# ACADEMIC SENATE – SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Winter 2020
Due: Friday, March 20, 2020

## Members

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## Charges

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<tr>
<th>Charge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identification of sustainability courses. Winter 2020</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>In progress.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments. Ongoing</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>In progress. See Sept. 24, Feb. 27, and Mar. 10 minutes. Following the Fall quarter progress, we received advice from Bruno Giberti about how to institutionalize SLOs assessments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respond to AS-787-14:</td>
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<td>2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. AY 2019-2020</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>2. In progress.</td>
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<td>3. Work with the CTLT to provide support for faculty seeking to teach classes involving sustainability. Ongoing</td>
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<td>Task</td>
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<td>Details</td>
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<td>Develop procedures to identify sustainability courses in catalog on PASS.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>In progress. See Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Jan. 14, 30, Feb. 11, 27, and Mar. 10 meeting minutes plus pp. 4-9 below. The resolution reflects Schedule Builder as the planned PASS replacement. Discussion resulted in the RESOLUTION ON ADDING A SUSTAINABILITY CATALOG OPTION TO SCHEDULE BUILDER passing the Senate as AS-887-20 on Feb. 11. President Armstrong’s acknowledgment memo and the resolution appear on pp. 4-6. The ASI endorsement of the resolution appears on pp. 7-9. The resolution awaits implementation.</td>
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<td>1. “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process.</td>
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<td>2. The CSU will develop employee and student workforce skills in the green jobs industry, prompt the development of sustainable products and services and foster economic development.”</td>
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<td>Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom curriculum. Ongoing</td>
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<td>In progress. See Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Jan. 14, 30, Feb. 27, and Mar. 10 meeting minutes regarding collaborations with various student-led initiatives.</td>
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Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. **AY 2019-2020**

- In progress. See Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Jan. 14, 30, and Feb. 27 meeting minutes. Discussions resulted in a draft resolution regarding setting Cal Poly’s Carbon Neutrality date.

**NOTES:**

The Committee met five times during Winter quarter. Above please find a table summarizing the committee charges and progress made. Below, please find the detailed meeting minutes on pp. 10 – 21.

**Report Appendices:**

- President Armstrong memo acknowledging AS-887-20
- ASI Board of Directors Endorsement #20-02: Academic Senate Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder
- Meeting Minutes
MEMORANDUM

To: Dustin Stegner
Chair, Academic Senate

From: Jeffery D. Armstrong
President

Date: February 25, 2020

Copies: Mary Pedersen
Cem Sunata
Beth Merritt Miller
David Braun

Subject: Response to AS-887-20 Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder

This memo formally acknowledges receipt of the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution. I agree with the basic premise of the resolution; however, additional consultation with the leadership from the Office of the Registrar and the advising community need to take place. The Schedule Builder is a complex software system. The filter option currently reflects degree requirements only and the addition of a non-degree requirement, such as “Show Sustainability Classes,” could cause confusion to our student population. It is my understanding that our students are currently able to recognize sustainability courses by the visual leaf distinction shown in the system. While I support the university’s efforts and recognize the progress made in the area of sustainability, I do encourage further conversation and exploration regarding the sustainability filter with the appropriate entities to reach an amenable solution.

Please extend my thanks to the Academic Senate Sustainability Committee for their attention to this matter.
WHEREAS, Resolution AS-688-09 “Resolution on Sustainability Learning Objectives”, defines Cal Poly’s Sustainability Learning Objectives; and

WHEREAS, Resolution AS-787-14 “Resolution on Sustainability”, directs the Academic Senate Sustainability Committee to develop a list of classes based on a revised Senate accepted assessment process that meet the Sustainability Learning Objectives; and

WHEREAS, Resolution AS-792-15 “Resolution on Approving Assessment Process for Courses Meeting Sustainability Learning Objectives”, identifies the process used to identify courses listed in the Sustainability Catalog (SUSCAT) now found online at http://suscat.calpoly.edu/; and

WHEREAS, The Fall 2019 PASS webpage offers an option to “Show Fully Online Classes,” although students do not have to take online classes to graduate; and

WHEREAS, The 2014 CSU Sustainability Policy states, “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process;” and

WHEREAS, CSU and other campuses use systems to visually identify sustainability courses in their course catalogs or online registration systems; and

WHEREAS, The Second Nature Climate Commitment and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education/Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (AASHE/STARS) programs include curriculum components; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate recommends adding to Schedule Builder a “Show Sustainability Classes” option to at least one of the Filter Options or Course Options. The attached mockup in Figure 1 shows what students might see on a Schedule Builder screen.

Proposed by: Sustainability Committee
Date: Jan. 7, 2020
Figure 1—Concept showing how Schedule Builder could identify SUSCAT Classes. The screenshot comes from https://www.mhighpoint.com/highpoint-products/schedule-builder/.
TO: Jeffrey D. Armstrong  
University President

VIA: Keith B. Humphrey  
Vice President for Student Affairs

FROM: Rob Moore  
Chair of the Board, 2019-20

DATE: March 6, 2020

COPIES: C. Sunata  
D. Stegner  
D. Braun

SUBJECT: Endorsement #20-02: Academic Senate Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder

On February 5, 2020 the ASI Board of Directors approved Endorsement #20-02: Academic Senate Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder

As the official voice of Cal Poly students, the board believed it was crucial to address issues of environmental sustainability on campus. The board discussed the importance of curriculum in educating students on the global climate crisis and the necessity of highlighting courses that emphasize environmental sustainability.

This document endorses the Cal Poly Academic Senate’s ask of University Administration to add a sustainability catalog option to Schedule Builder. This endorsement further affirms the need to include sustainability in Cal Poly’s curriculum.

Please contact me for any questions you may have.

Attachment

[Endorsement #20-02: Academic Senate Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder]
MEMORANDUM

TO: ASI Board of Directors
FROM: Mark Borges
        ASI President
        Alena Andrews
        Secretary of Sustainability
        Julia Hizami
        ASI Board of Directors, CAFES

DATE: January 30, 2020

COPIES: M. Maloney
        M. Crawford
        L. Lee

SUBJECT: Endorsement #20-02: Academic Senate “Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder”

Purpose of the proposed Endorsement: The purpose of this endorsement is to promote the creation of sustainability related courses at Cal Poly and show allyship towards students, staff, and faculty who have accepted a role in working towards an end to the global climate crisis. Understanding an issue as large as climate change and its effects on humanity requires a solid education in the area of environmental literacy. By informing students which courses will assist them in becoming more environmentally literate, Cal Poly students will have increased access to an education that will increase their hirability in an ever-growing sustainability-focused job market.

Background: Cal Poly’s Academic Senate Sustainability Committee is tasked with reviewing courses to be added to the Cal Poly Sustainability Catalog (SusCat) based on criteria specified in prior Academic Senate resolutions. The purpose of the SusCat is threefold:

- To help students find courses and programs that focus on sustainability
- To allow faculty to highlight the courses they teach in sustainability
- To track and grow the list of sustainability offerings in Cal Poly academics

Additionally, Cal Poly’s rating according to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) is influenced by the presence and quality of sustainability in the curricula. By endorsing this resolution, the ASI Board of Directors would be supporting increased efforts of environmental literacy, in addition, to bettering our AASHE STARS rating.
Requested Action: It is requested that the ASI Board of Directors approve Endorsement #20-xx: Academic Senate “Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder”. By demonstrating support for this resolution, the ASI Board of Directors affirms the need to include sustainability in Cal Poly’s curriculum. If approved, please forward this endorsement to University Registrar Cem Sunata, Academic Senate Chair Dustin Stegner, and Academic Senate Sustainability Chair David Braun.

Attachment
(Academic Senate - Resolution on Adding a Sustainability Catalog Option to Schedule Builder)
ASSC Meeting Jan. 14, 2020 20A-206 (2:10-3:00 pm)
Winter Quarter Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, Jan. 14 (2:10 – 3 pm, 20A-206)
Thursday, Jan. 30 (2:10 – 3 pm, 20A-206)
Tuesday, Feb. 11 (2:10 – 3 pm, 20A-206)
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Committee Members (and designations)

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Cal Poly Sustainability Learning Objectives:¹
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:

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

¹www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo
ASSC Committee Charges for 2019-20:

- Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments.
- Respond to AS-787-14
  1. Review new courses in the 2019-2020 catalog for SUSCAT. **AY 2019-2020**
  2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. **AY 2019-2020**
  3. Work with the CTLT to provide support for faculty seeking to teach classes involving sustainability. **Ongoing**
- Develop procedure to identify sustainability courses in catalog and on PASS. **Ongoing**
  - Use AASHE/STARS sustainability focused and sustainability related lists.
- Respond to 2014 CSU Sustainability Policy directives. **Ongoing**
  1. “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process.
  2. The CSU will develop employee and student workforce skills in the green jobs industry, promote the development of sustainable products and services, and foster economic development.”
- Support campus efforts to improve Cal Poly’s AASHE STARS certification credits. **Ongoing**
- Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom/curriculum. **Ongoing**
- Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. **AY 2019-2020**
- Identify sustainability courses. **Fall 2019**

MINUTES
The meeting convened at 2:16 p.m.
1. The committee approved minutes from the Dec. 3 meeting.
2. Discussion took place regarding making plans to support the Schedule Builder Sustainability Filter resolution. Is it possible for the ASI Board of Directors to express support for the resolution?
3. Plan how to respond to the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation Report. Defer discussion until Dennis Elliot can participate.
4. Action on resolutions to pursue this academic year:
   a. Setting Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date. The Facilities Master Plan is on track to appear within a few weeks, and the CESA Modeling occurs thereafter. We can continue to prepare our resolution with the aim of including these results, when they become available.
   b. Recommend cluster hires for thematic pathway in Sustainability. Discussion took place about drafting this resolution.
   c. TGIF—The Green Initiative Fund. Discussion took place again about changing the name to The Green Equity Fund (TGEF) to emphasize the social justice dimensions.
   d. Discussion took place about adding a resolution regarding electrical receptacles for food trucks to avoid generator noise and emissions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Attachments:

None.

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2 [www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen.comm/sustainability](http://www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen.comm/sustainability)
ASSC Meeting Jan. 30, 2020 20A-206 (2:10-3:00 pm)
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*Academic Senate Resolution 688-09 approved by President Baker June 22, 2009*

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1 www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo
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- Respond to AS-787-14
  1. Review new courses in the 2019-2020 catalog for SUSCAT. **AY 2019-2020**
  2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. **AY 2019-2020**
  3. Work with the CTLT to provide support for faculty seeking to teach classes involving sustainability. **Ongoing**
- Develop procedure to identify sustainability courses in catalog and on PASS. **Ongoing**
  - Use AASHE/STARS sustainability focused and sustainability related lists.
- Respond to 2014 CSU Sustainability Policy directives. **Ongoing**
  1. “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process.
  2. The CSU will develop employee and student workforce skills in the green jobs industry, promote the development of sustainable products and services, and foster economic development.”
- Support campus efforts to improve Cal Poly’s AASHE STARS certification credits. **Ongoing**
- Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom/curriculum. **Ongoing**
- Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. **AY 2019-2020**
- Identify sustainability courses. **Fall 2019**

MINUTES
The meeting convened at 2:12 p.m.
1. The committee approved minutes from the Jan. 14 meeting.
2. Discussion took place on the Schedule Builder Sustainability Filter resolution. The Senate advanced the resolution to a second reading during their Jan. 14 meeting. The second reading scheduled for their Jan. 28 meeting has moved to the Feb. 11 meeting.
3. Kylee Singh led a discussion on Sustainable Transportation Charrette planning. The Master Plan EIR requires mitigation in the transportation sector, so the committee brainstormed ideas to consider during the April 24, 2020 Charrette. Ideas include:
   - Remote work policy for staff
   - Creative scheduling for staff and classes
   - Shuttles on and off campus
   - Expand bus support for county buses. Campus IDs now permit free SLO city bus rides. Extend to county buses or subsidize county bus passes
   - Discuss active transportation financing
   - Find alternate uses for the parking structures
4. Defer discussion on how to respond to the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation Report until Dennis Elliot can attend.
5. Defer discussion about how to progress with DEI collaborations until Jay Peters can attend.
6. Brainstorm faculty who might present at a Sustainability/Diversity/Equity/Inclusion research colloquium during Earthweek: Ryan Alaniz, Jane Lehr, Denise Isom.
7. Progress check for resolutions to pursue this academic year:
   a. Setting Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date—awaits Facilities modeling.
   b. Including Sustainability in Faculty and Staff hiring procedures—no progress
   c. Recommend cluster hires for thematic pathway in Sustainability—awaits Penny Bennett’s draft.
   d. Every major and minor must require at least one Sustainability Focused course—no progress.

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2 www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability
e. TGIF—The Green Initiative Fund. Does it get a new name as The Green Equity Fund, or does it succeed as an Instructionally Related Activity.

f. Parking Subsidy Replacement—no progress

g. No single use plastic water bottles, dishes, or utensils on campus. The state mandate requires this by 2023. The ASI Board of Directors plans to consider a resolution to move Cal Poly’s implementation forward to 2021.

h. Fossil fuel divestment—discussions outside the ASSC are taking place. Jonathan Reich mentioned the following resources:


The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Attachments:

None.
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Cal Poly Sustainability Learning Objectives:

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- Consider sustainability principles while developing personal and professional values

*Academic Senate Resolution 688-09 approved by President Baker June 22, 2009*

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1 [www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo](http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo)
ASSC Committee Charges for 2019-20:

- Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments.
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  1. Review new courses in the 2019-2020 catalog for SUSCAT. **AY 2019-2020**
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  - Use AASHE/STARS sustainability focused and sustainability related lists.
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  1. “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process.
  2. The CSU will develop employee and student workforce skills in the green jobs industry, promote the development of sustainable products and services, and foster economic development.”
- Support campus efforts to improve Cal Poly’s AASHE STARS certification credits. **Ongoing**
- Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom/curriculum. **Ongoing**
- Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. **AY 2019-2020**
- Identify sustainability courses. **Fall 2019**

**MINUTES**

The meeting convened at 2:10 p.m.
1. The committee approved minutes from the Jan. 30 meeting.
2. Brief discussion took place about the Schedule Builder Sustainability Filter resolution.
3. Discussion took place about responding to the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation. Invite Bruno Giberti to attend an ASSC meeting.
4. Brainstorm faculty who might present at a Sustainability/Diversity/Equity/Inclusion research colloquium during Earthweek. The previous list contained: Ryan Alaniz, Jane Lehr, & Denise Isom. Other suggestions include: Priya Verma, Colleen Carrigan, Elmira Politano, Gregg Fiegel, Mark Cabrinha, Adrienne Greve, Hemalata Dandekar.
5. Jay Peters led a discussion about how to progress with DEI collaborations based on his visit to the AS Diversity Committee. The ASDC likes the principle of collaboration, but its members feel like the too few DEI advocates are spread too thin to consider adding sustainability to their plates. The ASSC members assumed that ASDC members would automatically value our solidarity and shared purposes, but maybe insufficient trust exists. The discussion suggested ways to build that trust, perhaps by revising the SLOs to make the intrinsic DEI objectives more apparent, perhaps by demonstrating how the ASSC contributes to DEI efforts, perhaps by making progress on the GEF (Green Equity Fund).
6. Discussion took place about how to institutionalize SLO assessment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

**Attachments:**

None.

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2 [www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability](http://www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability)
ASSC Meeting Feb. 27, 2020 20A-206 (2:10-3:00 pm)
Winter Quarter Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, Jan. 14 (2:10 – 3 pm, 20A-206)
Thursday, Jan. 30 (2:10 – 3 pm, 20A-206)
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1 [www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo](http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo)
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  - Use AASHE/STARS sustainability focused and sustainability related lists.
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  1. “The CSU will seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus consultative process.
  2. The CSU will develop employee and student workforce skills in the green jobs industry, promote the development of sustainable products and services, and foster economic development.”
- Support campus efforts to improve Cal Poly’s AASHE STARS certification credits. **Ongoing**
- Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom/curriculum. **Ongoing**
- Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. **AY 2019-2020**
- Identify sustainability courses. **Fall 2019**

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 2:14 p.m.

1. The committee approved revised minutes from the Feb. 11 meeting.
2. Brief discussion took place about the Schedule Builder Sustainability Filter resolution passing the Senate as AS-887-20 and President Armstrong’s acknowledgment memo. Braun should follow up with Cem Sunata and Beth Miller.
3. Discussion took place about responding to the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation. Bruno Giberti plans to attend our March 10 meeting to offer advice.
4. Discussion took place about how to institutionalize SLO assessment.
5. Regarding faculty who might present at a Sustainability/Diversity/Equity/Inclusion research colloquium during Earthweek: Ryan Alaniz, Jane Lehr, & Denise Isom. Priya Verma, Colleen Carrigan, Elmira Politano, Gregg Fiegel, Mark Cabrinha, Adrienne Greve, Hemalata Dandekar. No new names surfaced during the meeting.
6. Discussion took place regarding resolutions to pursue this academic year:
   a. Setting the Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date—Dennis is on track forming the business case. Braun should circulate a draft and request edits and additions to the Whereas clauses.
   b. Including Sustainability in Faculty and Staff hiring procedures—Not discussed.
   c. Recommend cluster hires for thematic pathway in Sustainability—Not discussed.
   d. Every major and minor must require at least one Sustainability Focused course—Not discussed.
   e. TGIF—The Green Initiative Fund, or is it TGEF, the Green Equity Fund, or The Green Fund? —The IRA funding request has been submitted.
   f. Parking Subsidy Replacement—Not discussed.
   g. No single use plastic water bottles, dishes, or utensils on campus—Discussion focused on commencement water bottles. Could the campus purchase hydration trailers to avoid the plastic water bottle deluge?
   h. Fossil fuel divestment—Not discussed.
   i. Improve vegetarian and vegan food options—Not discussed.

[2] www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability
7. Discussion took place about identifying new sustainability courses in time to obtain AS approval this academic year. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

**Attachments:**

None.
ASSC Meeting March 10, 2020 20A-206 (2:10-3:00 pm)
Winter Quarter Meeting Schedule:

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MINUTES
The meeting convened at 2:11 p.m.

1. The committee approved revised minutes from the Feb. 27 meeting.
2. Bruno Giberti offered advice about responding to the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation, particularly in areas the ASSC could act without others leading.
   a. Explain more clearly links between sustainability and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion). Elevate the discussion on campus.
   b. Continue to advance pathways, such as a sustainability pathway, into the GEGB discussion.
   c. Discussion took place about how to institutionalize SLO assessment. WASC has five core competencies: written and oral communication, information literacy, critical thinking, and quantitative reasoning. Think about how to integrate and assess sustainability across these competencies.
   d. Sustainability naturally works with high impact educational practices such as First-Year Seminars and Experiences, Common Intellectual Experiences, Learning Communities, Writing-Intensive Courses, Collaborative Assignments and Projects, Undergraduate Research, Diversity/Global Learning, ePortfolios, Service Learning, Community-Based Learning, Internships, and Capstone Courses and Projects (https://www.aacu.org/leap/hips).
   e. The TGIF/TGEF IRA application needs revision to meet the IRA criteria. It needs to clearly define where the money gets used.
3. Brief discussion took place about the delay in implementing the Schedule Builder Sustainability Filter resolution. We may have to advocate more vigorously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Attachments:
None.

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2 www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability