CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY

ACADEMIC SENATE
http://www.csueastbay.edu/senate
510-885-3671

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABILITY

MEETING DATE: Monday, September 12, 2022, 2:00-4:00pm via Zoom

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM LINK

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Jason Daniels (Chair), Talya Kemper, Sara McDaniel, Daisy Muralles, Ryan Smith, Paul Wingco
Guests: Mark Robinson, Carol Trost, Sarah Nielsen
Members Absent:

Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State East Bay_Public

Short Version: Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State University East Bay Hayward 2-4-20…

1. Election of CS Secretary/or rotating secretary
    a. Sara McDaniel volunteered to serve as Secretary for this meeting; formal election to take place at next meeting.
2. Approval of the agenda
    a. Sara McDaniel moved to approve; Jason Daniels seconded
3. Welcome new members
    a. Introductions
        i. Interim Director of Sustainability, Presidential Appointee
            1. Paul Wingco (22-23)
        ii. Chair
            1. Jason Daniels (21-23)
        iii. Continuing Members
            1. Abinash Bhattachan (21-23)
                a. No longer at CSUEB
            2. Sara McDaniel (21-23)
            3. T.T. Rajan Selvarajan (21-23)
                a. On sabbatical leave for Fall 2022
        iv. New Members
            1. Talya Kemper (22-24)
            2. Ryan Smith (22-24)
            3. Daisy Muralles (Fall 22) (Sharon Radcliff, Sabbatical Replacement)
        v. Guests

1. Mark Robinson (Academic Senate Coordinator), Sarah Neilson (Academic Senate Chair), Carol Trost (Academic Senate/University Honors Program)

4. **Reports:**
    a. Report of the Chair
        i. Serving as SULO during Sharon's sabbatical, and also serves as the CS representative to the Academic Senate. Vacancies are a current committee challenge– we are still missing a Member-at-Large with expertise in sustainability (Abi's former position on the committee), and a Lecturer representative. We also have a student position open.
            1. Sarah/Mark: We would like to fill these vacancies as soon as possible, via appointment, and then reappointment will take place during the spring election.
            2. Mark: Lecturer position is particularly difficult to fill; outside of their contract hours.
    b. Report of the SULO (see above)
    c. Report of the Presidential Appointee
    d. Report from Director of Sustainability
        i. Interviews are being conducted for the Director of Facilities Management, a critical position. We are also focused on hiring the next director of the Office of Sustainability. This is a challenging position to fill in today's job market. We failed last year in our search, having made an offer to a candidate that ultimately fell through (person took a higher-paying position). We are working with the Chancellor's Office and campus to move forward, as operating on an Interim basis is very difficult. The STARS report (Sustainability Tracking and Rating System), which keeps track of our sustainability progress, was last completed in 2018. We received a Bronze rating (low end) of the ratings, which range from Bronze to Platinum. The campus has made a lot of progress since 2018 (the minor, coursework, etc). October is Sustainability Month, perhaps we can do more to promote our committee's work. A student is working on new graphics and we will be re-launching our CSUEB Sustainability social media accounts. Please promote/forward any of these upcoming posts. I also reported on water usage/water consumption to the CSUs given the current water shortage – we are currently at 6% water reduction for the year, and our goal is a minimum of 10%. This work involves our groundskeeping and facilities staff, retraining, etc. as well as educating both faculty and students about this need.

5. **Business:**
    a. Lecturer Nominee - Vacant Position on Committee
    b. At-Large Nominee- Vacant Position on Committee

6. **Discussion:**
    a. Setting agenda for 2022-2023
        i. Academic Programming
            1. GE Minor
                a. https://www.csueastbay.edu/history/files/images/gem-s_organizational_charter.pdf
                b. https://www.csueastbay.edu/history/files/images/gem-s_overview.pdf
            2. Sustainability Overlay
                a. https://catalog.csueastbay.edu/content.php?catoid=31&navoid=26736

b. Our committee (Jason, Sara, Sharon) gave a presentation at Back to the Bay about creating a course within the Sustainability Overlay. It was well-attended (~15 between in-person and Zoom).
    i. Jason: Should this be a continued goal of this committee? Increasing the number of sustainability overlay courses available?
    ii. Sustainability Minor– this is fairly new (2019), and it seems that students and faculty don't know about it. Sustainability is a very marketable skill and would increase employability for graduates. How do we market this/get students to enroll in the minor?
        1. GE minor in Sustainability – for students: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iubEfDXxHI
        2. GE minor in Sustainability – for advisors: https://youtu.be/jm3sGN3tsaA
    iii. Ryan: 80/20 rule about minors. How do we access information about who is declaring the minors to determine who the real "target" is? Can we find this on Bay Advisor?
    iv. Jason: This will help our committee determine who is most likely to join the minor and make strategic decisions about where we make interventions to increase enrollment in the minor/overlay courses. This will also help us clearly articulate the goals of this committee moving forward.
    v. Paul: Office of Sustainability could partner with other departments on campus and will be increasing social media presence to hopefully help promote these programs more effectively.
    vi. Sarah N.: Notices can be sent out to tenured/tenure-track faculty, could be included in the newsletter.

ii. STARS Report
1. Planning for data collection
    a. https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/california-state-university-east-bay-ca/report/2019-04-19/
2. Question from Ryan: Why did we receive a Bronze in the 2018 STARS Report?
    a. Paul: We were only beginning to have any sustainability-focused coursework in 2018. There wasn't graduate-level work in this area. A lot of opportunities on the Operations side of the AASHE report also exist. A big one is Energy Consumption, and also Clean Energy (we received a 0/4 last time). We are building and installing solar panels on campus.
        i. Ryan: Can you provide an update on the solar plan?
        ii. Paul: We put out an RFP for a solar system on campus. We received one proposal from a pre-qualified bidder (Forefront Power), who we are working with to iron out a contract. It will be a roughly 3 megawatt system (we are currently at less than 1 megawatt) and will be in the Parking Lot G/H area. A rooftop system will also be installed on the new

CORE building. This will directly offset a good chunk of our grid-supplied power. We are also looking at battery storage options.

b. Jason: We've improved in the number of courses offered, departments involved in the work, etc. We will be able to demonstrate improvement.
c. Daisy: We can update our score for AC-11, as we now have an open access policy.

iii. Planning for Earth Week (22 April 2023)
1. Last Year 2022:
a. https://www.csueastbay.edu/sustainability/files/docs/copy-of-earthweek2022_calendar_final.pdf
2. Previous Years: 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016
3. Paul: If we want to get any sustainability-focused events together for Sustainability Month in October, this needs to happen quickly.
4. Jason: Earth Day is April 22nd, we did most of this in the spring last year but we may be better served by starting the planning earlier and revitalizing the Earth Week calendar to be more robust. We could have sessions about the STARS report, the overlay/major, etc.
a. Ryan: How do we engage faculty and students around things like the AASHE report. Why should they care about this? There is always a motivational component to these things– if we can find a way to incentivize/motivate around this topic (grant funding, RTP, etc.) this will help us engage folks around sustainability improvements. It would be nice to know if any incentives exist from the State of California or the Chancellor's Office to help with this (i.e. "Campus as a Living Lab").
b. Paul: This is a good question and is something we need to put effort into advancing on our campus. Prospective students are starting to consider these criteria ("green schools") when they are looking at colleges. STARS is currently voluntary, or has been in the past, but the new CSU Sustainability Policy now recommends using STARS as the reporting system.

iv. CSUEB Foundation Board
1. Discussion of a senate resolution to divest from unsustainable investments.
a. Jason: This previously took place, but we have a new president and a new committee– do we see this as part of our role? Sometimes senate resolutions create rapid change, and other times it seems like just a statement.
b. Paul: This is a trend going on across universities. I know the STARS rating system has some goals/ideas related to this, so I can take another look at this and report back.
c. Sara: Perhaps we keep this on the agenda as an ongoing discussion item. This seems important and like something we should consider moving forward with once we have more information.

b. Questions and Comments
i. Ryan: Wanting to get clear on the goal of this committee and support for sustainability on campus. The previous transition was disappointing because it felt as if there wasn't support for the work being done on campus.

ii. Paul: Jillian accomplished a lot for the university. Agreed that we need to get the operations and academic sides of the university to work together in a meaningful way in order to really get things accomplished. I was not here for the previous transition but that's my personal take.

iii. Jason: Moving forward, I really want to see this committee as a place to bridge the gap between academics, facilities, etc. and a place for real meaningful dialogue to take place. I'm happy for anyone to speak to this moving forward or to articulate any additional thoughts about the goals of this committee.

7. Adjournment
    a. Sara McDaniel- Motion to adjourn the meeting
    b. Paul Wingco- Seconded