

Sustainability Task Force
May 21, 2010
10am-11:30am
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Emily Messa, Jonas Chin, James Glennie, Shankar Chellam, Sameer Kapileshwari, Alexandra McGuffey, Christina Yanascavage and Rahil Shah

I. Open Forum

II. Approval Items

A. Sustainable Curriculum

- A draft definition of sustainable curriculum has been proposed by GreenUH
- Sustainable curriculum includes sustainable focused and related courses
- Task Force approved the definition of sustainable curriculum
- Based on this approved definition by the Task Force, GreenUH will post the index of undergraduate and graduate courses that include sustainability
- Curriculum plays the most vital role in sustainability

B. Sustainability Training

- Sustainability training focuses on 3 most important criteria- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse
- UH has now 10 different locations old battery or toners can be donated for recycling
- May want to make it more of an optional deal, will work with Human Resources
- Task Force approved the contents of the sustainability training presentation with some edits

C. Task Force Newsletter

- Task Force member James Glennie proposed a e-newsletter on campus sustainability
- It is divided with Campus, Domestic and International news
- Task Force accepted this newsletter and agreed to have it updated once a month with key issues related to sustainability

III. Information Items

A. Faculty Report from "Sustainability on Campus" course

- Peter Bishop, Barry Lefer and Emily Messa taught 'Sustainability On-Campus' course this semester
- During the final presentation, students proposed problems and solutions for parking and transportation, use of LED in elevators, installing water meter in the buildings, recycling in dorms and cougar village sustainability themed floor
- This course will again be available in Spring 2011

B. Curriculum Index

- An index of all sustainability courses has been completed using the curriculum definition

C. Report of the Princeton Review Recognition

- Princeton Review 2010: UH has been recognized for being one of America's Most Environmentally Responsible Universities

D. Task Force Summer Workshop

- Task Force discussed the agenda for the summer workshop
- The workshop is planned for July 1st, 2010 and will include AASHE-STARS, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy, Waste Minimization Policy and Campus Energy Policy
- Goal is to ensure that all members of the Task Force are well prepared and knowledgeable for the upcoming year along with start talking about the agenda

E. Report on the Recycled Paper Incentive Program

- Emily presented the incentive program developed by the UH-Finance for the departments purchasing recycling paper
- 5% rebate to be given to departments purchasing recycled paper
- Departments can buy recycled paper from TODAY's

F. Plastic Bag Use on Campus

- Task Force Member James Glennie discussed on reducing the use of plastic bag on-campus
- Work on the researching the numbers
- Work with the Food Services Advisory Committee
- Collaborate on the policy

IV. Adjourn