

Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force
Thursday, June 21, 2007 at 7:30 a.m.
Goddard Hall-Jerry Hall Conference Room

Minutes

Attendees: Tom Bagwell (NMDA), Jennifer Hiatt (Student Success & Retention), Rick Lobato (OFS), Rich MacRorie (OFS), Peter Maud (ED), Greg Mullins (for Steve Loring-CAHE), Robert Moulton (ED-Chair), Robert Nosbisch (U-Comm), Larry Olsen (H&SS), Marisa Ortega (ASNMSU), Tom Rubadeau (OFS), Angela Throneberry (Auxiliary), Jennifer Villa (ED), John Wiles (Eng/SWTDI), Ben Woods (SVP), (Ida Quinones-ED)

Guests: Michael Hites (VP Planning Info Tech & CIO), Jason Wyatt (ED), Pat Montoya (OFS), Steve McCarty (OFS), Barry Law (OFS), Michael Rickenbaker (Facil Plng & Const), Bob Czerniak (A&S)

1. Call to Order

Robert Moulton, Chair, called the meeting of the Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force to order.

2. Minutes of the April 11, 2007 were approved as presented.

3. Ben Woods said that NMSU has committed with the American College and University's President Climate Commitment to neutralizing all of the university's global warming emissions and accelerating research and educational efforts that will help stabilize the earth's climate. Mr. Woods noted that only two New Mexico universities—NMSU and Santa Fe Community College—have joined this effort. The commitment plan was signed on April 17, 2007 and has a target date of two years to create a comprehensive institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral. With this being pledged, the Energy Task Force has been re-established as the Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force to include wide-university participation. Other points involved are:

- within one year of signing, complete an emissions inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions
- within two years, develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral
- take immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emission from a list of short-term actions
- integrate sustainability into the curriculum and making it part of the educational experience, and
- making the action plan, inventory and progress reports public.

Ben woods presented a brief overview on the American College and University's President Climate Commitment which is a high-visibility effort to address global warning.

Tom Bagwell suggested assigning students, as a class assignment, to create and complete a survey on all of NMSU's greenhouse gas emissions.

4. Ben Woods said consideration of new members to invite to participate in the Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force was necessary. Mr. Woods said he would draft a letter to go out campus-wide inviting new members to the task force.

5. Consideration of Support for 2 Public Service and Research projects

Ben Woods asked for support and gave an overview of two public service and research projects. These are:

- a. Solar and Renewable Energy Research System – Support research, in addition to research ongoing at NMSU, on renewable and alternative energy by the College of Engineering for \$500,000 non-recurring funds to develop a 30-year alternative energy source.
- b. Wind Generation Research System – To support wind-power generation and photovoltaics by the College of Engineering for \$1.5M. Mr. Woods said NMSU already has 460 acres—the Tombaugh site for this project.

6. Briefing on US Green Building Council LEED Rating System

Ben Woods briefed the members on the rating system of the US Green Building Council LEED Silver standard. Mr. Woods said NMSU has already committed that all new construction and major remodeling projects meet LEED standards or equivalent. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED recognizes performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality. Mr. Woods recommended that this committee and the Campus Planning committee work together on how to integrate these key areas.

2. Other Items

Dr. Moulton asked Jennifer Villa to brief the members on NMSU's energy website. Dr. Villa introduced Jason Wyatt, the student developing the webpage. Mr. Wyatt presented an on-line overview of the website. Mr. Wyatt said he still needed assistance and information from OFS on several areas.

Dr. Moulton suggested that tips to get students involved be added by having a "suggestion" link on the website. Other suggestions and comments are also welcomed.

Ben Woods asked that the following agenda items be included in the next meeting. These are:

1) Letter inviting new members and location of meetings, 2) Presentation on Recycling and Composting Program, and 3) Vehicle operations and transportation, and other agenda items.

With no other items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Ida Quinones, Assistant to the Dean, College of Education.