Westfield State College  
*Special Committee on Sustainability Committee*  
Meeting Minutes (03/26/2009, 17:00, Bates 05)

Present: Kyle Slavik, Vanessa Pilar, Bill Bickley, Carsten Braun, Mark Cabral, Marijoan Bull, Ashley McGillcuay, Ethan Michaud, Caitlin Barry, Jane Mildred, David Harris-Fried, Michael Young, Nicholas Langone, Curt Robie

Absent: Rosemary Dowling, Aviva Berezin,

1) News and Upcoming Events

- 15th Annual Westfield River Symposium (03/28/2009)
- Jared Diamond (04/08/2009, Westfield State College)
- Larry Lansburgh (04/14/2009, Westfield State College)
- Students from Marijoan Bull’s *Housing in America* class will work on a Habitat for Humanity House on Saturday, 03/28/2009.

2) Update on Green Day Planning

Bill Bickley reported on the Green Day planning activities. So far, 30+ vendors and exhibitors have committed. The Westfield Farmer’s Market will probably be held at the college on Green Day, significantly increasing the number of vendors.

- Jane Mildred reported contacting several possible exhibitors, including the Food Coop in Northampton. She also suggested looking in perma-culture as a possible exhibitor. Bill Bickley will follow up.
- Bill Bickley reported that Maureen Belliveau has been actively inviting vendors and exhibitors.
- Bill Bickley reported on the marketing activities related to the Green Day events. Janet Garcia is arranging for radio advertisement on WRSI, Craig Phelon is writing press releases, the posters will be available next week. David Harris-Fried will photograph the Green Day event.
- MASSPIRG will create a Facebook event to promote Green Day.
- MASSPIRG will present several educational tables: a) Mountain Top Removal, 2) Bottled water vs. reusable water bottles, Petitioning Initiatives, and 4) possibly something related to PETA.
- Curt Robie reported on Facilities and Operations plans for Green Day: a) a demonstration electrical meter to show electrical use in a normal dorm room and suggestions for savings, b) something related to water use, c) green cleaning products, and d) possibly a light bulb swap.
- Ethan Michaud will create a display about trayless dining.
3) Discussion about Food Services

A brief discussion about food services on campus and ways to improve the quality and the sustainability. The major effort will be the switch to trayless dining, scheduled for Fall 2009. It was suggested that other ideas and concerns should be forwarded to the Food Service Committee. Bill Bickley is looking into hydration stations as an alternative to soda fountains.

4) Report from Curt Robie (Facilities and Operations)

Curt Robie reported on some of the current sustainability initiatives related to campus operations.

- Grant application to replace fluorescent light fixtures with LED light fixtures. Westfield State College would be a test site for the state, the tests would be conducted in Bated Hall. A decision on the grant is expected by next week.
- Grant application to retro-fit the outdoor cast-iron light fixtures with high-efficiency LEDs.
- Grant application to found the trayless dining initiative.
- Grant application to build solar-powered cross walks on Western Avenue.
- Facilities and Operations are finishing the greenhouse gas survey for 2008.
- Future: F & O are looking again into occupancy sensors and possibly a major project related to solar energy and/or geothermal.

5) Planning for Fall 2009

The committee discussed possible plans and activities for Fall 2009. Several people expressed concern that the committee was too focused on the Green Day activities. It was noted that the work of the committee was severely limited in Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 due to lack of participation from the students and the administration. These issues have been largely resolved, with the exception of participation from the President’s Office, but have made it impossible to create new initiatives this academic year.

In order to plan for Fall 2009, each committee member will review the Sustainability Plan for the next meeting (Thursday, 04/02/2009) with a particular emphasis on Pages 51 to 57 (including the Sustainability Action Plan). Each committee member will create her/his Top-Three list for initiatives to focus on in Fall 2009.

Meeting adjourned 18:00
Next Meeting: Thursday, 04/02/2009, Bates 05
Respectfully submitted, Carsten Braun