

## **Library Environmental Committee Meeting July 27 2010, 11am, South Conference Room**

Chair: Stephanie Perentesis Recorder: Mike Unsworth Guest: Lauren Olson Present: Michelle Allen, Stephanie Perentesis, Kate Ojibway, Elida Marti, Kriss Ostrom, Susan Kendall

Update from Lauren Olson, Office of Campus Sustainability (OCS)

- Data collection and reporting for monthly Environmental Stewardship Reports (ESR) for the Main Library building.
- As part of the shift from print to electronic journals, MSUL has sent to Surplus around 300,000 pounds of unsellable journals which filled three semi-trailers. This amount has not been included in ESRs. Is there any way to receive credit or recognition for this effort?
- Lauren replied that materials sent to Surplus not included in the ESRs. There are several reasons for this. Surplus has traditionally only measured dollar amounts, not weights or square footage. The ERS reflect everyday activity, not what OCS categorizes as “special event recycling.” The templates for ERS don’t have space to store or display non-numerical data. • OCS is working on ways to measure such activities. One option would be a Wiki site for self-reporting out-of-the-ordinary activities in each building. OCS needs additional technical resources to make such changes.
- Increased electrical use in the Main Library. • The culprit is an ailing absorption chiller. A replacement is planned in 2011. • The ultimate solution would be a dedicated chiller for the North Campus. It would be act as a central air plant and eliminate the need for each building to have its own chiller. This option is being studied by the powers-that-be.
- Dr. Stuart Gage's study tracking campus recycling habits  
[http://statenews.com/index.php/article/2010/07/professor\\_develops\\_system\\_to\\_track\\_campus\\_recycling](http://statenews.com/index.php/article/2010/07/professor_develops_system_to_track_campus_recycling) -- This is an effort that is run by OCS. Sensors were put on “intermediate” recycling containers to indicate when they are full. The goals are to get a better real-time idea of activity and to determine staffing levels. Manly Miles and Anthony Hall were the test sites. • Other OCS-related activities: • Green Certification. In the future OCS hopes to have third- party verification of certification data. It hopes to implement recertification in three years and will highlight improvements from various units. • OCS is working on a grant to the U.S. Dept. of Education for a Yammer (<https://www.yammer.com/>) role playing game. Goal is to find new ways to change staff behavior.
- The recycling poster display continues to generate much comment. The next appearance will be at the Ice Cream Social.
- New building supervisor for the Main Library. In the past, the Main Library was supervised by a person who had responsibility for several other North Campus buildings. Thanks to the knowledge gained from Jim Hensley’s three-month stint as building supervisory, Physical Plant has decided that the Main Library requires a separate supervisor. We hope that this arrangement will result in better serving of the recycling bins? • Kriss will suggest to Dennis Consavage that a second recycling container “battery” be placed near the “smokers’ hangout” on the south side of the building.

- Smart Commute wrap-up (Mike Unsworth) – MSUL won the “X-Large” category with 1,077 trips; the runner-up in our category was the Ingham County Health Dept. which had 63 trips. Moreover, the Libraries had the largest number of trips in any category; the City of Lansing, the “XX-Large” winner had 322 trips. Forty MSUL staff participated. Despite requests, I still don’t know what we get for our accomplishment. Many thanks to Kate Ojibway for her help and knowledge from her past service as Smart Commute coordinator.

- Beal Tours wrap-up and discussion of changes to future tours and format (Stephanie Perentesis): Nine people plus a State News photographer showed up for the July tour. For this Fall’s projected tour we decided to just have one over the lunch hour. We might time it to coincide with Campus Sustainability Week (October 25-29). Kate will contact Peter Carrington before start of classes to schedule the fall tour and include in events forwarded to Ruth Ann Jones for PR.

- Fall Speakers series: • Mike will contact Cathleen Edgerly of CATA to speak on their Clean Commute program and the air quality grants it has received. He will schedule before CATA’s challenge week (Sept. 20-24) • A November talk concerning clean energy initiatives at MSU and its Midwestern Partners. Kriss is taking the lead on this.

- Old business: Kriss is still working on “clarification” recycling ecograms. • New business: • The Michigan/Grand River Avenue Transportation Study will have public meetings in September on its options (<http://www.migrtrans.org/>) • There are CATA & CADL millages in the August primary.

- Next meeting: Tuesday, August 24, Mike Unsworth, chair, Heidi Schroeder, recorder