Environmental Caucus Meeting  
Friday, March 4th, 2011, 12:00–1:30 pm  
ARD Large Pod

Guests: Jeff Meilbeck and Rich Payne.

I. Introductions & Announcements (For upcoming events, see www.nau.edu/green).

- John Kester: Seed exchange with SSLUG at Art Walk tonight, 5:30.
- Cat Sullivan: Last week conducted a Campus Dining waste audit. Got a lot of feedback from students.
- Scott Perelstein: Residence Life has created a Sustainability Task Force. Will have sustainability intern over the summer who will work on Energy Conservation Campaign. Will try to coordinate with No Impact Man “NAU Reads” book in curriculum.
- Todd Barnell: ITEP has formed a Green Team. One person from team will attend each EC meeting.
- Bryan McLaren: Renewable Energy careers night next week, March 9th, 6:30-8:30pm.
- Paul Gazda (needs to leave early, so giving report from EC Sustainable Environmental Practices Action Team): Sustainable Landscape Maintenance Pilot Project is working with three student interns and Capital Assets to design treatments for three test plots (likely Ardrey, SBS, Eastburn Education) – fertilizer and grass seeds. Designing a project website. Campus Organic Gardener ½ time position has been funded by Green Fund. Purpose is to work with volunteers with SSLUG garden (SBS) and design and maintain a garden and landscaping at ARD. Also, a Spring Planting Festival from March 12-20 will be held in Sedona
- Caryn Massey: NAU did not win the NWF Chill Out Awards for the video submitted, but still in the running for the Campus Green Scene competition.
- Rod Parnell: Opening for student volunteer for Resilience conference at ASU during spring break. If interested, contact Rod ASAP.
- Rom Coles: Robert Gottlieb is speaking at DuBois on 3/7, 7 pm. Action Research Teams (ARTs) going very well with many participants.
• Kim Curtis: Gardens for Humanity in Sedona is holding event
  Sunday, March 13.

II. Presentation: New Transit Service at NAU (Rich Payne, Director of Residence Life,
  Parking & Shuttle Services, and Jeff Meilbeck, NAIP TA General Manager) Residence Life
  is working with Jeff Meilbeck on changing and improving the community and campus
  transit system. (this presentation is available for download and can be found online at
  http://envcaucus.nau.edu/docs/new_transit_service_3_11.pptx)

• Project Design and Benefits:
  - New Route/Mountain Line Bus system
  - Route time reduced to 10 minutes peak, 15 minutes otherwise,
    14 hours/day.
  - Free to students
  - Made possible through grant and a joint venture between
    City of Flagstaff, NAU and Federal Transit System grant
  - Will have a lane only for buses, bikes and pedestrians
  - Shelters for on and off campus
  - Real Time Arrival Technology

• Project Origins:
  - Master Plan
  - Regional Transportation Plan
  - Wider Sidewalks
  - Planting bed along the sidewalks
  - Hybrid/electric buses, low floor, perimeter seating

• Benefits:
  - Reduce Carbon Emissions
  - More affordable living
  - Increase economic commerce
  - Decrease parking demands

• Project Schedule:
  - Launching service in August 2011
  - Campus Shuttle will still be in service.

III. Environmental Caucus Business

   A. Report from EC Steering Committee (Shelley Silbert):
   - Met with NAU President John Haeger last week to discuss vision to promote
     NAU’s strength in sustainability, using this as a brand and rallying point in a time
     of economic crisis. The president likes the concept of an Associate Vice Provost for
     Sustainability to further opportunities to integrate sustainability across the curriculum,
     but timing is not good now. He asked the EC to recommend innovative ideas for one-
     time funding to promote sustainability on campus.
-Met with VP for Admin and Finance Jennus Burton: President Haeger has asked him to work with EC as liaison. Discussed new position AVP for Capital Assets and Facilities, which did not include sustainability in the job description. It will be in the matrix. Agreed to have an EC representative on the search committee. (Rod Parnell agreed to serve). Discussed a variety of other priority initiatives.

-Met with Provost Liz Grobsmith and AVP Karen Pugliesi to continue discussions on how to work most seamlessly with Provost’s office.

B. TransAT Update (Scott Perelstein):
- Have been working on Earth Week Transportation Day, including presence on pedway for event
- Created transportation survey questions for students that commute to campus.
- Working on application for Bicycle Friendly University. Delayed until next cycle to improve application with 2011 Transportation Spine, bike lockers, etc..

C. Earth Week (Kevin Ordean):
- Working on list of 3-4 events a day from Sunday-Friday, there will also be activities throughout April.
- Partnering with Blue Key 5k walk and will table at this event.
- Each day has a theme; Sunday -- service day/religion and environment. Monday is food, Tuesday is water, Wednesday is sustainability, Thursday is transportation, and Friday is outreach and awareness. Linking with the Flagstaff city event the Saturday before.
- Schedule will be finalized within the next week.
- Looking for more events.

D. Green Fund (Emily Anderson):
- Most recently funded project is Campus Organic Gardener position. Net Impact to install reusable water stations, also approved sample recycling bins for around campus.
- Hired new business intern.

E. NY Times/American Democracy Project Talk:
- 47 people attended first talk, led by Dr. Kim Curtis, on Food Policy.
- Next talk to be led by Dr. Darrell Kaufman on Climate Change issues March 24.
- Third Talk by Dr. Rod Parnell on water issues on Colorado Plateau, Earth Week.

F. Employee Development Day: Last year, Shelley, Kristen Bullard and Casey Fisher gave two presentations on the Caucus. This year’s EDD is May 25th. Shelley is out of town. Looking for Caucus participant(s) to give a presentation on sustainability or an aspect of the EC. Shelley can help prepare. Please contact her if interested.

IV. Action Team Check-Ins. Various groups met.
Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 – 12:00-1:30 pm, ARD Large Pod Room

Thanks to EC intern Caryn Massey for taking notes!