



CESAS Meeting Summary
102 Ward Hall, Kansas State University
July 30, 2009

Participants

Barry Dicker, Decent Energy, Inc. (via teleconference)
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State (via teleconference)
Wendy Griswold, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State (via teleconference)
Jana Hawley, Department of Apparel, Textiles, and Interior Design, K-State
Melody LeHew, Department of Apparel, Textiles, and Interior Design, K-State
Mark Moser, Moser Enterprises
Becky O'Donnell, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services
Sue Pray, School of Leadership Studies, K-State
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State
Donna Schenck-Hamlin, K-State Libraries

Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Review of the Agenda

- The participants reviewed the tentative agenda and recommended the January 2010 intersession course, focused on greenhouse gas management, as an additional agenda item.

Technical Assistance for a Sustainable Kansas (TASK)

- Larry Erickson noted that the TASK initiative was consistent with the goals and outcomes of the Dialog on Sustainability.
- The group discussed the important leadership role and resources that the university can provide, including those related to the robust library system.
- Donna Schenck-Hamlin noted a key proposal under development by K-State Libraries and partners to provide a special collection that explores and addresses the various facets of wind energy (initially for Manhattan, Lincoln, Wichita, and the surrounding rural communities) which can assist local decision-making activities, especially those in the pre-deliberation phase and that follow the "deliberative polling" approach whereby vast information is succinctly synthesized.
- Barry Dicker suggested collaboration with local chambers of commerce to provide information resources and ensure wider dissemination throughout communities.

Update on K-State Sustainability Task Force Activities

- Ben Champion made an informative presentation on the Sustainability Task Force progress at the Dialog on Sustainability.
- Melody LeHew noted her participation on the task force and the upcoming deadline (August 6, 2009) for comments on the draft report.
- Barry Dicker recommended that K-State prepare and present a poster on the Sustainability Task Force at the Kansas Wind and Renewable Energy Conference, October 6-7, 2009, Topeka, KS; this would also be a good opportunity to promote the K-State Sustainability Conference: Kansas Going Green In Higher Education, January, 29-30, 2010.



Dialog on Sustainability (DOS)

- Larry Erickson thanked everyone for their support and assistance in contributing to the successful event; plans for next steps are underway including a DOS Summary Report.
- Ryan Green stated that he received positive feedback from participants on the effectiveness of the concurrent breakout sessions.
- Jana Hawley posed the question, “How to get the sustainability message to the broader audience?”
- Group discussed various ideas, including making connections with individual lives (public education), support from leadership, and media messages; successes and initiatives such as the EPSCoR grant, task force recommendations, NRES program, leadership studies, and sustainability seminar were noted as models and outlets for data sharing.
- It was noted that perhaps the (summer) Dialog on Sustainability could be expanded throughout the academic year to include monthly/facilitated dialogs on key topics.
- Sue Pray suggested creating a “Sustainability Day” on campus in cooperation with student groups that might feature green demonstrations, exhibits, energy, buildings, and presentations; incentives could also be included (e.g., walk to school and work).
- Group agreed to continue contemplating options and possibilities for mindfully engaged actions.

Kansas NSF EPSCoR Phase VI

- Larry Erickson observed that the anticipated grant award would present several positive activities based on the integration of social science with natural/physical sciences and engineering; program areas of study include: sustainable energy, technology, climate change, carbon sequestration/mitigation, agriculture, planning, forecasting, land use, etc. and involves institutional partners KU, K-State, WSU, and KTEC.
- Overall efforts are being directed by Kristin Bowman-James with KU.

Speakers’ Bureau and Speakers on Sustainability Topics

- Larry Erickson stated that Yinlun Huang, Wayne State University, will present on sustainability at K-State as part of the Chemical Engineering Seminar series on September 30, 2009, 2:30 PM.
- Group discussed possible collaboration with North Central Kansas Libraries (Blue Skyways), Carol Barta, cbarta@nckl.info as a platform for working with community groups (e.g., Science Café).
- Another suggestion included exploring the insurance industry’s perspective on sustainability (e.g., business models, energy efficiency/auditing, health, indoor air quality, natural disaster response, actuary department, etc.).
- CESAS partners are encouraged to share any requests from communities and other groups that might be interested in speakers on sustainability-related topics.

4-H Project Update

- Group activities are moving forward and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 3, 2009 at 3:00 PM.

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) on Sustainability and CHE 670 Sustainability Seminar

- Keith Hohn and Larry Erickson are leading the program with its activities including: the Science Café on Sustainability, Thursday, July 30, 2009; development of a white paper on parking lot designs with solar and sustainability features, including social values; and final seminar and presentations on August 7, 2009 (details in announcements section).



Fort Riley Sustainability Initiative

- Oral Saulters noted coordination with Fort Riley groups in planning the community partnership session of the Dialog on Sustainability and follow-up discussions with the Army Central Regional Environmental Office.

NSF Decision Making Under Uncertainty Proposal

- Larry Erickson provided an update on the completed proposal led by Emizet Kisangani, Political Science; the proposal was multidisciplinary and involved social science research, tool development, climate change/environmental aspects, public communications, and connections with the African Studies Program; other opportunities to apply this framework will be explored.
- With respect to international aspects of sustainability, Jana Hawley indicated that a K-State project focused on partnership with India had been recently funded through the Department of Education.
- Wendy Griswold traveled to the Altai Republic (Russia) earlier this summer. There is interest at Gorno-Altai State University to work with communities to address plans and impacts in the areas of alternative energy, ecotourism, and sustainable development.

Announcements and Other Activities

- Larry Erickson will be working with CESAS partners, including the Pollution Prevention Institute, KDHE, and EPA to plan the January 2010 intersession course/seminar on greenhouse gas management, a meeting is scheduled for 10:00 AM, August 25, 2009, Ward 102; those interested in assisting are encouraged to contact Larry Erickson or Oral Saulters and attend in person or via teleconference.
- Jana Hawley noted that she had been contacted by textile industry recycling groups looking for expertise in developing carbon footprints and greenhouse gas inventories; Larry Erickson suggested following up with Terrie Boguski.
- The K-State Chapter of Sigma Xi will be co-sponsoring a Science Café on “Sustainability: A Home Solution” this Thursday, July 30th at 7:00 p.m. at the Manhattan Public Library. This Science Café will be run by undergraduate engineering and science students who are currently at K-State doing research on sustainable energy as part of an NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU). Students will be discussing actions one can take at home to save energy and live more sustainably. Please make plans to attend this event!
- The final Summer Sustainability Seminar will be Friday, August 7th. The 10 REU program students will be presenting the results of their research on sustainable energy. The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. in Rathbone 1052.
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Upcoming Events

- <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/events/>

Next Meeting

Thursday, August 27, 3:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

Thank you everyone for your kind participation and support!