



CESAS Meeting Summary
102 Ward Hall, Kansas State University
October 29, 2009

Participants

Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC
Valerie Evans, College of Business Administration, K-State
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State
Irma O'Dell, School of Leadership Studies, K-State (via teleconference)
Becky O'Donnell, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services, K-State
Sue Pray, School of Leadership Studies, K-State (via teleconference)
David Sampson, Oak Grove Fabrication
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State
James Steichen, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, K-State

Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Review of the Agenda

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

Technical Assistance for a Sustainable Kansas (TASK) and CECD Proposal

- Group discussed ecoliteracy proposal (led by Wendy Griswold and Jackie Spears) being developed for submittal in response to the Center for Engagement and Community Engagement RFP (deadline for proposals is November 2, 2009). <http://www.ksu.edu/cecd/>

Update on K-State Sustainability Task Force Activities

- An excerpt of the Task Force report is available for review at http://static.ome.ksu.edu/sustainability.k-state.edu/attachments/KSU_Sustainability_Task_Force_Final_Report.pdf.

K-State Sustainability Conference: Kansas Advancing Sustainability in Higher Education.

- Based on the last meeting (Oct. 1, 2009), CESAS agreed to Silver-level Sponsorship in the amount of \$1500; CESAS partners will be invited to display information on the exhibit table.
- A major goal of the conference is to connect/partner with Kansas universities and colleges (including community colleges); CESAS could be a useful framework for enhanced cooperation in areas such as online sustainability curriculum development (Larry Erickson and Ben Champion will be leading this initiative).

Kansas NSF EPSCoR Phase VI

- Larry Erickson observed that the funding had been awarded and multidisciplinary projects were being launched.

Speakers' Bureau and Speakers on Sustainability Topics

- Subject matter experts continue to join the CESAS list of available speakers; an upcoming ECE Distinguished Lecture on the "smart grid" was noted (John McDonald, GE Energy, November 4, 2009, 4 PM, Fiedler Auditorium).



4-H Project Update

- Efforts are underway on preparation of sustainability/engineering materials and curricula for youth.

New USDA Grant “Biobased Products and Bioenergy”

- Joint collaboration (K-State, South Dakota State, Oklahoma State, and the University of Arkansas) on course development for graduate certificate is progressing (biofeedstocks; processing/conversion; and sustainability).

January 2010 Intersession “Greenhouse Gases, Carbon Taxes and Trading, and Carbon Sequestration”

- Larry Erickson and Oral Saulters briefed the group on the latest event schedule and program plans; sponsorship opportunities were discussed and Becky O’Donnell recommended that CESAS participate as a gold sponsor in the amount of \$500 which was unanimously passed by the group. Partner organizations will disseminate information and encourage seminar/workshop involvement.

Fort Riley Sustainability Initiative

- Based on recent Executive Orders and other initiatives, the Army is actively pursuing sustainability goals in the areas of buildings, purchasing, training lands, technology, etc; Jim Steichen and other researchers have been working in this area; Oral Saulters noted that decision tools were being developed to calculate the fully burdened cost of energy and water in military operations which may complement EKAT (Ryan Green will investigate software availability); group also discussed encroachment issues and land use compatibility/easements (Alan Hynek with Fort Riley will be contacted to share additional perspective).

NSF Decision Making Under Uncertainty Proposal and Africa

- Objectives of the DMUU proposal consistent with the EPSCoR Phase VI program were reviewed; Valerie Evans inquired about social responsibility aspects as articulated by Vandana Shiva during her recent visit to K-State. Tradeoffs in agroecological management practices were explored, including prescribed burning/livestock/air quality as stated by David Sampson.

Announcements and Other Activities

- Oral Saulters shared key concepts in terms of sustainability as a driver for innovation from a recent article in the Harvard Business Review; Larry Erickson recommended that a library of sustainability-related resources be compiled via the CESAS website for partners and public education.
- Sue Pray and Irma O’Dell updated the group on progress with the new Leadership Studies building (first LEED-certified building on campus) which will be completed before the January 2010 Sustainability conference.

See Important Upcoming Events at

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

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 24, 3:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

Thank you everyone for your kind participation and support!