

Environmental Stewardship Advisory Council

Meeting Notes
October 20, 2003
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
President Merwin's Office

Attendees:

Christine Andrews	Barrett Genson
Bob Bachand	Debbie Giambo
Sharon Irish Bevins	Bill Hammond
Al Bielen	Pam Mac'Kie
Matt Bixler	President Merwin
Margaret Bogan	Joe Shepard
Wayne Daltry	Jessica Solimano
Cathy Duff	Roberta Walsh

Note Taker: Judy Nothdurft, GA

President Merwin welcomed the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Council members and Chairs.

1. Roberta Walsh opened the meeting with the following announcements:

- The Naples Daily News published an article by Marci Elliott regarding the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Council on October 20, 2003.
- Christine Andrews and her students have created an ESAC website available at www.FGCU.edu/ESAC.
- The University Leaders for a Sustainable Future External Evaluation Questionnaire for FGCU distributed by Bill Hammond can be completed by February rather than November due to the high priority of the ESAC comprehensive plan.

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

➤ **Environmental Management**

- Summarized the strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities analysis that the Working Group conducted on the categories of energy, transportation, purchasing, solid waste, and utilities at FGCU.
- The cooling system provided the biggest gains under the energy category.
- FGCU now has four gasoline-powered mules that pull trams to transport students.
- Solid waste programs include electronics recycling in cooperation with Lee County and newsprint recycling.
- There is no university wide sustainable purchasing policy.
- Education, a university wide culture, and incentives are needed.

- Dr. Walsh has been invited to speak about ESAC before the Faculty Senate on October 31, 2003.
- **Facilities Design & Construction**
- Distributed a draft meeting summary from the Working Group.
 - The proposed hospitality building and possible green features for the building were discussed.
 - Developing a five-year plan to incorporate ideas as well as implementation of the plan and measuring progress were discussed.
 - Trading building maintenance dollars for the costs of green buildings was discussed.
- **Site & Neighborhood Stewardship**
- Looking at strengths and determining legal requirements.
 - Obtaining a copy of the SFWMD permitting folder from Palm Beach was discussed.
 - Next step would be to find gaps and validate items that need close attention.
 - There is no central clearing house for environmentally related documents and information.
 - Timeframes and accessibility to information need to be established
 - Educational outreach was recommended and the Smart Growth Three Tier Environmental Education Program was noted.
- **Education & Research**
- Distributed a hand out including information on the charge for the Working Group and a data collection sheet.
 - A broader based environmental educational program would need an ESAC recommendation.
 - The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmation process to review the University Colloquium was noted.
 - The importance of knowing how many students are reached with the current environmental education program and how many will be reached with further environmental sustainability infusion into the curriculum was noted.
- **Community & Communication**
- Distributed an informational handout on the Working Group.
 - Rickey Pires' FGCU *Wings of Hope* program was noted as an outstanding example of an existing educational outreach program.
 - President Merwin inquired about the graduate requirements for community outreach (for which there is no formal program) and recommended connecting with Linda Summers to help provide students with guidance.
 - The Colloquium has added an action component of serving on an ESAC Working Group. Student internships were also recommended.
 - The status of the State of the Bay Report for Estero Bay and the possibility of a State of the Bay Conference were discussed. Pam Mac'Kie indicated that SFWMD had funds in

the budget for Estero Bay. Matt Bixler conveyed that the State of the Bay report was currently being updated.

- Wayne Daltry mentioned a land site on the Caloosahatchee River below the locks and the possibility of it being developed into an educational field site with a lab was discussed.
3. Highlights from the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) telecast, “Got Sustainability? Plan for It!” were discussed.
 - There are four video tapes of the telecast being circulated, one of which is in the library.
 - FGCU sent in questions to the panel and is awaiting answers.
 4. The Jacobs Group Mitigation proposal was presented by Joe Shepard. The Jacobs Group needs access through FGCU land to get to their land located east of and adjacent to the FGCU campus in order to mitigate by removal of exotics. The proposal would include the Jacobs Group turning over the subject land to FGCU for continued exotics removal and maintenance while providing the university with financial support to do so. This would provide additional land to FGCU for research and allow better understanding and protection of the slough. Allowing access would also re-injure the land. The following three motions were moved and unanimously approved:

Motion One

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will proceed to discuss the proposed Jacobs Group mitigation plan for the subject property east of and adjacent to the FGCU campus with Lee County Department of Natural Resources Management to verify consistency with the County's Greenway Plan.

Motion Two

Based on the favorable outcome of Motion One, FGCU will grant access through FGCU property to the Jacobs Group property to allow mitigation. Access will be granted contingent upon the appropriate criteria determined by FGCU faculty and staff in consultation with Lee County Department of Natural Resources Management and will have minimum impact on the ingress and egress to the property. Access to the subject property is also contingent upon an endowment to FGCU from the Jacobs Group for continued maintenance and mitigation of the subject property.

Motion Three

The subject property will be transferred from the Jacobs Group to FGCU for acquisition and will be maintained in a manner no less than the applicable mitigation banking rules require.

Wayne Daltry inquired if the 75 acres north of Teco were owned by FGCU. President Merwin responded that FGCU did not own this property yet and a discussion regarding a future charter school in this area ensued.

The next ESAC meeting will be announced.

