Name: Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS), University of California Berkeley

Convened: February 2003, at 3rd Chancellor’s Recycling Summit

Reports to: Chancellor, through Vice Chancellor for Facilities Services

Frequency of meetings: Monthly, from September to May; occasionally during the summer.

Membership composition:
- 6 students (nominated by Chancellor, Office of Student Life, Associated Students of the UC, Graduate Student Assembly, Campus Recycling and Refuse Services, Residence Hall Assembly)
- 3 faculty (2 nominated by Academic Senate, 1 nominated by the Chancellor)
- 8 staff appointments (one each requested from the following campus offices: Capital Projects, Environment, Health and Safety, Parking and Transportation, Housing and Dining, Physical Plant-Campus Services, Business Services and Chancellor, and the Office of the President.)

Mission Statement: The Committee chooses projects and subcommittees based on the goals in the committee charter:
- To engage the campus in an ongoing dialogue about reaching environmental sustainability;
- To integrate environmental sustainability with existing campus programs in education, research, operations, and public service;
- To instill a culture of sustainable long-range planning and forward-thinking design.

Goals: The Committee advises the Chancellor on matters pertaining to the environment and sustainability as they directly relate to the University of California, Berkeley, and promotes environmental management and sustainable development throughout campus, in academics as well as operations.

Funding: Chancellor’s discretionary budget, transmitted through Vice Chancellor for Facilities Services. There is no set budget. Funding for year 1 = $97,000, year 2 = $50,000. Current budget proposal for year 3 = $139,000 is pending approval.

Structure: The Committee has topic-specific subcommittees and an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee assists the committee co-chairs in general operation and policy. Subcommittees form in response to interest of committee members and in alignment with the CACS mission. Active subcommittees include:
- Outreach/Awards/Summit Subcommittee - hosts the annual sustainability summit, for which it solicits nominations from campus, and at which it presents Campus Sustainability Awards. Also handles all outreach to campus and beyond pertaining to CACS mission and activities.
- Green Building/Clean Energy -guides activities to develop Berkeley’s Green building/Clean energy potential and implementation of the Presidential Policy on Green Buildings/Clean Energy (GB/CE).
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Subcommittee- newly convened influence both on-campus and system-wide strategic sourcing activities, with the goal of integrating EPP into purchasing decisions.
- Chancellor’s Green Campus Fund (Green Fund) administers the Green Fund, solicits and reviews applications for grants, awarded at the annual Sustainability Summit, and coordinates with the Berkeley Environmental Alumni Network (BEAN).
- Climate Task Force Planning group

Major Activities/Events:
- Regular monthly meetings with presentations by student, staff, faculty and other groups.
- Annual Sustainability Summit on or near Earth Day
- Campus Sustainability Award recognition program
- Administer Chancellor’s Green Campus Fund grants program
- Administer campus Sustainability intern program
Occasional workshops, participation in campus planning and design sessions, sponsorship and partnership with other campus groups.

Regular subcommittee meetings where much of committee work is achieved

Sponsored SCUP web cast during October 2005 Sustainability Day

2005-06 Accomplishments

- 2006 Sustainability Summit, including Campus Sustainability Awards
- Presentation of Campus climate action proposal and recommendations
- Convened first Climate Action Task Force in partnership with other campus groups.
- Established a Chancellor’s Sustainability Intern program, with 10 student interns working across 8 sustainability topic areas, including development of Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) tool that can be used to inform building choices.
- Received external funding to initiate a Community Sustainability Intern program

Prior achievements

- Sustainability Summit, including Campus Sustainability Awards, Presentation of Green Fund grants and presentation of 2005 Campus Sustainability Assessment to Chancellor
- Production of new website, with full access to sustainability assessment. Updates to assessment will be on web, and background documents for assessment will also be available.
- Successful funding of first set of Chancellor’s Green Campus Fund projects. Funding supports innovative efforts to create a more sustainable campus. CACS selected proposals from students, faculty, and staff.
- 2004: Campus Sustainability Assessment comprised of 32 indicators in 9 systems, the product of extensive collaboration between students, faculty and staff. Available at http://sustainability.berkeley.edu/assessment.html

Future Plans (confirmed and potential):

- Expand the intern program.
- Working with CalCAP group to develop a Climate Action Plan for the campus.
- Research and propose a Coordinator or Office of Sustainability, which may work cooperatively with or be advised by CACS.
- Plan to sponsor sustainability vendor faire during the upcoming October 2006 Sustainability Day
- Update the assessment every 2-3 years, pending sufficient funding.
- Further develop the staff process to prioritize larger project opportunities outlined in the assessment.
- Use assessment and life cycle analysis/costing to justify repair of aging campus infrastructure. Funding for deferred maintenance may be more easily defended based on resource consumption savings and potential payback periods.
- Berkeley Environmental Alumni Network (BEAN) - alumni guidance, support, influence on campus sustainability policy/activities and potential source of funding for Green Fund.
- B-BEARS- Building Environment Assessment Rating System developed by the Center for the Built Environment (CBE.berkeley.edu), which could assist the campus in developing its sustainable buildings system, and augmenting the information and review at various stages in the process of planning, designing, constructing, and operating buildings.

Other aspects: The Berkeley Environmental Alumni Network (BEAN) - established to mobilize the environmentally minded alumni of UC Berkeley to influence academic and administrative processes through philanthropy, public review, and community involvement in campus sustainability initiatives. http://sustainability.berkeley.edu/BEAN.html.

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