# ACADEMIC SENATE – Sustainability Committee

**Spring 2020**  
**Due: June 12, 2020**

## MEMBERS

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## CHARGES

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<th>Status/Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identify sustainability Courses. <strong>Spring 2020</strong></td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>In progress. See May 11, 26 meeting minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution on Second Nature Climate Commitment Target Date. <strong>AY-2019-2020</strong></td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>In progress. See Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Jan. 14, 30, Feb. 27, Apr. 13, 28 and May 11, 26 meeting minutes. Discussions resulted in a draft resolution regarding setting Cal Poly's Carbon Neutrality date. We await the scenario modeling results from AFD before voting on a version to submit for the Senate's consideration. A draft appears on pp. 4-5.</td>
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<td>Respond to AS-787-14:</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>1. In progress. See May 11, 26 &amp; Jun. 2 meeting minutes.</td>
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<td>2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. <strong>AY 2019-2020</strong></td>
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<td>3. In progress. See Apr. 13, Jun. 2 meeting minutes and agenda.</td>
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<td>3. Work with the CTLT to provide support for faculty seeking to teach classes involving sustainability. <strong>Ongoing</strong></td>
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<td>Task</td>
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<td>Support campus efforts to improve Cal Poly's AASHE STARS certification credits. <strong>Ongoing</strong></td>
<td>In progress. See the Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Jan 30, Apr. 28, May 11, and May 26 meeting minutes. The ASSC contributed to a few Academic/Curriculum credit categories. The data collection and certification process submitted by Kylee Singh on Sept. 19, 2019 earned Cal Poly a gold rating. The full report appears here: <a href="https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/california-polytechnic-state-university-ca/report/">https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/california-polytechnic-state-university-ca/report/</a> See the Apr. 28 minutes for a link to a video of Kylee Singh's nice presentation of the STARS report recommendations.</td>
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<td>2. The CSU will develop</td>
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<td>Work with students to better integrate approaches to sustainability inside and outside the classroom curriculum. <strong>Ongoing</strong></td>
<td>In progress. See Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Jan. 14, 30, Feb. 27, Mar. 10, and Apr. 13 meeting minutes regarding collaborations with various student-led initiatives.</td>
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<td>Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments. <strong>Ongoing</strong></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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NOTES:

The Committee met five times during Spring quarter plus a joint meeting with the President’s Sustainability Advisory Committee on May 28. Above please find a table summarizing the committee charges and progress made. Below, please find the detailed meeting minutes on pp. 6-18.

Report Appendices:

Draft Resolution to Set Cal Poly’s Carbon Neutrality Target Date  p. 4-5
Meeting Minutes  p. 6-18
WHEREAS, President Armstrong made Cal Poly a Charter Signatory to the Climate Leadership Commitment in 2016, establishing a goal for Cal Poly to achieve net zero carbon emissions from all sources by 2050; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has determined that we have less than twelve years to make urgent and unprecedented changes to our carbon emissions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Failure to adopt these changes will result in increased risk around the world of devastating hurricanes, flooding, droughts, fire, and food scarcity for hundreds of millions of people; and

WHEREAS, The Cal Poly Statement on Diversity seeks to develop awareness and empathy for global communities, including people who are from historically and societally marginalized and underrepresented groups; and

WHEREAS, These historically and societally marginalized global communities and underrepresented groups are the people most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change; and

Tie to desires students have to meet this goal.

WHEREAS, A 2050 target date arrives too late to prevent needless adverse impacts; and

WHEREAS, The City of San Luis Obispo has set a Carbon Neutrality date of 2035; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly’s carbon emissions link inextricably with the carbon emissions of the City of San Luis Obispo; and

WHEREAS, By adopting the recommendations made in the Cal Poly Climate Action Plan dated April 26, 2017, the campus can achieve Carbon Neutrality earlier than 2050; and

WHEREAS, By accelerating the recommendations made in the Cal Poly Climate Action Plan dated April 26, 2017, the campus can achieve Carbon Neutrality in 2035; and
WHEREAS, The entire University of California system has set a target of 2025 for carbon neutrality, and our fellow California State Universities in Long Beach, Monterey, and Chico have set dates for carbon neutrality of 2030, all of which are more ambitious and consistent with the targets of the IPCC report on climate change; therefore be it

Chico 2030 see https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/sustainability/Documents/2014-17-Sustainability.pdf
See pdf page 36/82

carbon neutrality dates, UCs?

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate recommends setting Cal Poly’s Carbon Neutrality date to 2035.

Proposed by: Sustainability Committee
Date: April 28, 2020
Revised:
ASSC Meeting April 13, 2020 Zoom (2:10-3:00 pm)
Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

Monday, April 13 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  
Tuesday, April 28 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  
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Tuesday, May 26 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)

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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

¹ www.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 2:10 p.m.
1. The committee discussed how to encourage virtual events in the future to reduce long- and short-distance car travel to campus. Ideas mentioned include virtual campus tours, online professional courses through extended education, and online industrial advisory board meetings.
2. The committee discussed topics raised during the March 10 meeting with Bruno Giberti regarding the Sustainability Charrette Recommendation report. How can the ASSC act without requiring others to lead?
   a. Regarding links between sustainability and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion), Dennis reported on some promising improvements in communication between his team and OUDI sparked by the Covid-19 responses. Dennis emphasized the desire to act as collaborative resources, not competitors. As one easy action, ASSC members can sign up to receive OUDI monthly newsletters.
   b. Continue to advance pathways, such as a sustainability pathway, into the GEGB discussion.
   c. 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). Could sustainability also benefit the Instructional Continuity CTLT project?
   d. Congratulations to the TGIF team for obtaining IRA approval.
3. Regarding the resolution on Setting Cal Poly’s Carbon Neutrality date, a suggestion came to circulate the draft on OneDrive to permit timely editing.
4. Discussion took place about setting up a joint meeting between the ASSC and the SAC. Dennis Elliot and Braun should confer and organize it.

The meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.
Please find the draft resolution to set the Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality date posted on OneDrive.
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Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

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Academic Senate Resolution 688-09 approved by President Baker June 22, 2009
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- Respond to AS-787-14
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  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 2:10 p.m.
1. The committee approved the minutes from the April 13 meeting.
2. Kylee Singh reported on Earthweek activities including demographic data regarding the registration and attendance at the events.
   Cal Poly received a Silver rating in 2016 with a score of 63% and a Gold rating in 2019 with a score of 70%. To reach the level of a Platinum rating would require achieving a culture of sustainability across the campus. Opportunities to do this abound across campus. In the Academic areas where the ASSC seeks to contribute, we would need to increase the number of sustainability courses significantly, for example, by a factor of two, and institutionalize sustainability in many more ways, such as via CTLT workshops, sustainability learning objective assessment, hiring, and RPT.
   The video of the presentation appears on OneDrive: https://cpslo-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/dbraun_calpoly.edu/ESBBSO1aa91BgT5CdKoX Ae8BLdJERMBxuxKg-aVzlMGig?e=4%3aug2N908at=9
5. Discussion on the lack of progress in implementing the Schedule Builder Resolution led to the suggestion that Braun schedules a meeting with the Registrar, ASI student representatives, and other stakeholders.
6. The draft Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date Resolution now appears on OneDrive and requires further editing of the Whereas clauses as we await the results of the AFD analysis due any week.
7. Jonathan Reich reminded the committee of Paul Wack’s thought about Public Health serving as the 4th leg of the 3 legged Sustainability stool.
The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Attachments:

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2 www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability
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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](http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo)
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AGENDA
The meeting convened at 2:11 p.m.

1. The committee approved the minutes from the April 28 meeting.
2. Discussion took place on the lack of progress on the Schedule Builder Resolution. Since no committee members find this acceptable, different responses came under consideration. Consultation took place prior to the meeting with Dustin Stegner. The student members plan to consult with other student government representatives. The following motion was made and seconded:

   **Whereas the Registrar wrote in an email to the ASSC chair on May 24, 2016 “After seeing how HSU did it in their course listings, I’m willing to work with the sustainability committee to incorporate the sustainability filter in PASS. We can begin by inserting the URL as a temporary solution and work our way towards adding the filter by prioritizing the work,” and**

   **Whereas the Academic Senate passed resolution AS-887-20, RESOLUTION ON ADDING A SUSTAINABILITY CATALOG OPTION TO SCHEDULE BUILDER, on Feb. 11, 2020 with the endorsement of the ASI Board of Directors, and**

   **Whereas AS-887-20 resolves 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.**

   **Whereas the Registrar wrote in an email to the ASSC chair on May 1, 2020 “I am sorry that we have failed to communicate this still, but we will not be implementing a sustainability filter in Schedule Builder because the filters in Schedule Builder are restricted to degree requirements. We have created the green leaf icon to set the sustainability courses apart from the rest in Schedule Builder to accommodate your request to the extent of our ability without creating confusion among students.”**

2 www.academicsenate.calpoly.edu/content/acadsen_comm/sustainability
Please feel free to reach out to the students via email on a quarterly basis before the registration begins, if you’d like to draw their attention to the list of sustainability courses listed in your website.

Therefore be it resolved that the ASSC chair should request the Provost’s assistance implementing the Schedule Builder sustainability filter.

Voting on the motion will take place electronically, because the meeting didn’t have a quorum.

3. Discussion took place on progress on the Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date Resolution
4. Discussion took place on identifying new sustainability courses.
5. Discussion took place on the catalog sustainability practices page. No members suggested further corrections to the updated page:
   http://catalog.calpoly.edu/academicsupportandcampuslife/campuslife/sustainabilitypractices/

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Attachments:
ASSC Meeting May 26, 2020 Zoom (2:10-3:00 pm)  
Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:  

Monday, April 13 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  
Tuesday, April 28 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  
Monday, May 11 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  
Tuesday, May 26 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)  

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

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

¹ www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo
AGENDA
The meeting convened at 2:10 p.m.
1. The committee approved the minutes from the May 11 meeting.
2. The Schedule Builder Resolution motion made and seconded during the May 11 meeting reads:

   Whereas the Registrar wrote in an email to the ASSC chair on May 24, 2016
   “After seeing how HSU did it in their course listings, I’m willing to work with the sustainability
   committee to incorporate the sustainability filter in PASS. We can begin by inserting the URL as a
   temporary solution and work our way towards adding the filter by prioritizing the work,” and

   Whereas the Academic Senate passed resolution AS-887-20, RESOLUTION ON ADDING A
   SUSTAINABILITY CATALOG OPTION TO SCHEDULE BUILDER, on Feb. 11, 2020 with the
   endorsement of the ASI Board of Directors, and

   Whereas AS-887-20 resolves 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.

   Whereas the Registrar wrote in an email to the ASSC chair on May 1, 2020
   “I am sorry that we have failed to communicate this still, but we will not be implementing a
   sustainability filter in Schedule Builder because the filters in Schedule Builder are restricted to
   degree requirements.
   We have created the green leaf icon to set the sustainability courses apart from the rest in
   Schedule Builder to accommodate your request to the extent of our ability without creating
   confusion among students.
   Please feel free to reach out to the students via email on a quarterly basis before the registration
   begins, if you’d like to draw their attention to the list of sustainability courses listed in your
   website. “

   Therefore be it resolved that the ASSC chair should request the Provost's assistance implementing
   the Schedule Builder sustainability filter.

   Voting on the motion by email yielded 10 yes votes and 0 no votes, so the motion passed. The
   Provost emailed confirmation that the email arrived and would lead to discussion between the
   Provost and the Registrar. Discussion took place resulting a suggestion that the Chair
   communicate to the Provost the need to involve more than the Registrar in follow up
   discussion. For example, the AS Chair or the ASSC Chair might offer additional perspectives.

3. Discussion took place regarding progress on the Cal Poly Carbon Neutrality Date Resolution.
   With the analysis proceeding and likely to wrap up within a few weeks, the resolution could
   receive some refining during the summer to ready it for ASSC approval and submission to the
   AS early Fall quarter. Dennis Elliot, Jonathan Fernsler, and Diana Winslow volunteered to work
   on it with Braun this summer.

4. Discussion took place about the joint meeting with SAC on Thursday, May 28 at 11.
   https://calpoly.zoom.us/j/8058353669 Meeting ID: 805 835 3669

Dennis Elliot requests completing the survey for Joint SAC/ASSC meeting before May 27.
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2wING578IUSVNX03nMoq5-
cddYkiqABMjCRGanEkrfVUNTIUU8x0klKWko3TlRHNkU4SUVZRTThTTy4u
5. In order to identify new sustainability courses, Braun should distribute this summer the lists of new courses from the ’20-’21 catalog to each ASSC College representative, who should review the courses for inclusion in SUSCAT.

6. Discussion took place regarding the ASSC charges for next academic year. Here’s a draft with updates only to dates and the possibility of adding granularity to the AASHE STARS charge:

**ASSC Committee Charges for 2020-21, similar to 2019-20 charges:**

- Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments.
- Respond to AS-787-14
  1. Review new courses in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 catalogs for SUSCAT. **AY 2020-2021**
  2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. **AY 2020-2021**
  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 2020-2021**
- Identify sustainability courses. **Summer, Fall 2020**

7. The committee agreed to hold one more meeting next Tuesday, June 2 to follow up the joint meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 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 June 2, 2020 Zoom (2:10-3:00 pm)

Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule:

Monday, April 13 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)
Tuesday, April 28 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)
Monday, May 11 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)
Tuesday, May 26 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom)
Tuesday, June 2 (2:10 – 3 pm, Zoom) Extra Meeting by popular demand.

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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](http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/content/academicpolicies/sustainability_lo)
AGENDA
The meeting convened at 2:11 p.m.
1. The committee approved the minutes from the May 26 meeting.
2. Discussion took place to followup the joint meeting with SAC on Thursday, May 28 at 11.
   Committee sentiment continues to support the Diversity and Inclusion, Engagement, and
   Academic ideas discussed during the breakout sessions.
3. Discussion took place regarding the difficulties offering interdisciplinary courses. Without
   objection, the committee agreed to suggest adding a new ASSC charge for next year to identify
   and remove barriers to interdisciplinary courses. Based on that, the new charges for next year
   would read:

ASSC Committee Charges for 2020-21, similar to 2019-20 charges:

   • Develop and pilot more SLOs assessments.
   • Respond to AS-787-14
      1. Review new courses in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 catalogs for SUSCAT. **AY 2020-2021**
      2. Encourage faculty to teach sustainability in new and existing courses. **AY 2020-2021**
      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**
      ▪ Add granularity here based on Kylee Singh’s recommendations.
   • 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 2020-2021**
   • Identify and remove barriers to interdisciplinary courses. **AY 2020-2021**
   • Identify sustainability courses. **Summer, Fall 2020**

4. Dennis Elliot and Eric Veium are running scenarios to analyze various carbon neutrality dates.
   This progress supports completing that resolution this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Attachments:
None

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