University Sustainability Committee August 2, 2017



<u>Members Present:</u> Dr. Krista Harrell, Chair, Dr. Glen Borchert, Todd Culp, William Guess, Dr. Doug Marshall, Mary Beth Massey, Maria McElyea, Diana Nichols, Kelly Rushing, Brad Sanders, Carl Thomas (SGA)

<u>Members Absent:</u> Dr. James Bridgeforth, Dr. John Cleary, Victor Cohen, Cecelia Martin, Stephanie Smallegan

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by Dr. Krista Harrell.

Old Business:

- 1. Chair Transition: Dr. Bridgeforth is leaving USA to take a position at a different institution. Dr. Krista Harrell has been appointed Chair of the USA Sustainability Committee. She recognized and thanked Dr. Bridgeforth for all of his hard work.
- 2. Review of the May 2017 minutes: The minutes for the May 11, 2017 committee meeting were approved.
- 3. Mission Discussion: Cecelia Martin to present (tabled until 8/17/17 meeting)
- 4. End of Year Report Update: Dr. Borchert reported. Work is continuing in the garden. The students will start planting the second week of school. The Community Garden is one of the sites that will be worked on for "Day of Service". Once the garden is cleaned up, William Guess will assist in trying to obtain funds for a greenhouse. Dr. Harrell suggested the students working on the garden visit and research other university gardens for tips and ideas.
- 5. Update of USA Meadows: Gary Carley, from USA Grounds Dept. will provide a cost estimate to plant a meadow of wildflowers near the Glen Sebastian Trails.
- 6. Sustainability Coordinator Update: Dr. Harrell and William Guess reported. The position has been posted to Human Resource's website. A committee is being formed to screen applications and for the interview process.

This position will have influence system wide (MCI, AMSTI, USAMC, USACW, Fairhope campuses, etc.).

New Business:

1. Website Update: Diana Nichols and Kelly Rushing presented. The mission statement has been finalized. A sample of what the website will look like was passed around to the group. The website will be easier to navigate and to find information on how to get involved. The pictures have been changed to make the website appear more current. It has been suggested that an online form be created for individuals to submit for volunteer opportunities. The recycling totals will be listed on the main page of the website. This is a great opportunity to inform the university community about the Sustainability Committee's goals and objectives. There is a separate website for the Student Sustainability Committee and a link to it will connect to this website. The website will highlight all of the university's recycling accomplishments and goals. The committee has been asked to review the website and send all feedback and suggestions to Kelly or Diana.

2. Open Floor: It was suggested that persons not on the committee be invited to attend meetings. Dr. Harrell suggested allowing visitors to attend 1-2 times per semester. Todd Culp has asked Facility Management for approval for a Recycling Technician position to help with the University's recycling needs. The approval for this position is pending. Also, Todd suggested that a new truck will need to be purchased if his department will need to pick up recycles from off campus areas. William Guess suggested that other vendors be considered to pick up recyclable materials from off campus locations. A concern is to ensure that the recycled materials are recycled and not "dumped" at another location.

Maria McElyea asked that recycling bins be placed at the Grove.

Todd Culp suggested USA Sustainability have a booth at orientation to promote sustainability and recycling goals.

William Guess suggested promoting recycling goals at athletic events, ex. football. Brad Sanders stated that dining facilities will begin using a cup that can be reused and recycled.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Dr. Krista Harrell, Associate Dean of Students, VP of Student Affairs