The Sustainability Committee held a lunch meeting with President Dobelle to learn more about his vision for WSC as a whole, and his views and ideas regarding the issue of sustainability as it relates to the college. President Dobelle sees his role primarily as a supporter of concepts and strategies developed by the faculty and college community.

President Dobelle encouraged the committee, and the campus as a whole, to think in broader terms about sustainability. The goal should be to capture the issues of sustainability academically, emphasizing the critical role of sustainability at the global scale, especially in relation to rapid urbanization.

Sustainability can offer a realistic and marketable core or focus for the college as a whole to attract students, giving Westfield State College a unique and attractive identity amongst the plethora of higher education choices for high seniors, nationally and internationally.

For this to be successful, sustainability has to be extended beyond its environmental roots to create an interdisciplinary, global theme that is compatible across the entire curriculum of the college. Sustainability is also ideally suited as a theme to foster the global exchange of ideas and education, for example by developing partnerships with colleges and universities abroad.

Meeting adjourned at 13:20.
Respectfully Submitted,

Carsten Braun