

Environmental Stewardship Advisory Council

Meeting Notes
January 26, 2004
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
President Merwin's Office

Attendees:

Christine Andrews	Barrett Genson
Bob Bachand	Bill Hammond
Sharon Bevins	Pam Mac'Kie
Al Bielen	President Merwin
Wayne Daltry	Joe Shepard
Cathy Duff	Roberta Walsh
Susan Evans	Graham Walker

Note Taker: Judy Nothdurft, GA

President Merwin opened the meeting and updated the group on the Ginn Company revised plans for redevelopment east and north of the FGCU campus resulting in significant density reduction.

Pam Mac'Kie noted that SFWMD would be willing to fund internships for FGCU students to work on Everglades Restoration, which was favorably received. FGCU will assist with coordination among various degree programs that have internships as part of the curriculum.

A. The Chairs of the five ESAC Working Groups presented progress reports and key points were included as follows:

➤ **Facilities Design & Construction**

- A department of environment, health, and safety will be created at FGCU.
 1. Duties will include educational outreach, permitting compliance, hazardous materials compliance, and implementation of the Environmental Management Systems.
 2. A complete job description for a Director will be developed with ESAC input.
 3. It is anticipated the new Director will begin July 1, 2004

➤ **Environmental Management**

- The Purchasing, Utilities, Recycling, Energy (PURE) Working Group recommendations will be directly impacted by the work of the new Director.
- Specificity of goals was discussed. Recommendations will be diverse, but general guidance was given to make recommendations in the form of broad guidelines for others with appropriate expertise to develop procedures.
- It was also recommended to include timeframes for goals.

➤ **Watershed Stewardship**

- The working group has several detailed and broad recommendations including:
 1. Conducting wildlife advisories for the FGCU campus on a weekly or monthly basis.
 2. Developing a master plan for campus trails and linking them with area trails.
 3. Making FGCU an ecological restorative model for Southwest Florida.
 4. Developing a master plan that includes all FGCU properties and how they are managed.

➤ **Community & Communication**

- A draft Community & Communication Working report has been completed and the following highlights discussed:
 1. Although some agencies feel the Estero Bay Conference should be incorporated with the *Charlotte State of the Bays Conference*, the working group recommends that FGCU take the lead for a conference dedicated solely to Estero Bay at FGCU.
 2. Further funding for the Wings of Hope Program was recommended. The current funding will be researched.
 3. It was recommended that MOUs between FGCU and community organizations be reviewed by the University General Counsel for liability issues.

➤ **Education & Research**

- Roberta Walsh will follow follow-up with Margaret Bogan and Debra Giambo who were unable to attend the meeting.

- B. Completion of the Working Group Reports and ESAC Plan were discussed. The due date for Working Group Reports to be submitted to Roberta Walsh and Bill Hammond for compilation of the comprehensive Plan will be February 13. The final ESAC plan will be completed by the end of February.
- C. The Draft Report Template was determined to be appropriate for drafting the comprehensive ESAC Plan. It was also determined that the “How we get there” portion of the Plan would be fleshed out by the new Director of the environment, health, and safety department or who ever implements the Plan.
- D. Roberta Walsh reported on conversations with the contact person from the University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (ULSF). Representative will be on the FGCU campus March 24 and 25 with President Merwin spending part of the afternoon of March 25 with them. Others will meet with ULSF representative as schedules allow. The ESAC Plan may also substitute for completing the ULSF Questionnaire.
- E. President Merwin will hold a Press Conference and Audrea Anderson will become involved when the University goes public with the ESAC Plan in early March.

- F. Joe Shepard announced that he would be participating in an international conference on environmental sustainability from an administrative perspective in Mexico on June 9 at the request of Peter Corcoran.
- G. There will be a meeting this week regarding the Jacobs Group forty acres of property with the Stewart Slough being considered by the University. Bill Hammond noted the concern that when Rinker completes mine out of the surrounding areas, the natural flows must be restored and the responsibility and impact of this were discussed.
- H. Wayne Daltry commented on the Idalia property as a node for education and recreation and reiterated the opportunity of partnership for FGCU in such a project. Wayne also recommended that various Editorials regarding FGCU be used to counterpoint back to the community for comment.
- I. The next full ESAC meeting will be the week of February 16 and members will be notified as soon as a date is set.