

CESAS Meeting Summary
102 Ward Hall, Kansas State University
September 14, 2013

Participants:

Larry Erickson, CHSR, Ch.E. and KNRC
Ben Champion, Office of Sustainability
Huston Gibson, LA/RCP
Wendy Griswold, CHSR

Irma O'Dell, Leadership Studies
Ellen Urton, K-State Libraries
Jean Waters (University of Nebraska at Omaha,
College of Business Administration)

Review of the agenda

- There were no additions to the agenda

Technical Assistance for a Sustainable Kansas (TASK)

- Events on October 6th & 7th will mark the beginning of the K-State 2025 Strategic Planning for Sustainability, featuring Jerry Schnoor, a professor of civil and environmental engineering from the University of Iowa.
 - October 6: Poster session from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Fiedler Atrium at the Engineering Complex (open to all) followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the K-State Student Union (reservations required, RSVP by September 30). The dinner will feature guest speaker Jerry Schnoor and a presentation by Ben Champion on the progress on sustainability at KSU.
 - October 7: Schnoor also will present "Water Sustainability in a Changing World" for a chemical engineering department seminar at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 7, in Fielder Auditorium. The seminar is free and the public is welcome.
 - Details for both events as well as RSVP information provided here: <http://www.k-state.edu/today/announcement.php?id=10050&category=events&referredBy=K-State%20Today%20Home>
- David R. Steward and coauthors published "Tapping unsustainable groundwater stores for agricultural production in the High Plains Aquifer of Kansas, projections to 2110" in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (See: PNAS.1220351110).

Sustainable Brownfields (TAB)

- Work continues on sustainability issues in the Sustainable Brownfields program, including several workshops that have been conducted.

Sustainability communities

- Participants in the August 27th CESAS meeting discussed the desire to establish a fund in support of work related to sustainable communities such as developing a KSU Foundation account dedicated to sustainable communities activities. As this work progresses would like to have a mission statement, organizational structure and an operational procedure.

Solar Parking Project and New Charge Station

- In the effort to put up solar panels in a parking lot, a site has been identified and the process of investigating what is needed to design and develop the site are proceeding such as taking soil samples to understand what would be required for a foundation.

Sustainability planning for 2025

- K-State 2025 Sustainability -- Provost Mason appointed the K-State 2025 Strategic Planning Committee on Sustainability, a university-wide task force. The first meeting has been held and the next meeting is on Friday (9/27) at 11:00 a.m. in 111 Leadership Studies. It is Dr. Erickson understands that the intention is for those meetings to be open meetings.
- Task force website: <http://www.k-state.edu/2025/initiatives/sustainability/>
- Meeting announcement: <http://www.k-state.edu/today/announcement.php?id=10122&category=events&referredBy=K-State%20Today%20Home>
- Waters: Does K-State have a policy defining sustainability?
- Urton: As facilitator of the K-State Libraries Matrix (a team within the Libraries, established to facilitate cross departmental communication and collaboration on sustainability-related work), Urton sought direction in this regard and the Libraries group uses the definition from the Kansas Board of Regents "Sustainability Policy and Implementation Principles (10-16-08)" as their current guide:
- See: http://sustainability.k-state.edu/media/attachments/KBOR_Sustainability_Policy.pdf
- In a recent meeting of the Libraries Sustainability Matrix, Diana Farmer, K-State Librarian and one of two FSCOUP representatives on the K-State 2025 Sustainability task force, shared that the K-State 2025 group is currently working on a shared definition of sustainability.
- Champion: confirmed that the task force working on a definition as well as goals
- Waters: curious as the University of Nebraska system (Kearney, Lincoln, Omaha & Medical Center campuses) is working to develop a policy statement for the entire system
- Champion: the K-State 2025 Sustainability task force is using the AASHE STARS framework for the content organization system, articulating a vision for the next 12 - 15 years, will develop working groups along the likes of AASHE STARS, will map goals to the themes of the K-State 2025 strategic plan
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education: <http://www.aashe.org/>
- AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS): <https://stars.aashe.org/>
- STARS 1.0 Credit Checklist: http://www.aashe.org/files/documents/STARS/STARS_1.0_Credit_List.pdf

Jerry Schnoor visit and seminar with CESAS Co-sponsorship October 6 and 7, 2013

- October 7: Schnoor also will present "Water Sustainability in a Changing World" for a chemical engineering department seminar at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 7, in Fielder Auditorium. The seminar is free and the public is welcome.
- Champion is creating a brochure and there will also be posters available to those willing to advertise the event

Ecoliteracy Book Club

- Ecoliteracy books of interest include *Before the Lights go Out: Conquering the Energy Crisis before it Conquers Us* by Maggie Koerth-Baker and *The Future* by Al Gore. Additional suggestions are welcome.
- Need to both select a title and find more potential participants. Urton willing to both advertise in the Libraries (physical locations) and will gauge interest in the K-State Libraries Sustainability Matrix.

Sustainability Seminar in January Intersession, Jan 7-9, 2014

- Received funding from proposals to Continuing Education and the Office of International Programs. Valentina Pidlisnyuk and a colleague from Kremenchuk Mykhailo Ostrogradsky National University, Ukraine will give lectures. Additionally Huston Gibson will speak on the topic of sustainable communities and the language needed to effectively work with all stakeholders, and Ben Champion will lecture on food and food systems as it relates to sustainability. Champion will also incorporate something related to the sustainability planning for K-State 2025.
- Would like to find people to take the class -- two ways forward for students:
- sign up and earn an hour for credit which requires a paper, presentation and a list of their top 10 ideas for making the world more sustainable;
- For \$50, sign up and simply attend without paying for credit; ways for community members to join as well
- Larry welcomes ideas on how to get students involved (consider approaching Students for Environmental Action and advertise in select colleges)

Sept. 28 activities:

- Concert for the Climate in Kansas City, Kansas at Kaw Point Riverfront Park
- Prairie Festival at the Land Institute in Salina, KS

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 22, at 3:30 p.m.

Other

- Huston Gibson was awarded a Big 12 Fellowship in collaboration with a faculty member and environmental planner Dr. K. Meghan Wieters of the College of Architecture in the Planning Division at the University of Oklahoma.
 - They will take "Talking Green in Red States" to the Kansas chapter of the American Planning Association conference on Oct 3 & 4th in Manhattan.
 - See: <http://www.planning.org/chapters/kansas/conference/>
 - Gibson and Wieters will ask professionals to share stories, talking about sustainability in conservative environments, lessons learned or tips to share, then will replicate these activities at the Oklahoma chapter of the APA. In addition they will be holding some workshops, and during the last session of the conference will engage in a dialogue and discussion.
 - Dr. Wieters will be here during the week of October 21st and is invited to attend the 10/22 CESAS meeting. As an environmental planner, Dr. Wieters is seeking people to network and dialogue with, and is very open to ideas, collaborations, and partnerships. Dr. Wieters will also make a presentation over the lunch hour on Wednesday, October 23rd -- Gibson will forward details to Dr. Erickson
 - Erickson: this business of communicating is important, there is a political aspect to the proposal; sustainability is a very multidisciplinary activity, we each have certain ways of communicating, as we extend beyond our disciplines we need to be careful to communicate effectively
- Urton: the final film of the 2013 Movies on the Grass film series, *Chimpanzee*, will be shown at the Sunset Zoo on Sunday, 9/29 at 8:00 p.m. See: <http://www.k-state.edu/mog/>

Next Meeting: at 3:30, Tuesday, October 22 in Ward 102.

Other: NA