

To: Cal Poly Academic Senate
From: Neal MacDougall
Chair, Academic Senate Sustainability Committee
Re: Spring Quarter 2012 Progress Report
Date: June 14, 2012

The Committee met five times during spring quarter. The focus of most of the quarter continued to be on assisting the Academic Senate's Executive Committee in gathering data on the feasibility of instituting a sustainability requirement which it finalized with a report to the Ex Comm in April. The committee also spent some meeting time hosting students looking for assistance in implementing some curriculum-related sustainability projects. More follow-up is expected in the next academic year. There was also some work done on the continuation of the assessment of the university sustainability learning objectives (SLOs). Finally, time was spent developing items for the committee's work plan for next academic year. Agendas and minutes of committee meetings are attached.

ASSC Meeting
April 4, 2012
47-24B

Committee Members (and designations)
 Attending:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept.</i>	<i>College/ Unit</i>	<i>Exp. Term/ Other</i>
Braun, David	ElecEngr	CENG	2012
Echols, Robert	Physics	CSM	2012
Kelting, Scott	ConstMgr	CAED	2013
Lancaster, Kate	Acctg&Law	OCOB	2012
Levi, Daniel	Psyc&CD	CLA	2012
MacDougall, Neal	Agribus	CAFES	2013
Vestermark, Jesse	Library	PCS	2013
Elliot, Dennis	Fac. Serv.	E&U Mgr	Ex Officio
Henry, Rachel (excused)	AcadProg	Admin	Ex Officio
Neel, Joel	Fac.Plan	Admin	Ex Officio
Greenwald, Harvey	Math	CSM	Other

Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday April 4th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday April 28th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 2nd (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 16th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 30th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

AGENDA

1. Update on Committee Policies and Procedures (Neal)
2. Update on Strategy for Sustainability Requirement (Neal)
3. Wrapping up (?) of Sustainability Requirement course assessment (Neal)

Outcomes (based on Agenda items)

1. Update on Committee Policies and Procedures
 - Policies and procedures are on hold until the Academic Senate moves farther along with work on the sustainability requirement and it becomes clearer what longer-term duties of the committee would be
2. Update on Strategy for Sustainability Requirement (Neal)
 - The ExComm is moving forward with looking at the sustainability requirement and will await the results of the ASSC's work on

assessing GE classes using the SLOs. A meeting of key ExComm members is being scheduled with Neal and interested ASSC members to discuss the sustainability requirement strategy in the short- and long-run.

3. Wrapping up (?) of Sustainability Requirement course assessment (Neal)
 - The ASSC will finalize the results of looking at GE courses and compile the results to pass on to the ExComm.
 - The ASSC will develop information about additional classes that are close to meeting 2 SLO criteria with “tweaking” as an addendum to the more formal assessment of the GE courses.
 - The ASSC will develop a list of major and minors whose courses/program meet the SLOs (but are not in the GE list) along with a brief explanation of why the committee thinks that they meet the criteria. This information will be forwarded to the ExComm.
4. Other
 - The ASSC will look further into promoting more sustainability in courses in parallel with the work being done to identify courses that already meet the sustainability requirement. This will form the basis of ongoing work with the ExComm to further support the promotion of the sustainability requirement.
 - The ASSC will look into the possibility of finding grant money (from outside of Cal Poly) to help fund the transition of classes to address more sustainability in the content.

ACTION ITEMS

- The ASSC will develop information about additional classes that are close to meeting 2 SLO criteria with “tweaking” as an addendum to the more formal assessment of the GE courses. The information will be passed on to Neal. (Dan, Jesse, Braun, Neal, Bob)
- The ASSC will develop a list of major and minors whose courses/program meet the SLOs (but are not in the GE list) along with a brief explanation of why the committee thinks that they meet the criteria. The information will be passed on to Neal to forward to the ExComm. (All members of ASSC with the information.)

**ASSC Meeting
April 18, 2012
47-24B**

Committee Members (and designations)

Attending:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept.</i>	<i>College/ Unit</i>	<i>Exp. Term/ Other</i>
Braun, David	ElecEngr	CENG	2012
Echols, Robert	Physics	CSM	2012
Kelting, Scott (excused)	ConstMgr	CAED	2013
Lancaster, Kate	Acctg&Law	OCOB	2012
Levi, Daniel	Psyc&CD	CLA	2012
MacDougall, Neal	Agribus	CAFES	2013
Vestermark, Jesse	Library	PCS	2013
Elliot, Dennis	Fac. Serv.	E&U Mgnr	Ex Officio
Henry, Rachel	AcadProg	Admin	Ex Officio
Greenwald, Harvey	Math	CSM	Other

Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

~~Wednesday April 4th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)~~

Wednesday April 18th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 2nd (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 16th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 30th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

AGENDA

1. Update on meeting with ExComm for Sustainability Requirement (Bob, Rachel and Neal)
2. Updating of Sustainability Requirement course assessment (Committee)
3. Student presentations on incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and student work (Tessa Saltzman and Alex Vincent)

Outcomes (based on Agenda items)

1. Update on meeting with ExComm for Sustainability Requirement (Bob, Rachel and Neal)
 - Discussion around the basic decision by the ExComm to continue to work on the sustainability requirement idea but with a view towards working towards the catalog after next.
 - Rachel Fernflores is going to contact department heads and chairs who, based on a survey addressing learning objectives, may have

additional courses that might be considered to satisfy a possible sustainability requirement.

2. Updating of Sustainability Requirement course assessment (Committee)
 - The committee will continue to collect additional courses, minors, majors, etc. that lend themselves to strengthening the success of a possible sustainability requirement. Current additions include the following courses (with no particular distinction as to the degree of possibility):
 - ANT 360 Human Cultural Adaptations
 - GEOG 301 Geography of Resource Utilization
 - HUM 302 Human Values in Agriculture
 - HUM 330 Cal Poly Land
 - HUM 350 Global Environment
 - PHIL 340 Environmental Ethics
 - PSY 311 Environmental Psychology
 - ES 360 Ethnicity and the Land
 - GEOG 308 Global Geography
 - There is a movement in the College of Business to identify sustainability courses according to Kate. She will look into it further.
 - Committee members will continue to pass on a list of possibilities to Neal.
3. Student presentations on incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and student work (Tessa Saltzman)
 - Tessa Saltzman of the Cal Poly Real Food Collaborative reported on her club's work with Campus Dining on making campus food more sustainable and how faculty could get involved.
 - She reported that Campus Dining had reported an interest in the following projects (projects that RFC would like to work with faculty in developing on behalf of Campus Dining):
 - Market research
 - Education about "real" food
 - Yearly inventory of campus dining purchases using the Real Food Calculator
 - Available "real" food supply in SLO County/ locally
 - Local/ organic-friendly distributors
 - How much "real" food our current campus dining distributors have the ability to provide
 - Based on a discussion with the committee, Tessa will contact faculty involved in market research and consumer surveys about working with the RFC on developing the surveys on behalf of Campus Dining. She will contact the committee as she works toward scheduling a meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- Based on a comment from Dennis Elliott, Neal will send an email to the new provost about her attending a committee meeting given her interest in the overlap between sustainability and assessment. (Neal)
- Braun asked that the committee move its attention back to its SLO assessment work. It will be agendaized for the next meeting. (Neal, Braun)

ASSC Meeting
May 2, 2012
47-24B

Committee Members (and designations)

Attending:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept.</i>	<i>College/ Unit</i>	<i>Exp. Term/ Other</i>
Braun, David	ElecEngr	CENG	2012
Echols, Robert	Physics	CSM	2012
Kelting, Scott	ConstMgr	CAED	2013
Lancaster, Kate	Acctg&Law	OCOB	2012
Levi, Daniel	Psyc&CD	CLA	2012
MacDougall, Neal	Agribus	CAFES	2013
Vestermark, Jesse	Library	PCS	2013
Henry, Rachel	AcadProg	Admin	Ex Officio
Greenwald, Harvey	Math	CSM	Other

Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

~~Wednesday April 4th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)~~

~~Wednesday April 18th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)~~

Wednesday May 2nd (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 16th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

Wednesday May 30th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

AGENDA

1. Reminder/Check-in re: members with expiring terms (Neal)
2. Update on invitation to Provost (Neal)
3. Student presentations on incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and student work (Alex Vincent and Megan Bauer)
4. Update and Future Steps on SLO Assessment (Braun)

Outcomes (based on Agenda items)

1. Reminder/Check-in re: members with expiring terms (Neal)
 - Brief discussion around cleaning up list of "other" designees on committee. ACTION ITEM: Harvey will pass on to Neal a set of suggestions for Gladys to make changes.
2. Update on invitation to Provost (Neal)
 - The committee is interested in having the Provost attend a meeting. ACTION ITEM: Neal will consult with Rachel Fernflores and Steve Rein about inviting her.
3. Student presentations on incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and student work (Alex Vincent and Megan Bauer)

- Presentations and discussion followed. Numerous ideas presented to the students regarding possible next steps. [Materials and requests from Alex and Megan attached.]
- 4. Update and Future Steps on SLO Assessment (Braun)
 - Braun reviewed what had been done in the committee to-date prior to the committee's assumption of the sustainability requirement course assessment task. ACTION ITEM: The committee will continue to undertake baseline assessments of student understanding of sustainability based on the SLOs and will pass the results on to Braun.

ACTION ITEMS

- Harvey will pass on to Neal a set of suggestions for Gladys to make changes. (Harvey and Neal)
- Neal will consult with Rachel Fernflores and Steve Rein about inviting her. (Neal)
- The committee will continue to undertake baseline assessments of student understanding of sustainability based on the SLOs and will pass the results on to Braun. (Committee)

E-mail from Megan Bauer

Hi Neal,

Thanks again for the opportunity to present today at the Sustainability Committee meeting. I have attached my proposal for the people who were not able to attend the meeting, and my number is available at the bottom if people have any questions.

What I am looking for now is for faculty members, like yourself, who have been working on research regarding curriculum change or who have a particular interest in the topic to assist me in putting this all together. More specifically, I really need information on previous assessments, successes and criticisms from past curriculum-based workshops, and help communicating with faculty on-campus about this series. For the remainder of the quarter I plan on talking to the Dean's offices for each college, but I also would like to speak with the department heads as well to make this a part of next year's curricula. I feel this project has great potential, and could benefit many students looking to gain experience in their fields for PR, statistics, and psychology (as this is a student-facilitated workshop and I would like as many students to be involved as possible).

Let me know if you have any questions, and I look forward to working with the Sustainability Committee further on this.

Sincerely,

Megan Bauer

E-Mail from Alex Vincent

Hi Neal,

Thank you again for letting me join you and the sustainability committee this past week. Your response has given me new-found excitement for my own work. I've attached an edited draft of the excerpt. As for requests, I only have a few. Here's a brief addressed to the committee:

Dear Academic Senate Sustainability Committee,

Thank you for your time and support at this past weeks meeting. I felt honored and motivated by your support and encouragement. As a follow-up to Dr. MacDougal's request for how the committee can support my efforts, I have addressed my intentions and requests below.

I would first like to clarify my intentions. As I am graduating this june, what I would like to work towards is a position in the University which allows me to continue to develop these programs - be it with your committee, facilities, individual faculty, SustainSLO, and/or the administration. Therefore, this proposal is not only for curriculum development - it is also about creating a position within that process where I can work towards developing the curriculum as well. The requests I have come from this future projection.

1. A letter of recommendation that gives my work added credibility as I attempt to move the idea higher into the hierarchy of the university.
2. Continued support and time to develop the Holistic Sustainability Lecture Series so that it can indeed be seen as a tool for achieving the Sustainable Learning Objectives.
3. Any suggestions as to future actions. I intend to take your advice about creating a video to send to the president.

In addition to what I presented at the meeting this past week, I have been working with the Empower Poly Coalition on a massive online sustainability network which houses a comprehensive database of sustainability-related clubs, projects, faculty, classes, campus entities, and community partners. Our intention is to make this easily accessible to all stakeholders as a networking tool in order to pool resources, combine efforts, and unite projects under cohesive, campus-wide initiatives. I would like to get your feedback and potentially your support on such a venture - we (a student club) do not have the resources to do this alone.

Thank you for your help, support, time, and motivation!

Alex Vincent
5th year Architecture
Poly Permaculture, President
805 729 6845

**ASSC Meeting
May 16, 2012
47-24B**

Committee Members (and designations)

Attending:

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Braun, David	ElecEngr	CENG	2012
Echols, Robert	Physics	CSM	2012
Kelting, Scott	ConstMgr	CAED	2013
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Levi, Daniel	Psyc&CD	CLA	2012
MacDougall, Neal	Agribus	CAFES	2013
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Wednesday May 30th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)

AGENDA

1. Update on invitation to Provost (Neal)
2. Cleaning up the Committee List (Neal and Harvey)
3. SLO Assessment (Braun)
4. What's Left and Next Year (Neal)

Outcomes (based on Agenda items)

1. Update on invitation to Provost
An invitation has not been sent to the Provost based on the recommendation of Rachel Fernflores. Neal will make a point of sending an email inviting the Provost early in the fall and include Rachel Fernflores and Steve Rein. The idea is to bring the Provost up to speed on sustainability related issues such as the SLOs, the developing sustainability requirement among other projects of the ASSC.
2. Cleaning up the Committee List (Neal and Harvey)
Rachel Henry indicated that since she was changing positions within Cal Poly that she would not be a part of the ASSC next quarter. It was not known who

would represent Academic Programs next year. The committee also was informed that Kate Lancaster was moving to Humboldt State and that it was not clear who would represent OCOB on the committee next year. The rest of the regular voting members would remain the same for next year.

3. SLO Assessment (Braun)

Braun updated the committee on the assessment work and that he was hoping to receive more assessments from various members of the committee (along with the assessments of anyone else the committee members could convince).

4. What's Left and Next Year (Neal)

- Continue the work on assessing the SLOs.
- Continue working with the ExComm on developing the sustainability requirement. Try to expand the number of courses evaluated (beyond GE). First step would be to do an analysis of majors and electives to see if it makes sense. Would need to work with the chair of the Curriculum Committee to sort out the methodology.
- Green Campus Audit Update: AGB is beginning to undergo the audit. Ideas about extending the audit to CAFES production departments, addressing the Academic Senate about audit successes for fall meeting and follow-up with new resolution about promoting sustainability (specifics? Couldn't remember point of the resolution)
- Continue developing ideas to promote faculty members as models of sustainability (in the classroom, projects) and use CTL for workshops); have it coincide with biannual campus sustainability report and with the beginning of the university following an AASHE Star Certification process. Consider developing a set of faculty "best practices" for sustainability.
- Consider bringing back the President's Climate Commitment and attaching a new resolution to its adoption by Cal Poly.
- Work to try to incorporate sustainability into the Action Plan goals of the Strategic Plan (even though sustainability is no longer in the formal Strategic Plan). Rachel will bring info to the first meeting in the fall.
- Consider doing another sustainability charette.
- Work to make the work of the committee more concrete so that they can be presented at conferences.

**ASSC Meeting
May 30, 2012
47-24B**

Committee Members (and designations)

Attending:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Dept.</i>	<i>College/ Unit</i>	<i>Exp. Term/ Other</i>
Braun, David	ElecEngr	CENG	2012
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Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

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~~Wednesday May 30th (8:10 - 9 am, 47-24B)~~

AGENDA

1. Next Year's Work Plan (review minutes from last meeting and organizing subcommittees around the plans for next year).
2. An Appreciation

Outcomes (based on Agenda items)

1. Next Year's Work Plan (review minutes from last meeting and organizing subcommittees around the plans for next year). The following is a list of items that the committee identified as areas of work that will be the basis of next year's activities (in addition to any additional charges coming from the Executive Committee):
 - Continue assessing SLOs
 - Work w/ students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom/curriculum
 - Continue to work with the ExComm on the sustainability requirement
 - Promote and extend the Green Campus/Star Certification (Dennis Elliott)

- Determine the role of sustainability in the University's Strategic Plan/Action Plan
- 2. An Appreciation
 - Appreciation of Kate Lancaster and Rachel Henry for service to the committee above and beyond expectations.

ACTION ITEMS

- Recharge your batteries over the summer (Entire Committee)
- Continue to think of ideas so that we can hit the ground running in the fall (Entire Committee)