

Meeting Summary

April 4, 2014

**Council members present:**

Carlo Colella, Vice President for Administration and Finance (Chair)

John Farley, Assistant Vice President for Administration and Finance

Ann Tonggarwee, Assistant to President

Scott Lupin, Associate Director, Environmental Safety, and Director, Office of Sustainability

Susan Corry, Energy Conservation Manager, Facilities Management

Bryan Quinn, Director of Technical Operation, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Eric Wachsman, Professor, Materials Science and Engineering, and Director, Energy Research Center

Carol Rogers, Professor, Journalism

David Lovell, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Ori Gutin, Director of Sustainability, Student Government Association

Scott Tjaden, Graduate Student, Environmental Science and Technology

Guests: Russell Fur, Director, Department of Environmental Safety

Meeting start time: 10:00am

Meeting Highlights

**Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Report**

Russell Furr, Chair of the Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Workgroup and Director of the Department of Environmental Safety, continued discussion about the recommendations from the Sustainable Water Use and Watershed Report.

* Recommendation #6: Beyond Compliance – Demonstrate Leadership in Watershed Restoration by Staying Ahead of NPDES/MS4 Permit Requirements. *Approved*.
* Recommendation #7: Revise Campus Design Standards - Include Standardized ESD and Rainwater Harvesting Details and Practices. *Approved*.
* Recommendation #8: ESD Banking – Continue Stormwater Banking for Capital Projects Using ESD. *Approved*.
* Recommendation #9: Create Internal Funding Mechanism(s) for MS4 Compliance and ESD Banking. Pursue Outside Funding Opportunities. *Approved*.
* Recommendation #10: Expand Inspection and Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities. *Approved*.
* Recommendation #11: Restore Campus Creek by 2020. *Not approved*. The Council wanted clarity on what the term “restore” actually means in this context. Council members suggested adding the following language (in red) to the recommendation and will vote on this recommendation as amended in May:
  + Recommendation 11: Restore Campus Creek and Guilford Run by 2020

The university has been involved in several ongoing watershed restoration studies and efforts in recent history including the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership, the Paint Branch Management Partnership, and Paint Branch restoration efforts with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Maryland National Capital Park and Planning. The University should continue to expand its leadership and participation in these types of local and regional watershed restoration efforts.

The university should develop a proposal by the end of 2015 to restore Campus Creek’s stormwater functionality while preserving its aesthetic qualities. Significant matching funding dollars for restoration projects will be available through the State and County during the proposed restoration timeline. In order to meet the State Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for Chesapeake Bay restoration by 2025 (the current WIP deadline), the State and County will be actively seeking restoration projects to fund and construct. As a public institution with public lands, the University will be an attractive location for restoration work. The proposal should identify funding, restoration strategy, and restoration schedules.

* Recommendation #12: Design and Install Metering System for all Campus Sanitary Sewage Discharge Points to WSSC. *Not approved*. A feasibility study will be a component of the investigation into a purple pipe system, so it is not necessary to for the study to have its own recommendation. In addition, FM- Engineering and Energy is actively pursuing adding water sub-meters to campus facilities.
* Recommendation #13: Link Water, Stormwater and Watershed Education and Research to UMD Practices. *Approved as amended* (amendments in red):
  + Recommendation 13: Link Water, Stormwater and Watershed Education and Research to UMD Practices

The University should link its educational and research missions with facilities management practices through synergistic relationships. The campus should approach its water, stormwater and watershed planning and practices as part of a living laboratory. The recommended Energy and Utilities Unit should ensure that signage and documents describing campus water initiatives are prepared and kept up to date. This information will be used for classroom and other educational activities for students (such as the Sustainability Studies Minor) and for campus visitors. FM and OS should also:

* + - Maintain a list of campus water/stormwater research topics requiring study.
    - Identify demonstration sites/projects that are available for external funding or support. These demonstration sites will serve as models for the state and region.
    - Seek and support synergistic projects between Facilities Management and the research community that further overall campus water and stormwater management goals (e.g. design, funding and monitoring of an ESD installation).
    - FM and OS should seek student groups to implement projects.
* Recommendation #14: Annual Progress Report to University Sustainability Council. *Approved as amended* (amendments in red):
  + Recommendation 14: Annual Progress Report to University Sustainability Council

The University Sustainability Council should serve as the campus body responsible for monitoring campus progress toward UMD’s water use, watershed and stormwater goals. Facilities Management with support from the Office of Sustainability, should provide an annual report to the University Sustainability Council each spring (for the proceeding calendar year) outlining campus progress toward each of the goals. The report should be made available through campus websites.

**Sustainability Fund Proposals**

Ori Gutin, chair of the Council’s Student Advisory Subcommittee, presented six projects that the subcommittee recommends receive grants from the University Sustainability Fund:

* Pilot Anaerobic Digester for Campus Food Waste Conversion- $20,000
* Sustainability Mini-Grants - $5,000
* Water Conservation at the Research Greenhouse Complex- $4,000
* Sustainability Fund Signage- $2,500
* JFarm Improvements - $1,500
* Armory Rain Garden - $1,350

Motion for funding: all six projects were approved by the Council for funding.

**Sustainability Fund Application Review Process**

Ori Gutin proposed setting up an ad-hoc committee to discuss the evaluation process of Sustainability Fund applications. He sent an email following the Council meeting proposing dates and times for the ad-hoc committee to meet.

**President’s Energy Initiative**

Carlo Colella said the President’s Energy Initiative will be announced via campus wide email on Tuesday, April 22nd (Earth Day).

Adjourn: 11:56am