

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: October 18, 2021
 Location: Teams Meeting
 Time: 2:00 – 3:30
PM

Committee Members

✓ **Attended** X **Did not attend**

- ✓ David Oliver – Facilities & Construction Management
- ✓ Christa Rieck – Facilities Planning
- X Jeff Benjamin – Facilities Services
- ✓ Jim Taylor – University Architect
- X Brena Baumann-Gonzalez – Advancement
- ✓ Nadine Frias-Martinez – Auxiliary Services
- ✓ Mohammad Saklayen – Division of Research
- ✓ Vicky Rawlston – Human Resources
- ✓ Bradley Eanes – Office of the Provost
- ✓ Eve Esch – Student Affairs and Enrollment Services
- ✓ Alan Rossiter – UH Energy
- ✓ Amber Rangel – Marketing and Communications
- ✓ Mili Kyropoulou – Faculty Senate
- ✓ Tom Brents – Staff Council
- ✓ Taylor Nix – Student Government Association
- ✓ Gabriel Durham—Sustainability Coordinator, Facilities Planning (*ex officio*)

1. Meeting began at 1.05pm.
2. Kick-off
 - a. David Oliver emphasized importance of the committee, which represents a cross section of the university. Committee’s work will be key to goal to become a “Top 50” public university and will receive direct attention of President Khator.
3. Intros
 - a. Attendees introduced themselves to the group.
4. “Top 50” Public University
 - a. Gabe Durham outlined four possible metrics for comparing sustainability at “Top 50” public universities: Presidents Commitment Letters, Climate Action Plans, STARS ratings, LEED certified buildings.
5. University Measurement Tool – AASHE STARS
 - a. Gabe introduced the STARS rating system and the four tracking areas: academics, engagement, operations and planning. He illustrated sample STARS credits in each area.
6. Sustainability Achievements
 - b. Group discussion:

- i. David proud of new “design *and certify* to LEED” standards
- ii. Christa proud of design guidelines and master spec changes to integrate sustainable design
- iii. Nadine proud of new Dining Zero Waste initiative
- iv. Alan proud of UH Energy “beyond UH” education and outreach
- v. Eve proud of ACUI sustainability award for student center

7. Next Steps

- c. Christa Rieck summarized next steps:
 - i. Draft Mission and Vision statements
 - ii. Create an updated MAPP policy
 - iii. Review STARS 2021 credits
- d. Gabe will be in touch about preparation for the next meeting on January 21, 2022.

8. Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.