Sustainability Charter Committee

March 11, 2016

- Meeting Minutes –

MEMBERS/LIAISONS PRESENT: Margaret Beck, Liz Christiansen, Sophia Finster,

Jake Kundert, Sara Maples, Tyler Priest, Heather Sander, Brian Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe

PRIORITIES TO FORWARD TO PRESIDENT HARRELD

Members discussed several priorities that the Committee would like to present to President Harreld when he returns to participate in a Sustainability Charter Committee.

These initiatives will be discussed and refined at the March and April meetings and then presented to him at the May meeting:

* **Establish sustainability as a core value of the University of Iowa, linked to the institutional commitment to diversity**
* **Establish a robust sustainability branding and marketing effort that targets undergraduates and also reaches beyond the campus;**
* **Establish the sustainability coordinator position**
* **Pursue the following academic recommendations:**
  + With the Sustainability Certificate Committee, explore the development of a sustainability major (in addition to the sustainability certificate);
  + Establish a general education requirement for sustainability;
  + Provide a suite of incentives, including course releases, for instructors to incorporate sustainability into more courses;
  + Encourage sustainability language in syllabus addenda;
  + Explore new sustainability research and writing/art programs; and
  + Develop an environmental writing track.
* **Ensure that energy conservation and efficiency remain a key, funded priority in the UI’s sustainability efforts; call for the UIHC and Athletics to establish working sustainability committees and agendas that support the UI’s 2020 Sustainability Targets.**

It was recommended that Ty and Brian draft a letter from the Committee to the President asking that he share his vision and reaffirm his commitment to sustainability, which could be communicated in an Earth Day message to campus. Brian and Ty will draft the letter that will include the following recommended statements:

* Establish sustainability as a core value at the UI;
* Ensure sustainability is embedded into next five year plan;
* Re-affirm the 2020 Sustainability Targets and commit to achieving them;
* Tier initiatives will uphold our commitment to sustainability; and
* Articulate the following vision - *Iowa students will leave our campus sustainability and climate literate and each of us at the University of Iowa will fulfill our campus commitment to sustainability.*

It was also recommended that an agenda be developed and provided in advance detailing the specific talking points and recommended support sought from the President.

OTHER

Nothing

NEXT MEETING

March 25, 2016 – 2:00 – 3:30 PM - 202 University Services Building