



Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 3, 2021

Due to Covid19, the committee meeting was held virtually using MS Teams

Thompson Rivers University

Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:00 PM

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE		
Present:	Warren Asuchak, Scott Blackford, Christin Chen, Karl Fultz (Vice Chair), Robyn Hollas, Pete Hrkac, Carolyn Ives, Tina Matthew, Michael Mehta, Christine Miller (Chair), Nicole Schabus, Meng Sun, Thamindu Widyaratne	
Participating by Teleconference: none		
Absent:	Bala Nikku, Jana Noskova, Dipesh Prema, Peter Tsigaris	
Regrets:	none	
Admin Support:	Rikia Penchuk	
Guests:	Umme Mansoory	
Others:	Alana Hoare (Office of Quality Assurance) and James Gordon from Sustainability Office.	
Vacancies: Deans Council Representative		
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:04 pm by the Chair, Christine Miller, who welcomed everyone.	
TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Christine Miller gave the territorial acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	Minutes of Jan 13, 2021 were accepted.	

PRESENTATIONS

Umme Mansoori from the Faculty of Student Development presented on The Leadership in Environmental Sustainability Certificate. Umme said that 20-30 Students complete the certificate per year. How to register: students meet with Umme and she assesses eligibility of student. Umme mentioned that it would be great if the enrolment numbers were larger. The students receive their certificate at graduation. Most students find out about the certificate through their faculty and in classes. 111 students have completed the certificate since the start of the program in 2013. Students must be enrolled in a program to participate in certificate. Umme mentioned that having faculty members mention the program to students really helps improve enrollment numbers. (<https://www.tru.ca/current/student-life/les.html>)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

6a. Re Climate Emergency Letter

(<https://www.sdgaccord.org/climateletter>)

- i. James reported on marketing efforts to promote the signing of the letter. Lindsay Norris in Marcom said that they will get a quote from the TRU President. James has not heard back yet. Nicole suggested that the committee draft a press release for Marcom so the committee can highlight important information. James will follow up with Marcom to clarify this press release. Nicole and Christine will help draft this press release to submit to Marcom. Karl also suggested making mention of it on the AASHE Member Community Digest as well.
- ii. Thamindu reported on TRUSU signing the letter. Thamindu said that there has been no email response from Cole Hickson yet (TRUSU student president). Christine will send a formal request to Cole. Thamindu will email Cole regarding a meeting with ESAC members Christine and James.

**James, Nicole,
Christine**

**Thamindu,
Christine**

**REPORT OF
COMMITTEES**

b. Nominations for Vice Chair took place. Karl nominated Tina Matthew. Tina will let her name stand. Vote/election will be on the March 3 agenda and it will not take effect until March 31st (Karl's retirement date). The committee will forward any other nominations to Christine, Karl and James if interested.

c. Bird Strike film. Update from Warren and Karl. Warren reported that Garry Fearey from Facilities has spoken with a company called Tint Ninjas and work orders will be put in to apply the film. Facilities cannot install film until Spring when temperatures will be warm enough for the film to adhere. Karl has sent a list of hot spots and priority buildings needed. The goal is to get the film installed before bird migrations start in the Spring. The film is 95% effective once applied and we could branch out to WL as well.

7a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee report by Carolyn. Christine reported that the committee is trying to increase its ranks in order to have a diversity of stakeholders involved with developing course descriptions and outcomes. The 'course sustainability' worksheet is in development.

7b). Awards Sub-committee report by Michael Mehta, Chair. Michael reported that the awards have no nominations yet. The deadline to submit them is Feb 22nd.

7c. ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee; report by James, Chair. James reported that the committee met on Jan 25th and the main discussion was two-fold:

1) How to best deal with cigarette butts on campus. The committee is in the early stages of engaging with TerraCycle who recycles cigarette butts. The committee will work with students on the ambassador program. James reported that there is a "butt bandit" damaging and making a large mess with the ashtrays around campus. The committee is reaching

out to other universities to learn how they deal with these issues. The committee is looking at different receptacles.

2). Discussed how to best deal with single use items on campus (in particular the 6 made of plastic that the federal government plans to ban by the end of 2021).

7d. ESAC Core Theme Planning sub-committee. Report by Alana Hoare, Chair. The committee is looking at the alignment with the TRU Envision strategic goals. There are four 4 values but there is a bit of a gap since 'sustainability' did not come up as a top priority with the public input that took place but is recognized as one the four key priorities for the TRU. Discussions are still ongoing. The committee is establishing baselines and making sure that they are still relevant and make sense.

8a. Warren reported that there are no new projects to report on but TRU did obtain the maximum amount of points for LEED gold for the new Industrial Training and Technology Centre (ITTC).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9a. Discussion of ESAC Triennial Report survey results. Christine shared a drafted ESAC Triennial report. There was an amendment to a recommendation in the report to consider an update to the terms of reference. The discussion centered around the possibility of creating two new positions for the purposes of making the ESAC more relevant in the community: An Indigenous Community Member and a Community Member at Large. Karl motioned this and Tina seconded it. The Triennial report was amended. **Christine** Karl moved and Michael seconded motion to approve report. Report will move on to Senate. Scott abstained since he did not have time to review the report. No one was opposed and the motion carried. Christine will send it to Senate.

NEW BUSINESS

c. Report on Sustainability Office initiatives. James reported that the Sweater Dance is Fri February 5th.

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

March 3, 2021- 12:00 to 1:30 pm—Virtual via MS Teams

NEXT MEETING

Adjourned at 1:35pm

ADJOURNMENT

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

Signature of Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Chair (if required)