

Green University Coordinating Committee
January 14, 2008
Meeting Notes
10:00 am – 11:00 am
Conference Centre 6-307

Attendees:

Dr. Bill McGill, Dean, College of Science and Management
Dr. Annie Booth, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Rob van Adrichem, Director, Communications and Public Relations
Mark Thompson, Molecular Genetic Support Specialist and Graduate Student (CUPE rep)
Dr. Ken Wilkening, Associate Professor, International Studies
Dr. Arthur Fredeen, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management (by telecom)
Dr. Jim Randall, Acting Provost

- Suggestions for a key note speaker were Sheila Watt-Cloutier or Wade Davis.
- The Bentley Centre and Winter Garden were suggested for possible venues for the event.

ACTION: Art Fredeen to book venues.

3. Approval of December 12, 2007 minutes

- Approved

4. Business Arising

4.1 Green University Coordinator Position

- After communications with the potential candidate, it was decided by Jim Randall and supported by Don Cozzetto and Bill McGill that the candidate would not be a good fit for the position.
- The candidate will be pursuing a visiting professorship through other channels other than this committee.
- It was decided to recruit this position on a contract basis and to advertise on fac/staff and the Prince George Citizen.

ACTION: Jim Randall to provide update position description to the members of the committee and advertise position on fac/staff and PG Citizen.

5. New Business

5.1 Selection of UNBC representatives to the PG Air Quality Implementation Committee

- Ken Wilkening reported that the Prince George Air Quality Implementation Committee has 2 UNBC positions: 1 is vacant and he holds the other.
- The question was: Should personal interest only be the criterion for serving on external committees that request a UNBC representative or should there be a formal/strategic mechanism for placing UNBC representatives on external committees?

MOTION by Bill McGill to: Propose to the President's Executive Council (PEC) that the Green Committee serve as the nominating committee to PEC for representation on external environmental committees. Seconded by Ken Wilkening – Carried.

5.2 Bio-mass Research Partnership

- Bill McGill distributed briefing notes (attached to minutes) on the UNBC Research Partnerships prepared by Dr. Allan Cornford.
- The province has established an innovative clean energy fund.
- To be part of this funding opportunity – can UNBC convert waste into energy in an economic way (use wood instead of natural gas or a combination of both)?
- It was agreed that this would be a huge project with the possibility of the plant residing at UNBC. The project would need appropriate support and would be a long term commitment. It would be a cross-college undertaking and would have a large research component.

MOTION Ken Wilkening to: Support the partnership in principle. Seconded by Bill McGill – Carried unanimously.

5.3 Sustainability Conference in Kamloops

- Jim Randall will provide funds for registration, and travel costs for 2 UNBC representatives to attend the conference in Kamloops on February 8-10, 2008.
- Bill McGill and Ken Wilkening also offered assistance in funding if needed.

5.4 Students for a Green University

- Mark Thompson has created a student action group focusing on the sustainability of the College Heights Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- It was deemed that the name "Students for a Green University" was not appropriate as the group has no direct focus on how to make UNBC more green.
- It was suggested that the student action group change its name or consider activities more focused on UNBC. It was also suggested that it could host an information booth during UNBC's Green Day on March 20, 2008.