Faculty Committee on Sustainability (FCS) Annual Report AY 2015-16

1. Committee Chair: Toby Svoboda

2. Committee membership (meetings attended)
   - Lynn Babington (ex officio) (0)
   - James Biardi (ex officio) (6)
   - Carol Ann Davis (6)
   - Dina Franceschi (4)
   - Anif McDonald (FUSA) (2)
   - Tod Osier (6)
   - Kathryn Phillips (6)
   - Christine Siegel (guest) (4)
   - Toby Svoboda (chair) (7)
   - Min Xu (7)

Representative of FCS on Campus Sustainability Committee (CSC): James Biardi, Carol Ann Davis, Dina Franceschi, Tod Osier, Toby Svoboda

3. Number of meetings attended by members
   See previous section

4. Dates of meetings
   - September 30, 2015
   - November 4, 2015
   - November 18, 2015
   - February 3, 2016
   - March 2, 2016
   - April 6, 2016
   - April 27, 2016

5. Principal topics considered by the committee
   - Continued review of the draft Campus Sustainability Plan (CSP)
   - Sustainability impact of brush clearing on campus
   - Dialogue with staff, students, and administrators on Campus Sustainability Committee (CSC) regarding various sustainability issues
   - Discussion of open space inventory map of campus
   - Waste issues on campus, including electronics disposal and recycling contamination
   - Review of facilities projects, including proposed construction and renovations
   - Use of automatic door openers on campus

6. Decisions made by the committee
• As in previous years, the FCS reviewed the status of the draft CSP and worked to expedite its approval by the senior administration. This included reviewing revisions to the CSP made by the administration and discussing the CSP in our own meetings, as well as in the meetings of the CSC. At the 4-27-2016 meeting of the FCS, it was moved that the committee endorse edited language under Goal 4 of the CSP. This motion passed unanimously.

• The committee had concerns about brush clearing conducted by Facilities Management, which the committee expressed in a letter to David Frassinelli. While his response was appreciated, the FCS remained concerned about clearing done in the woods along Round Hill Road, as well as the lack of a clear process whereby faculty can communicate their pedagogical and research needs for natural spaces on campus to Facilities.

• As in previous years, the FCS made repeated requests to Facilities for a copy of the open space inventory map of campus it has on file. In the past, we received a version of this map that was of limited use. In April, 2016, Facilities provided us with a more detailed version of the map. The committee decided to work on delineating certain areas of campus used by faculty, but much of this work will have to take place during the 2016-17 academic year, given the late date of our receipt of the map from Facilities.

• Committee members have noticed overuse of the automatic door openers on campus buildings, which wastes energy. The FCS brought this item to the CSC, where consensus was reached to post signs on doors asking individuals not to use the automatic openers unless needed.

7. Anticipated effects of these decisions
   • We expect the CSP to become an important framework for decision-making on campus, as well as for coordinating initiatives across different units of the university.
   • We expect the open space inventory map eventually to provide a useful tool for coordinating use of campus space.
   • We expect to have better communication with Facilities regarding activities relevant to sustainability on campus.
   • We expect unnecessary use of automatic door openers to decrease.
   • We expect to continue in our advisory role to Facilities regarding construction and renovations on campus, when relevant to sustainability issues.

8. Unfinished business
   • Discussion with Facilities of brush clearing on campus.
   • Much of this committee’s work is ongoing, particularly that being done on the CSP and open space inventory map.

9. Future agenda items
   • Development of open space inventory map
   • Continued review and advocacy of CSP
10. Supplementary material
   • Minutes from all 2015-16 meetings
   • Campus open space inventory map

Respectfully Submitted,
Toby Svoboda