

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes  
04-29-08

Location: Conaton Board Room  
Presiding: Fr. Mike Graham, Dr. Roger A. Fortin  
Present: Chris Barbour, Steve Cobb, Dave Lococo, Annette Marksberry, Doug Olberding, Caroline Richardson, Greg Schaber, Brett Simmons, Kathleen Smythe, Vanessa Strickley,  
Not Present: George Farnsworth, Pickett Harrington, Donna Salak, Samantha Thomeczek

**Next Meeting: May 20, 2008 at Physical Plant (Alumni Center) Large Conference Room**

This was the inaugural meeting of the newly formed sustainability committee the purpose of which was to receive direction from Fr. Graham. Fr. Graham framed sustainability as a pivotal global issue in which the United States has a very important role. The President's Climate Commitment is an important vehicle by which to initiate a call to action. It also resonates with the Jesuit mission and philosophy in which we are all stewards of this planet. This stewardship is central to the outward expression of our faith and institutional identity.

The three-fold charge to the group then is:

- Develop the reputation as an institution that does sustainability well.
- Become an inspiration to the broader community
- Establish regional best practices

The individuals on the committee will have different responsibilities based on their role and interest. Faculty will be accountable for sustainability activities to the faculty committee as well as enhancing the educational aspects of sustainability at levels within the institution. The education should not be limited to environmental studies but should be incorporated into all curricula. Those studies that emphasize sustainability should be easily recognizable during registration. The co-chairs will manage the overall process and create a robust reporting system. The students will inform student government and be active participants with their cohorts throughout Xavier and at other institutions. The committee in general will provide insight and information with which the President can communicate the University's activities to key groups such as the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Fortin reinforced Fr. Graham's perspective on sustainability with emphasis on the educational aspects of the committee's activities.

After thanking Fr. Graham and Dr. Fortin for their insights and guidance, the committee engaged in a conversation to learn more about the skills, motives and interests of the individual members as related to sustainability. The committee also discussed the following topics:

- The need to focus and avoid distraction. There is a plethora of data inundating the popular media on this topic and it would be easy to allow this to distract us from our primary goal which is to meet or exceed the requirements of the President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) and meet the charge expressed to the group by Fr. Graham.
- How best to communicate among each other, the broader University community and the community at large. Greg Schaber volunteered his resources using the Community Newsletter. Annette Marksberry agreed to assist with the creation of a website and shared folder for articles and other committee matters.
- Dave Lococo agreed to create the first meeting minutes and provide the resources of Physical Plant with regards energy and utilities.
- It was noted that:
  - The University is a member of the USGBC (US Green Building Council)
  - All future construction will be constructed per LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver standards.
  - AASHE (The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) is seeking input from institutions to help develop the STARS rating system.

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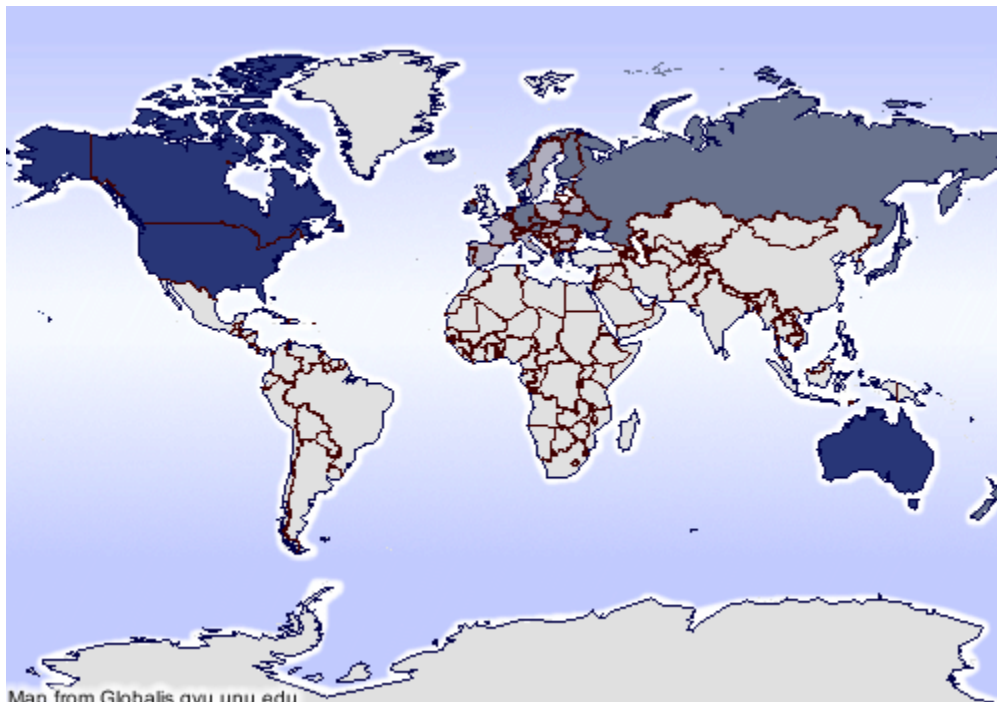
Future issues were also identified:

- Authority of the committee in helping to develop University policy.
- Developing a clearer responsibility matrix for all committee members.
- Developing a budget that will be necessary to meet the goals of the ACUPCC.
- Identifying sources of funds outside the University to help support the group's efforts.

The members were asked to provide Dave Lococo with their preferred method of contact (email) and any other contact information they deemed appropriate, especially for the summer recess.

The meeting adjourned after the time and location of the next meeting (see above) was established.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Lococo  
Sustainability Co-Chair



Map from Globalis.qvu.unu.edu  
Legend:  
0 - 5  
5 - 10  
10 - 20  
20 - 30  
No Data  
Not Relevant  
tonnes of CO2 equivalents per person

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data for 1990 – 2003 submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Key GHG Data, FAOSTAT