UOIT Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 9th, 2018 2:00PM-3:30PM DTB 524

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| Nov 17th, 2017 Action Items | Responsible | Status |
| Green Office ideas; determine what will work in specific departments  | All |  |
| Two pager on recent Energy Retrofits at UOIT for Peter | Nadia, Zowie |  |
| Nadia to get in touch with Dan about the SmartCommute survey | Nadia | Completed |
| Look into Wheat-Based paper products again | Nadia, Zowie | In Progress |
| Minor In Sustainability- Nadia to send out updated document to Peter | Nadia  | Completed |

1. **Attendance**

Nadia Harduar (Chair), Ken Bright, Karyn Douglas, Derek Gwynne-Davies, Neil Hopkins, Sheila Rhodes, Jackson Teather; Conference call: Elisa Beverley, Kate Gibbings, Jennifer Goldsmith, Dan Hoornweg, Peter Stoett

Regrets: Tina Petralito, Mary Olaveson

1. **Review and Approval of August 2017 minutes**

Nadia motioned to approve November 2017 and Neil seconded

1. **Update on Minor in Sustainability**
* The minor was approved at both the Curriculum Committee and Faculty of Social Science and Humanities’ Faculty Council meetings.
* Awaiting approval by the Curriculum Program Review Committee; meeting will be held on January 19th (update: will be discussed at the Feb 16th meeting)
* Goal is to have it running in September 2018
1. **UOIT Green Offices**
* Nadia outlined the program to all present
	1. Goal is to create a culture of sustainability at the University by having all departments/faculties participate in the certificate program. Each green initiative garners points towards the certificate. Three levels of certification: Bronze, Silver, Gold.
	2. Kate Gibbings’ feedback:
		1. Library may be interested in a compost program;
		2. Staff suggest to have or possibly make signs with info for recycling bins (where coffee cups and lids go)
		3. “As a shared service, Library would need to look at participating in both programs however DC’s program seems to require a high level of commitment”
	3. Nadia asked the group for feedback regarding the program and for ideas on how to frame the certificate program to the UOIT community.
		1. Ken asked about incentives for participation.
			1. Friendly department/office competition; given a certificate and publicity (possibly story on the UOIT homepage)
			2. ACTION ITEM: Suggest incentives
		2. It was agreed that an online format would probably garner more participation.
			1. Changing the format from an Excel spreadsheet to one with graphics would make it more interesting to participants.
* ACTION ITEM: Nadia will re-send the Green Office draft to all committee members
* ACTION ITEM: All committee members to contribute their green office ideas by February 2.
* ACTION ITEM: Nadia, Jackson and Neil to meet to discuss format layout
1. **Faces of Sustainability/UOIT Green Ambassador Program**
* Nadia said this initiative was on an individual basis
	1. Human Resources is creating a digital badge program to highlight and showcase engaged staff; Green Ambassador badge will focus on environmental best practices. The program is divided into three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold
	2. Earliest launch date would be May/June
1. **Grants and Collaboration**
* City of Oshawa received funding from the provincial government for cycling infrastructure projects to connect trails between Oshawa Creek and City Hall, and from the airport to UOIT/DC
	1. Ken informed all present that UOIT will reach out to the City of Oshawa for more discussion about this project
* Fulbright Application
	1. Nadia has done the draft proposal for a community garden at UOIT, which is due January 15

ACTION: Send to Ken, Peter and Karyn for review

1. **Smart Commute: Campus Survey**
* Survey was shifted one week from Jan 8th to Jan 15th
* Nadia introduced Derek Gwynne-Davies of Smart Commute
* Derek outlined the commuting survey to be distributed to the UOIT community
	+ Survey open from: January 15-26; Raffle Prize: four $50 Oshawa Centre gift cards
	1. Distribution methods were discussed: Weekly Report, LCD Screens, social media, faculty/department distribution
		1. Neil added that including the link on social media would open the survey to the public and not exclusively to UOIT/DC employees, which may skew any results. Neil suggested MyCampus as an avenue to reach students (contact Natalie Hunte or globalcommunications@uoit.ca)

ACTION: Nadia will send the link to committee members to test and provide feedback by Thursday, January 11 before its launch on January 15

1. **Green Metric Rating**
* Green Metric Rating – UOIT is ranked eighth in Canada and 155th in the world
1. **Waste Management: Waste Audit and Compost Project**
* Nadia has not received the results for the waste audit, but hopefully this week
* Compost Pilot Project – downtown has shown interest, but next steps not taken
1. **Upcoming Events**
* January 26th: Sheila Rhodes informed all present of the Environmental Conference hosted by the Faculty of Education. Guest speakers will be from local organizations. Teacher candidates attend, but it is open to all.
* UOIT Sustainability, Innovation and Advancement event will be held in February (tentative)
* March 15th: ‘Unlock the Potential of Food’ with Aramark, Flex and DC Sustainability; during Nutrition Month; focus on local and sustainable food, good health and well-being, campus services
* Event Recap: Thrift Swap took place in December at the north campus – full bin of clothing, 2 comforter sets, dishes (29plates, 16 bowls, 14 cups, cutlery), plastic storage cabinet, 8 books, ~16 disposable plastic bags, reusable bottles, 3 bedding sheets, toiletries- donated Bibles for Missions Thrift Swap and 27 non-perishable food items donated to Center for Food; e-waste and batteries were also collected
1. **Discussion**
* Ken informed everyone that UOIT will be changing one UOIT vehicle to an electric and will be adding a few more charging stations at the north campus. He also said that a recycling refresh would be happening in April or May
* Ken mentioned that they will be updating the chairs at north campus and donating the old ones to community organizations; if you have use for any please let us know

**Meeting Adjourned: 3:17pm**

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| Jan 9th, 2018 Action Items | Responsible | Status |
| Share UOIT Smart Commute Survey with staff, faculty and students | All members |  |
| Provide feedback on Green Office Program (Nadia will share ASAP) | All members |  |
| Schedule Green Office Format Meeting | Jackson, Nadia, Neil |  |
| Fulbright Application- review and submit | Peter, Ken, Karyn, Nadia  |  |
| Look into Wheat-Based paper products again | Nadia, Zowie | In Progress |
| Two pager on recent Energy Retrofits at UOIT for Peter | Nadia, Zowie | In Progress |