

Sustainability Task Force
Meeting Minutes June 24, 2011

Attendees: Emily Messa, Sarah Chesley, Rani Ramchandani, Paul Brokhin, Leah Wolfthal, Kate Gaviola, Lindsay Blagg, James Rosengren, Omar Tahir, Nam-My Le

I. Call to Order

II. Open Forum

A. Blaffer Art Museum – Tony Feher exhibit (presented by: James Rosengren)

1. Feher is contemporary artist that creates artwork out of household and industrial items
2. Blaffer hopes to build relationships with the task force and academic community and establish a connection through this exhibit
3. The exhibit will begin once the renovations are completed to the museum – anticipated completion is next spring but may be delayed

III. Approval Items

A. Solar Energy Intern applicants

1. Nam-My Le

- a. electrical engineering major, Honors College (Honors college ambassador)
- b. Feels that with Houston being the energy capital of the world, we should lead the charge in finding alternative energy
- c. shared ideas on getting interest through courtyard presentation, central plant tours, solar powered vs. gas powered vehicle races, social media, support early on from student groups

2. Omar Tahir

- a. economics major, sophomore
- b. interest stems from Middle East background, environmental advocate; wants to explore the green-loving area of business
- c. focused on the science part of the array
- d. increase student awareness by encouraging students to stay on campus – offer more visual presentations, do activities later in afternoon, offer free food

3. Vote: Nam-My Le approved unanimously as Solar Energy Intern

- a. Leah Wolfthal will notify both candidates that Nam-My Le was selected

IV. Updates

A. Introduction of Leah Wolfthal as Sustainability Coordinator

1. ideas from the task force members shared

- a. better signage on recycling bins
- b. increase the number of students that are recycling
- c. clothing drive – promote “reuse” as well as recycling

2. Wolfthal shared plan of action

- a. research-based approach – look at other schools

3. progress in connecting to academic side (ex. Architecture design project, communications course)

4. Wolfthal will return to next meeting with her findings – develop action plan and numerical goals

V. Adjourn

- A. next meeting will be in early August