

SCB meeting notes for March 10, 2009
End of the quarter!

Sid England update:

Progress: Now have full-time sustainability manager, Allen Doyle
Trying to green lab programs, already started with one building
Bringing in companies that have dry storage technology for DNA/RNA samples,
assessing that technology, and convincing labs to actually turn off freezers!
Camille Kirk, another staff person
Student housing also hired own sustainability coordinator

Future for committees:

Chancellor's Sustainability Advisory Committee- policy level group to advisor
chancellor on fundraising, outreach, and academics

Climate Action Plan Task Force- how we will meet our goals, bring out report in the
spring and another in the fall. With constrained budgets will universities step back?
Chancellor said no! That would be a big mistake.

Green Computing- using a graduate school management course

Sustainability Coordinators for Office and Lab- long term goal, one for every department
Thinking of having a team of "conveners" to call for meetings
Isolated energy uses, determines usages of recycling and other common sustainability
practices in the Sustainability office.

Strategic Energy Partnership- partnership with companies to retrofit our campus
with matching funds, sometimes less than 4 years turnaround!

Monitoring Based Commissioning- tuning buildings, heating and ventilation/AC
Systems

Goal is to make all of these processes apparent and make an event out of them,
competitions, celebrations, etc.

Sustainable Energy- off the grid energy, put in application for West Village project that
will break ground this summer, want to come close to zero-net energy

Sustainable Transportation

Green Buildings- want to bring buildings up to silver or gold LEED (?) standards, focus
on Shield Library right now- look for information in the foyer!

Closing the Circle- meet quarterly, have subgroups- want to reduce amount of "stuff"

Food Systems

Material Management

Recycling and waste management

Kristy Deiner- idea of 290-style class that will come up with lists of necessary data, focus
on labs- assess what we are actually doing, effective changes recommendations to
disseminate, find labs that want to do trials

But no prof wants to put their name down! Fall quarter might be a better option...

Sid- water is a third category. UCD is actually a very good responsible user of water. Past
40 years of growth has not affected our volume of water per year! In each drought period,

people actually ratchet down, have lower flow toilets, contained, re-circulated systems of water. Have landscape irrigation system- use less water despite having more land! Have well-spaced irrigation lines and a “seamus” (sp?) system on campus that determines field capacity. Reclaiming water is difficult on an ag system because it affects experiments. Ha. Problem with putting it into landscape system because we can’t be sure there is not overlap between that waste reclamation system and into the domestic system. Health issues.

Heather Campbell- needs TA for WSC 11- Conservation Biology- contact her at hcampbell@ucdavis.edu

Updates:

Bjorn on undergrad seminar series- pretty good range of topics, recommend doing it next year, disappointment was in how small the class is (11 to 15 people), recommend advertisement to undergrads, make it a 290 for grads in some way?

Bjorn and Erin will type up an overview and assessment

Marit on restoration- had three days of restoration: tree/shrub planting, grass plug planting and irrigation, good amount of turnout and turnover in volunteers (between 4-8 people plus Audubon workers), Audubon very happy with our collaboration and would like us to continue volunteering

More volunteer days pending in the spring, will likely switch sites to get a different feel for restoration

Patrick on WIDSI- almost every week, a group went out → impact of 180 kid units, lots of topics- food webs, animal defenses, etc., in spring, WIDSI will continue, teachers may want same groups to continue

There were about 4-5 core volunteers that go often. Need more SCB volunteers to not just volunteer but actually go!

Meeting in spring to brainstorm activities, take a survey in classrooms to assess how the groups were received

Next Quarter:

Restoration, WIDSI, and sustainability will continue

Chris Mosser- may need SCB volunteers to help with WSC and other department displays on Picnic Day and GGE will have booth (SCB will not ☹)

Chris Mosser- suggestion to have day outings to get cross-taxa people to hike around and strut their stuff and educate others, join up with other similar groups as the SCB

Other ideas: follow up to ballot issues for California that we discussed in the fall; how is Obama doing (what is he doing?); new election on California budget this summer to discuss

Fundraiser canned- not enough leadership!