

To: Cal Poly Academic Senate
From: Neal MacDougall
Chair, Academic Senate Sustainability Committee
Re: Winter Quarter 2011 Progress Report
Date: March 28, 2011

Due to teaching and work schedules, the full Committee met only twice during the past quarter but there were a number of subcommittee meetings (no minutes taken) to craft two separate resolutions – the SUSCAT criteria resolution and the Carbon Footprint resolution. The minutes of the first meeting are included. The second meeting consisted solely of the finalization of the two resolutions that were forwarded to Rachel Fernflores for consideration. They are also attached.

Key Tasks Identified

1. Determination of SUSCAT Criteria
2. Design of Carbon/Ecological Footprint Resolution
3. Write-up of Committee Procedures

Progress on Key Tasks During Winter Quarter 2011

1. Drafting of SUSCAT Resolution
2. Drafting of Carbon Footprint Resolution
3. Write-up of Committee Procedures
 - No progress. Will be the focus of the coming quarter once the resolution issues are clarified and it is determined whether the committee activities implied in the resolution are to be included in the procedures or not.

**ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA
AS-???-11**

**RESOLUTION ON
CAL POLY SUSTAINABILITY CATALOG**

WHEREAS, The attached Sustainability Learning Objectives adopted via AS-688-09 in June 2009 identify how all graduating students should be able to consider sustainability when making reasoned decisions; and

WHEREAS, Students would benefit from knowing which courses help them achieve the Sustainability Learning Objectives, whether or not achieving the Sustainability Learning Objectives forms a graduation requirement; and

WHEREAS, A vehicle for identifying courses with an emphasis on sustainability already exists in the current Cal Poly Sustainability Catalog at <http://suscat.calpoly.edu/>; and

WHEREAS, The Cal Poly Catalog and PASS are the most accessible sources of course information for students; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That courses currently listed in the Cal Poly Sustainability Catalog be reviewed to ensure that they help students achieve at least two of the four Sustainability Learning Objectives; and be it further

RESOLVED: That additional courses proposed for inclusion in the Cal Poly Sustainability Catalog be subject to the same process of review; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate Sustainability Committee carry out said review by using the attached sustainability course proposal form; and be it further

RESOLVED: That both the Cal Poly Catalog and PASS (Plan A Student Schedule) identify those courses listed in the Cal Poly Sustainability Catalog.

Sustainability Learning Objectives

Cal Poly defines sustainability as the ability of the natural and social systems to survive and thrive together to meet current and future needs. In order to consider sustainability when making reasoned decisions, all graduating students should be able to:

1. Define and apply sustainability principles within their academic programs
2. Explain how natural, economic, and social systems interact to foster or prevent sustainability
3. Analyze and explain local, national, and global sustainability using a multidisciplinary approach
4. Consider sustainability principles while developing personal and professional values

Academic Senate Resolution 688-09 (PDF),

<http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/Resolutions/2008-2009/AS-688-09.pdf>, approved by President Baker June 22, 2009

Resolution on
Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Academic Departments at Cal Poly

Background

The CSU (CSU Executive Order 987¹) has mandated the reduction of resource and energy usage across the CSU System including all campuses. Facility Services has done an excellent job of reducing the campus carbon footprint through the implementation of energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling, alternative transportation, sustainable procurement and resource use reduction initiatives.

Facility Services in collaboration with the Alliance to Save Energy, has established a Green Campus Program on the Cal Poly campus. The intent of this program is to implement energy and water conservation projects and programs, support green workforce development and to accomplish behavioral change through educational outreach to students, faculty and staff. Cal Poly's Green Campus team includes five paid student interns and a number of additional student volunteers working for academic credit. The program has been highly successful in reducing resource and energy usage in the residence halls and is extending into the areas of the university's Administration and Finance Division (AFD). The Alliance to Save Energy's Green Campus Program is funded by the ratepayers of California under the auspices of SCE, PG&E, and Sempra Energy.

The academic departments have had a limited role in reducing resource and energy usage on the campus. It is the intent of this resolution to invite academic departments to actively participate in the Green Campus Program effort to reduce resource and energy usage.

¹ <http://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-987.html>

1 Whereas, Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006,
2 mandates that California reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by
3 2020; and
4

5 Whereas, State Executive Order S-3-05 mandated that greenhouse gas emissions be
6 reduced to 80% below 1990 California levels by 2050; and
7

8 Whereas, the CSU in Executive Order 987 has mandated the reduction of resource and
9 energy usage for the System as well as the campuses; and
10

11 Whereas, carbon emissions on campus come primarily from utility energy use for heating,
12 cooling and lighting, water use, fuel use for commuting, travel and the campus
13 vehicle fleet, procurement and material and resource consumption; and
14

15 Whereas, Facility Services has done an excellent job of reducing resource and energy
16 usage on the campus; and
17

18 Whereas, Facility Services, in collaboration with the Alliance to Save Energy, has
19 established a Green Campus Program; and
20

21 Whereas, the Green Campus Program continues to successfully reduce resource, energy
22 and water usage by working with University Housing, ASI, Cal Poly
23 Corporation, Campus Dining, student clubs and Student Life and Leadership;
24 and
25

26 Whereas, the Green Campus Program has developed a Green Campus Certification
27 system that creates awareness and recognition for the adoption of sustainable
28 practices that conserve energy and water, reduce resource use, promote
29 increased recycling and use of alternative transportation; and
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31 Whereas, the Vice President of Administration and Finance has endorsed the Green
32 Campus Certification program and has directed every department within AFD
33 to designate a Sustainability Mentor and to pursue Green Campus
34 Certification; and
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36 Whereas, academic departments have had a limited role in reducing resource, energy and
37 water usage on the campus; and
38

39 Whereas, many of the strategies employed by the Green Campus Program could help to
40 reduce program costs to the academic departments by reducing resource and
41 energy usage; therefore be it
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43 Resolved: That each department shall establish a faculty or staff contact within the
44 department to be the Sustainability Mentor; and be it further
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46 Resolved: That departments may choose to be represented by a Sustainability Mentor at
47 the college level; and be it further
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49 Resolved: That the Sustainability Mentor shall be responsible for coordinating
50 sustainability initiatives for the department, disseminating information to
51 department personnel regarding energy and water conservation, recycling, and
52 waste reduction, as well as serving as the primary point of contact for working
53 with the Green Campus Program, Facility Services, and the Academic Senate
54 Sustainability Committee; and be it further
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56 Resolved: That all academic departments shall be encouraged to pursue Green Campus
57 Certification; and be it further
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59 Resolved: The departments shall be encouraged to provide opportunities for student
60 participation in the certification process through service learning and/or
61 academic credit; and be it further
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63 Resolved: That support for the academic departments shall be provided by Facility
64 Services, the Green Campus Program, and the Academic Senate Sustainability
65 Committee.