Faculty Committee on Sustainability
March 5th, 2014
Bannow 310
10:00 AM

In attendance: Jim Biardi (Chair), Michael Cavanaugh, Carol Ann Davis, Paul Fitzgerald, Tod Osier, Kraig Steffen, Toby Svodka, Olivia Tourgee (FUSA representative).

1) Announcements
   a. JB announced that he will be attending the CLASU meeting 3/19 at the United Illuminating facility in Orange, CT.
   b. JB announced that the university Sustainability Plan will soon be released in draft form for comment by the university community. A survey of attitudes will accompany the release.
   c. SVPAA PF announced the opportunity to engage with sustainability issues within the Fairfield 2020 initiative – this would be in the form of membership on working groups/task forces. The working groups that interface with notions of sustainability include the “business”, “back office” and “core curriculum” working groups. PF is the point of contact for interested parties.

2) Minutes from 11/6 were approved. Motion to approve - MK. Second - TO. 5 in favor, 1 abstained.

3) Campus Sustainability Committee matters
   a. KS gave a summary of the of the most recent CSC meeting. He announced that the CSC made decisions on the student awards and noted that the minutes of the discussion would soon be available.
   b. KS summarized the discussion at the CSC of the proposed new nursing building and siting. He described the challenges inherent in siting (underground high temperature water lines, the desired proximity of the new building to the current SON building, the importance of parking, importance of designated wetlands, the water drainage pipes that terminate in the headwall adjacent to the current SON and serve as the source of the wetland, etc…). KS also described an informal meeting he had with David Frassinelli, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management, and other facilities staff to discuss the siting issues. KS detailed his attempts to provide alternative suggestions to facilities management that would result in an improved outcome as far as habitat preservation on campus.
4) Ongoing business

a. The committee discussed David Frassinelli’s response (dated February 27th) to the FCS’s January 27th communication. It was pointed out by SVPAA PF that the FCS serves an advisory role to facilities and is not a decision making body. Much of the discussion that followed had to do with the role of the FCS and the importance of timing of FCS input on the process. Of specific concern was that the FCS membership felt that they were unable to fulfill their advisory role because it is felt that the building was sited before the committee was able to offer input. JB offered to draft and circulate a response to David Frassinelli in an attempt to clarify the role of the FCS in the process (specifically in relation to scope and timing of involvement) and to reiterate the unfulfilled requests for information in the original communication from the FCS.

b. JB asked about the open space inventory that TO and Jen Klug had been working on with facilities. TO replied that the inventory existed in map form and that Tom Curran had superimposed the site descriptions on the campus map as a new map layer (Tom used the textual descriptions originally complied by JB as a source). TO noted that the actual work is out of his hands given the software and expertise needed to render such a map, but that he believed that the map was basically complete and ready for review.

Motion to adjourn – KS. Second – CAD. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tod Osier