

CESAS

Consortium for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

CESAS Meeting Summary 102 Ward Hall, KSU January 29, 2008

Participants

Ken Barnard, Aviation Department, K-State (via teleconference)
Ben Champion, Director of Sustainability, Geography, K-State
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC
Wendy Griswold, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State (via teleconference)
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research,
Lisa Harrington, Geography Department, K-State
Ruth Miller, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Wind Application Center, K-State
Becky O'Donnell, KS Agricultural Mediation Services, K-State
Marie Steichen, Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy, K-State

Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Agenda Review

- The participants reviewed the tentative agenda and concurred on its content.

K-State Sustainability Conference

- The conference was successful in content and it was well attended.

Technical Assistance for a Sustainable Kansas (TASK)

- There is a need to communicate further with those involved in this effort.

Speakers' Bureau

- The list of speakers will be posted to the CESAS website soon. Lisa Harrington has been invited to participate as a speaker and she will let us know in the near future regarding her ability to participate.
- Ben Champion reported that his office is developing a website on KSU's Sustainability Research Capacity. This will be an effort to catalog the university's resources. It will be a good cross referencing tool for the speakers' bureau.

Update on K-State Sustainability Task Force

- This task force has been established and has met twice. The co-chairs are Bruce Snead and Barbara Anderson. The group is tasked with developing a road map for sustainability at the university and is exploring themes and classification systems for a committee framework to accomplish this goal.

Sustainability Education

- The task force will be working on this issue. A future School of Sustainability Studies is envisioned as an interdisciplinary program modeled on the existing leadership studies program.

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Sustainable Energy

- Ruth Miller provided an update on efforts to construct a wind turbine on the Manhattan Campus. Current budget uncertainties will affect how fast this will happen. The turbine is on the ground. Ruth is working on a proposal to the Department of Energy for workforce development for wind energy.

Student Sustainability Activities and Plans

- No student representative was at the meeting. Ken Barnard attended the student track at the Sustainability conference and reported that students had been very active and had plans for more activities. These include:
 - Participation in a national recycling competition
 - Game day recycling (there is a competition between KSU and KU)
 - SeeGreen Campaign
 - Bike sharing program
 - No Motor Monday
 - Promotion of reusable bag standard in Manhattan
 - Competitions to use the least amount of energy

New 4-H Sustainability Project

- Several CESAS member organizations submitted a proposal to develop engineering and sustainability curricula for 4-H. This project will start soon. The funders are eager to begin the project and may provide additional funding so that the curriculum can be available for use sooner than originally planned.

Earth Day Activities

- The Sustainability Task Force may apply for university funds for a speaker on sustainability issues. This may be coordinated with Earth Day.

20th Anniversary Celebration for the Center for Hazardous Substance Research

- The CHSR will celebrate its 20th anniversary this spring. Ideas for marking the occasion are welcome. A speaker, event, or luncheon are ideas that have been suggested.

Other

- Ruth Miller reported that today legislative hearings were being held in Topeka on net metering and renewable portfolio standard (RPS). There are several bills related to this issue on the docket this session. Also, the Wind Power Group will be meeting in February. The purpose of this group is to encourage the development of wind energy in Kansas by making the state appear wind friendly to industry.
- The Kansas Natural Resource Council has information on legislative issues on its Web site - www.knrc.ws
- The Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy also has this information - <http://www.gpace.org/>
- The CESAS 2008 annual report is available on the CESAS Web site - <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/sustainability/>

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on February 26 at 1:30.