Sustainability Charter Committee

March 14, 2014

- Meeting Minutes –

Members Present: Art Bettis, Sara Maples, Wilfrid Nixon, Ericka Raber, Christine Rutledge-Russell, Kelsey Zlevor

Liaisons Present: Liz Christiansen, Don Guckert, Rich Hichwa, Belinda Marner, Dave Ricketts,

Marty Schafer, Deb Tiemens

Others Present: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe, Joe Brennan, Jen Colby (Sustainability Coordinator at the University of Utah), Dave Collins, Wendy Moorehead

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Joe Brennan, Vice President for Strategic Communications, provided an overview of the Office of the VP for Strategic Communications.

Some items discussed included building understanding and trust through good communication, sharpening and providing clarity in the narrative of the institution, strengthen partnerships across campus, building capacity in the VP for Strategic Communication, and adjusting the branding of the university through the promotion of academic quality and major research.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Outreach Subcommittee – At the last meeting, the group discussed a possible coordinator position to meet the following priority:

– To build a culture of sustainability, education and outreach should be expanded to reach and engage as many as possible in the campus community and raise the profile of the UI’s sustainability efforts

The group discussed the following needs in the sustainability program;

-          Create and lead sustainability ambassadors across campus

-          Resource to launch green teams on campus

-          Students looking for internships – perhaps could coordinate if more are available

-          See how would fit with what we already have

-          Experiential learning

-          Work more with LLCs

-          Perhaps coordinate building certificates for those buildings that could be considered “green” or building challenge

-          Assist with class projects

-          Resource for ARH and UI Housing and Dining

-          Work on Earth Month programming

-          Community outreach

-          Branding and marketing

Educational Development Subcommittee – At the last meeting, the group reviewed information presented by Ingrid Anderson, which included a review of

• Sustainability-focused classes as reported to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS);

• Classes approved for the undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability; and

• Classes that currently meet General Education requirements

The group determined that there is sufficient overlap among these classes, and the potential to adjust the curricula of other classes to include sustainability, to merit a recommendation of a sustainability General Education requirement to the Educational Policy Committee. A draft letter of recommendation has been developed and will be sent out to the entire committee for review, as well as to the UI Student Government. The group will also schedule a time to meet with Beth Ingram, in the Provost’s office.

OTHER ITEMS

John Staley of UIHC Administration will be asked to provide an overview of sustainability efforts by the UIHC.

NEXT MEETING

The subcommittees will meet on Friday, March 28 at 10:30 AM. Room assignments will be sent out to committee members.