

Chancellor's Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 15 · 10:00 – 11:30am

[Zoom Link](#)

Attendees:

Committee Members: David Lea, Renee Bahl, Gildas Halle, Cali Pflieger, Roland Geyer, Julie Hendricks, Kristin Antelman, Melody Jue, Julie Maldonado, Susannah Scott, Mo Lovegreen (Consultant), Jacob Godfrey (Advisor), Jewel Persad (staff to the Committee)

Other Attendance: Katie Maynard, Sarah Siedschlag

Open Forum/Introductions (10:00 - 10:05):

- No items

Announcements (10:05 - 10:10):

- Greenboards
 - Food Poster link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aBTuTsRBAm-LrukMbYKc2DrHveDWuGn-/view?usp=sharing>
 - Transportation poster link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/17WUuWwzkAEQjJpRcvm1kgIBAn1W4e_Vh/view?usp=sharing
- Interactive Dashboard
 - <https://cnidashboard.ucop.edu/>
 - UC is about less than a quarter portion of the state of CA emissions
 - There has been a modest decline in emissions, but we have grown substantially - If you think in carbon intensity we have reduced roughly 30%

Update: (10:10 - 10:18):

- A. Global Climate Leadership Council Readout - David Lea
 - Had a very good meeting in San Diego
 - Global Climate Leadership Council advises the UC President and UCOP on climate policy for all campuses and medical centers
 - Meets three times a year
 - Discussed the Governor's proposed new funding for CA climate and CA Climate Resilience - targets UC, 185 million but it will likely be reshaped by the legislature, in the planning stages to determine how funding will be allocated
 - Heard from UCSD Chancellor on how campuses can reduce emissions and balance with other pressing mission critical matters

- Discussions of Electrification
 - Heard from three UC Campuses, UCI, UCB, and UCD
 - Long and complicated timelines to achieve electrification.
 - UCD is furthest along in electrification of the three presenters
 - UCB
 - Spent about a million in the early stages of planning
 - Mark Fisher is one of the people leading this
 - UCB is space constrained
 - Building a microgrid resistance to power safety shut offs
 - UCI
 - Building an all electric medical campus
 - First all-electric medical campuses in the country
 - Still backed up by diesel generators
 - Two systems of back ups
 - Big take-away
 - Each campus needs to come up with their own plans specific to their situation
 - UCSB will be focusing on the 1,600 pieces of equipment that need to be replaced
 - Davis started planning to replace the steam system in 2008 or 2009 and they just started doing those replacements
 - UCSD has been an activist center and they spoke (GND students) to us at the evening reception
 - Heard from several students
 - Urged more rapid implementation
 - Questions
 - Where is UCSB in thinking about electrification?
 - a. We have a growing list of projects given we receive state funding
 - b. Constantly requesting funding from the state but we have a long list of deferred maintenance needs
 - c. There is a higher interest from the state in Climate so that may result in more funding in the long run
 - d. This year's state of CA budget may have some funding for electrification
 - i. This amount was cut by 93% over the course of a month
 - ii. May be refocused on other deferred maintenance areas

B. Annual Report - Jewel Persad

- Each year we put together an annual sustainability report that gets sent to the Chancellor.
- Everyone has had a chance to submit edits which have been incorporated
- We are voting on this later in this agenda, any questions?
 - None

- Thank you to Jewel for her hard work on the annual report!

Approve Meeting Min. from November (attached) - Renee Bahl (10:18 - 10:20)

- approved

Presentation and Discussion (10:20 - 11:20):

- A. Proposed Systemwide Sustainable Practices Policy Updates - Katie Maynard & Jewel Persad
- a. We have a UC systemwide sustainable steering committee that oversees the UC Sustainable Practices Policy
 - i. A VC of Administration from each campus and some student representatives sit on this
 - ii. Met January 28th to review proposed policy changes and will be voting May 6th on the final proposed language.
 - iii. This is the opportunity if anyone wants to weigh in on the policies
 - iv. Reminder on process
 - 1. Working groups create recommendations
 - 2. Vetting with Stakeholders
 - 3. Developing a Policy Development Document:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MKyJwHlotahgGuZHSNeUina5nKYzxsr/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112462166010206769107&rtpof=true&sd=true>
 - 4. Up to UC Sustainability Steering Committee
 - 5. Then to UCOP for final vetting
 - b. See slides for details of the policies
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uX119vegjs9MUcrvzYdnDzzAWjcFjzG0YmDeMC4zSMo/edit?usp=sharing>
 - c. Green Building
 - i. Limited effect on UCSB since most UCSB buildings are already Gold
 - ii. Adds a ParkSmart Requirement for Parking Structures
 - 1. UCSD and UCSF have done this process
 - 2. Does require building materials, energy, and other considerations
 - 3. Easy to achieve
 - d. Minor changes to Climate Protection Section
 - i. Scope 3 Transportation Emissions changing from 2050 to 2045
 - ii. The working group is also looking into short and mid term targets for scope 3.
 - e. Environment and Climate Justice Incorporation in Climate Protection
 - i. What would happen if the campus wanted to replace boilers in a building on the campus?
 - 1. This will only kick in for when we propose our Climate Action Plans to UCOP
 - 2. Concern raised on what level of process/bureaucracy this would add to our planning

- a. Will this apply to small scale projects?
 - b. Shouldn't be just based on the cost of the project, project types should also be considered
 - f. Food
 - g. Health & Vending
 - i. In 2019 added a health and well being section with goals to propose vending goals and review chemicals of concern
 - ii. Bring UC inline with USDA Dietary Guidelines
 - iii. Raise awareness of existing policy
 - h. Chemicals of Concern?
 - i. When was this presented to the procurement leads?
 - 1. Clarification, it was presented to the Sustainable Procurement Working Group. Heather is UCSB's representative on this working group
 - a. This working group doesn't include all the CPOs and so it may also be valuable to present to the CPOs group
 - b. Jacob Godfrey is also interested in being directly consulted on this
 - i. Katie Maynard will follow up with Jacob
 - 2. Feedback
 - a. Supportive of a training requirement but we may need to be more inclusive/thoughtful on who is trained on these guidelines
 - b. Facilities and Housing make decisions on cleaning chemicals (rather than the procurement office)
- B. Graduate Student Sustainability Survey Results - Cali Pflieger
 - a. Surveyed graduate students and asked if they had suggestions for a sustainable campuses
 - i. Received 22 graduate student responses (mostly from Bren) - sent out on GSA Newsletter
 - 1. Recommendations included increasing composting, reducing single use items, increasing reusables, and reducing move out waste, education (information on energy use in apartment housing), etc.
 - 2. UCSB Transportation - want to see EV & bus expansion, increase bike security, E-bike, bike shop discounts.
 - 3. Waste Disposal - want to see composting increase on campus
 - 4. Better bike route on storke?
 - a. Is there any way we could work with the City of Goleta on this?
 - i. Co-grant writing opportunities, goleta has substantially increased their bike planning efforts and a majority of their budget is on bike improvements.

- ii. For anyone interested in the bike pathway at Storke, please check out the City of Goleta's list of Bike/Ped Projects:
https://www.cityofgoleta.org/home/showpublish_eddocument/15565/636447135428800000
- iii. You can also see the Storke Bike project on this list
https://www.cityofgoleta.org/home/showpublish_eddocument/15563/636447129359670000
(Number 9042)
- iv. You can also see detail on the Storke Widening and BikeWay project from the City of Goleta here:
https://www.cityofgoleta.org/home/showpublish_eddocument/25907/637702470100430000
(about page 28, Project 9042) Currently planned for 2023-2025

C. The Business of Less Book- Roland Geyer

- a. Summary of 25 years of knowledge
- b. Seeing a growing deterioration of environment
- c. There is something seriously wrong with the way we think about corporate sustainability.
 - i. Win-win
 - ii. Eco-efficiency
- d. Mass production followed by mass pollution, followed by rise of mass resistance in 1960s and 1970s, 1990s you see a rise of corporate sustainability (meant to reconcile need for economic growth with desire to stay within planetary boundaries)
- e. The Reality of Eco-Efficiency - Energy Intensity goes down but production goes up (Example: see growth in aluminum production far outway decrease in energy intensity)
 - i. Eco-efficiency as a tool on its own will not get us there
 - ii. Since the Earth Summit, the annual output of steel, cement, aluminum, plastic, cars, has tripled.
 - iii. CO2 intensity of GDP is declining but not enough to decouple economic output and CO2 emissions.
- f. Win-win
 - i. Savings are spent elsewhere
 - ii. The only way out is if savings are used on something with low to no environmental impact
 - iii. Only thing with low or no environmental impact is Labor
- g. Solutions
 - i. Net Green - whatever you do has to actually reduce environmental impact

- 1. Carsharing example: makes people drive less (only if you had a car before joining)
- ii. The only environmental benefit of reuse and recycle is that it enables us to use less new products. Recycled materials need to have a lower footprint than virgin products. Also, we need to use recycled materials instead of virgin materials.
- iii. The only role of the circular economy is to due away with the linear economy
- iv. Substitutes need to have a lower environmental footprint - most famous is corn based ethanol, also bioplastics (several do not have a lower footprint)
 - 1. Examples of good substitutes include EV and renewable energy
- v. Final strategy is just to use less (Eco-efficiency) - use less output (repair and reuse models), can't just rely on technology
- vi. Households should redirect spending to labor

There is a big difference between actions we find sustainable and what actually has impact. Should we be more critical of programs we support? What makes an environmental choice sustainable is not necessarily what we are doing but what we are no longer doing.

The only point of reuse and recycle is to reduce consumption of virgin materials and new products. That isn't always a given.

- D. Offsets Discussion - Jewel Persad & David Lea
 - a. Tabled to next meeting

Action Items (11:20 - 11:25):

- A. Vote to send Annual Report to the Chancellor
 - a. All present voted yes
 - i. 8 voting members

Other Updates (11:25 - 11:30):