future use by students and faculty and possibly local libraries for public viewing.

### **Sustainability Center Website**

Melanie Reinhardt provided an overview of the website which can be accessed through the SWIC homepage by clicking on the link, "Think Green, Be Green." Melanie indicated several items and ideas that are being considered for addition to the website.

Dr. Costello commented that she would like to see more photos on the website. Brad Sparks suggested adding photos of the wind turbine and solar panels located at the SWGCC. He stated we could also show a graph which indicates how much power/energy is being generated by the turbine and panels. Rob Hilgenbrink suggested contacting the web person at IGEN to let them know about our website so they can add a link to their homepage. Melanie will address these issues.

Melanie stated that until both Walter Arenstein and Karen Stallman have received training on web editing, suggestions can be emailed to her attention.

### **Green Committee Update**

Walter Arenstein provided an update on behalf of Dr. Witzig. The committee has three meetings scheduled for the fall semester. The first meeting will be to address Earth Week 2011. Dr. Witzig will have a more in-depth update at the December meeting of the President's Sustainability Leadership Team.

### **Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact**

Walter Arenstein attended a conference at the University of Illinois where he also delivered a presentation. Governor Quinn was in attendance and announced the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact. The goal of the compact is to encourage universities and colleges within the state to incorporate sustainability into their campus operations, academic and research programs, student activities and community outreach.

The Compact offers three levels of participation – Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each level has specific requirements that must be met. By signing the Compact, the participating college agrees to achieve their goal level by 2015. There is no penalty if deemed unsuccessful in achieving the level signed.

Walter expressed that the college would certainly be able to achieve the Silver level. Rob suggested signing up for the Gold level to ensure our commitment to sustainability and the Compact. Dr. Thaxton suggested the issue be brought to the next President's Staff Meeting for discussion and support. Then, it can be given to the Board of Trustees Planning and Policy Committee for Board approval. Dr. Costello agreed and asked Dr. Thaxton to include it on the next agenda for President's Staff.

### **Recycling Committee**

Walter reported that the electronics recycling event held in August was extremely successful. WITS, Inc. collected 15 tons of electronics and the collection ended before closing time due to the massive amount of items received. The next recycling event will be held in October followed by another event in the spring. WITS, Inc. has requested volunteers from the college for future events to assist them with the intake. Dr. Costello requested Walter to add this information to his monthly "Insider Chat" column and to the website.

Walter stated that the Recycling Committee will be working with the Foundation Office to possibly secure a donor for outdoor recycling bins. These bins could have advertising space on the sides for donor advertising/recognition. Dr. Costello inquired if SWIC could be a site for Waste Management to place their bins and invite others to visit our campus to see their bins.

Walter responded that he had discussed this with Waste Management; however, they were not interested at this time. Dr. Costello asked Walter to supply her with his contact information at Waste Management and she will contact them directly.

### **Show Me Sustainability Conference**

Karen Stallman provided a handout to the team regarding the Show Me Sustainability Conference being held October 15-17<sup>th</sup> at Maryville University-St. Louis. Karen asked the team if there might be a student interest in attending this conference. The response from the team was a resounding, yes. Karen stated that there are 3-4 people from SWIC attending to garner ideas for the college. Walter suggested that Ecology Club members may want to attend. The cost is \$20/individual and \$15/group. Dr. Thaxton added that if there is a group of students that would like to attend, funding would be provided.

### **Board Policy Discussion**

Walter provided a handout with three proposed versions of the college's sustainability policy. He requested the team to review the proposals and provide feedback to him no later than September 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Zero Waste Facility**

Karen Stallman visited recently with the director of economic development at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. They have a campus-wide sustainability initiative called "Pathways to Sustainability." SIUC currently has one building which is a zero waste facility where nothing leaves the building that is not completely recyclable. The facility only uses caterers who are also zero waste. Karen suggested making one building at SWIC a zero waste facility and recommends the Schmidt Art Center. She has had conversations with Libby Reuter who stated that the facility is currently doing some zero waste efforts. Following a team discussion, it was decided to pursue a zero waste facility at the Schmidt Art Center.

### **Green Curriculum**

Brad Sparks reported that the Technical Education Department is currently offering the following green courses and now has a Sustainability Certificate available for students to pursue:

Four courses and one certificate under the Construction Management Technology umbrella

- CMT 270 – Green Building Methods
- CMT 271 – Alternative Energy Sources
- CMT 272 – LEED Certification Preparation
- CMT 299- Residential Energy Audit
- Certificate in Sustainability (040K)

One course in Electrical/Electronics Technology

- EET 299 – Spec Topics: Solar/Wind Power
- Wind turbine and photovoltaic systems now grid tied

One course in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration

- HVAR 299 – Geothermal Installation

One course in Automotive Collision Repair Technology

- ACRT 134 – Automotive Refinishing IV (Waterborne Technology)

Dr. Thaxton suggested advertising these courses on the SWIC Sustainability webpage now for the spring semester.

Jody Lauf reported there are ten students enrolled in “Making Renewable Energy Work For You” class. She is meeting with Public Information & Marketing to work on promotion of sustainable courses.

Walter reported that Greening Your Curriculum workshops are a project from IGEN for this semester. Twelve coordinators met at SWIC to be trained and are now training faculty on how to incorporate green efforts into their curriculum. Workshops are being held 4-5 times per semester for faculty. The first workshop for SWIC faculty is today.

### **SWIC Energy Data Collection and SEDAC Audit**

Walter informed the team about SEDAC – an energy auditing firm which will conduct free audits of one or two buildings at SWIC. SEDAC will provide a complete findings report which will be a baseline for the college to build upon. The first audit will be conducted on the main complex and then the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus.

Ron Henderson gave a Powerpoint presentation which provided an overview of the college’s current energy usage.

### **Other Updates**

Dr. Eichenlaub is working with Walter regarding the types of sustainability grants the college should be pursuing at this time.

Rob Hilgenbrink suggested the college should track the carbon impact on travel conducted by employees. This information could be used to raise awareness about effects on the environment.

Dr. Costello suggested pursuing grants for hybrid parking. Ron Henderson stated that Physical Plant is looking into parking lot upgrades.

Susan Pflug showed the team “Don’t Lug the Jug” packets which were disbursed at the University of Illinois to all students. The pre-filled detergent packets were provided to discourage over-usage of detergent by students when doing laundry. Susan suggested providing something similar at SWIC, possibly during Earth Week.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes taken by: Jamie Windler

[The next meeting will be held December 15, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the Seibert Conference Room.](#)