

Stony Brook University
University Senate
Campus Environment Committee

April 16, 2007

V.P. Administration Conference Room, 221 Administration Bldg.

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attending: Gil Hanson, Chair; Mary LaCorte, Vice-chair, Ramona Walls, Recording Secretary; Bill Dethlefs, Mary Hotaling, Paul Siegel, Ana Topolovec, Fred Walter.

Excused: Robert Aller, Malcolm Bowman, Ketty Dautruche, Wendy Fidaio, Catherine Horgan, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Matthew Maiorella, John Murray, Kristen Nyitray, John Robinson, Dorothy Shannon Schiff, Catherine Vetter, Kathleen Weber, and Muriel Weyl.

Staff: Barbara Chernow (for part of the meeting), John Fogarty.

Guests: Matt Kibby (Campus Horticulturalist), Tasha Angelet (Environmental Club), Richard Young and Doug Little (Campus Police).

Minutes

I. Introductions – G. Hanson

Introductions were made of all attendees. The electricity went off on much of the campus last night, so not many staff members were present.

II. Review of the Minutes – R. Walls

March minutes were not yet finished, so committee agreed to approve them via email.

III. Status Reports

1. Campus Environmental Committee charge and safety and security – G. Hanson

-The committee discussed if we should consider safety and security. Senate executive committee said no other committee deals with it, and we are best able to deal with it. Therefore, we must reconsider our revised charge proposal.

-Rich Young discussed security issues: There is a campus safety committee that the president sets up every year. It is mandated from Albany. Issue with HSC – about 30 burglaries last year (no force) and larceny – crimes of opportunity. Many crimes occur because people leave doors open. HSC and campus police instituted specific patrols to identify offices that were left open, and people are getting better about locking doors. There have been no thefts in HSC in months. They put in a camera system with help of Dr. Fein (VP of HSC). One difficulty is the many entry points to the facility, so they are trying to close off some entries and require card access from the hospital. Trying to have a new system that has checkpoints hooked up to a computer to insure all doors are locked. Campus police have put up posters. They urge people to back up their computers.

-Doug Little: The problem ceased because of awareness – people must remain aware and keep eyes and ears open. Some people don't know when to call, or don't call if they see suspicious people. People have seen crimes occur but don't call police. The police need people to lock

their doors and secure their belongings. The safety warden program has been initiated. Campus police is willing to coming and talk to people in different departments, to tell them about what they can do.

J. Fogarty: In situations with repeat crimes, people demand more security in terms of hardware after a crime, like new locks of more cameras. D. Little replied that while hardware is important, personal involvement is at least as important.

R. Young: Many security problems go back to old keying system, where keys could be duplicated. They are trying to replace those. Card access is much more expensive, so they are selective about where they put it.

-Most thefts are small electronics. Criminal mischief is also a problem on campus.

-G. Hanson asked what this committee could do? D. Little replied that publicity is what they really need. Talk to fellow faculty or students. J. Fogarty suggested that members of this committee could join the standing safety committee of the university and report back to the senate. G. Hanson noted that some committee members agree that we should deal with security issues, but other are concerned that we already have a large mandate. F. Walter said that security does not seem to fit into what this committee does, although it is important that a standing committee have oversight for security. P. Siegel pointed out that security issues often arise out negligence, so what can we do about it? R. Young felt that departments have to take responsibility for their own security. The safety warden program has given some input about what is happening in individual buildings. B. Dethlefs said that the senate needs a vehicle to interface with administration regarding safety and security. P. Siegel asked if someone from this committee could attend the president's safety committee meetings and report to this committee. M. Hotaling volunteered to serve as our liaison to the safety committee.

-The committee unanimously agreed to add safety and security to our revised charge.

-M. LaCorte asked what security will there be at the new R&D Park? R. Young: It will be patrolled, and receive same services as rest of campus. Gates are now locked at night, but eventually may need to be open at night because people will work at night. P. Siegel suggested that there could be a card access gate at night. R. Young said that security cameras can be used, but the problem with cameras is that no one watches them, until after something happens.

-B. Chernow will find out what name and composition of the president's safety committee. B. Dethlefs said that the director of Environmental. Health and Safety is a member of the safety committee, which sets precedent for safety on campus.

2. Bike Path – F. Walter

– F. Walter presented pictures of the end of the bike path coming in from east side of campus (from Daniel Webster Drive). Right now, cyclists can only cross HSC Drive through a culvert. Entering the main campus requires getting through a driveway entrance and passing through HSC garage. Riding through the loading dock is dangerous. Bike paths should connect and there should be a bike path on or near South Loop Road.

-B. Chernow has contacted DOT to ask for a meeting. She will meet with Wayne ____ and ask the DOT to help fund the bike path. She would like to use F. Walter's materials that he presented today. Her office will be repairing SAC drive first, and then will deal with bike path.

-B. Dethlefs said that there was a senate task force established on East campus two years ago, which deals with bike issues, which could provide a historic perspective

IV. Sub-committee Reports

1. Smoking policy subcommittee report – B. Dethlefs

-The policy that the CEC originally passed was submitted to the Senate on May 1, 2006, but put on hold. A new subcommittee was formed to deal with various issues and the new policy came to a vote in senate on April 9, but did not pass (16, 17, 2). Resistance is to be expected, so this is not a bad initial step. More than 700 students responded to a poll and most were in favor of the ban.

-P. Siegel: The problem is that resolution is not enforceable, so it doesn't make sense to say that we will be smoke free in three years. Don't see sense of having unenforceable rules. This is a large campus, and it is hard to leave campus. The proposed policy told people that they have to break the law if they want to feed their addiction.

-G. Hanson asked if we should we the subcommittee? They came up with a lot of good policies other than the ban. M. LaCorte suggested that could we at least try to get consistent policy in place.

-B. Dethlefs: Because the resolution did not pass, policy defaults back to existing policy. We need to promote and address the existing policy, but this causes some problems, such as air intake at library.

- B. Dethlefs already told sub-committee that they were only going to meet three times, with specific purposes. However, some individual members are committed to going forward with reforming the smoking policy and may be willing to continue.

-F. Walter asked if we can reach a new compromise; maybe have smoking in designated areas only.

-R. Walls said that this committee has still not addressed its original charge, which was to reform the existing policy

-B. Dethlefs said that the charge of the subcommittee was to support the new proposal, but many students wanted to have a separate committee that could have more open discussion and work up a policy that is supported by everybody. There is still concern about a lawsuit or workers' compensation case due to second hand smoke.

-G. Hanson asked B. Dethlefs is he was willing to continue with this issue? B. Dethlefs responded that he couldn't make a commitment to it now. Perhaps we should go back to the Senate and say that we need to have a new sub-committee.

-M. LaCorte pointed out that the new SUNY chancellor may make all SUNY campuses smoke free, and make this issue moot.

-F. Walter asked if we should form a new subcommittee.

-R. Walls suggested that the committee as a whole could work on a new recommendation. She agreed to collate the existing statements from GSO and USG so that the committee could work on it during the next meeting.

-The committee voted to continue working on the smoking ban: all in favor, one abstaining.

2. Friends of Ashley Schiff Preserve – M. LaCorte

The first scholarship recipient gave a presentation. They will have a table at Earthstock (this Friday).

3. Little Acre Woods – P. Siegel

Trees are planted. On track for campus pride patrol to plant shrubs and do some seeding on Friday. Need a crew of about 28. Suggested that students could monitor it as reforestation project.

V. Other

1. Environmental Club – T. Angelet

Have been working with A. Provenzano at the sustainability task force. Task force consists of staff, student, and faculty reps, working to make campus more sustainable. Example ideas: starch containers to replace plastic in cafeterias, new biodegradable coffee containers, reusable mugs get 35% off drinks. Justin brought a list of suggestions to the task force from the Environmental Club such as using recycled paper towels or air dryers in restrooms.

A. Topolovec asked if there was a representative from Facilities and Services. J. Fogarty said didn't think so.

-P. Siegel suggested using plastics for which there is a market (1 and 2 instead of 6). There was a composting project on campus about 6 years ago in Marine Science, will forward the thesis to T. Angelet.

VI. Next meeting

There will be no meeting in May or July. Will have a meeting in June and one in August.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2007 at 1:00 PM in Administration 221, conference room.

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 2006/2007

Charge: It shall examine all aspects of the campus environment, including but not limited to safety, security, facilities planning, state of facilities, and general appearance of the campus. It will consult with and advise the Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Services.

Chair: Gilbert N. Hanson, Vice Chair: Mary Woodward, Recording Secretary: Ramona Walls

Humanities and Fine Arts:

Vacant			
Vacant			

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

John Robinson	Psychology-2-7832	Robinson@psych1.psy.sunysb.edu	9/08
Vacant			

Natural Sciences:

Gil Hanson	Geosciences, 2-8210	GHanson@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
Frederick Walter	Physics, 2-8232	fwalter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Library:

Kristen Nyitray	Library, 2-7119	KNyitray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
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College of Engineering:

John Murray	Electrical Engineering, 2-8413	JMurray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07
Paul Siegel	Tech. & Society, 2-8716	psiegel@sunysb.edu	9/08

Health Sciences Center:

Mary Hotaling	SHTM, 4-3223	MHotaling@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
Catherine Vetter	SHTM, 4-6158	CVetter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Professionals:

William Dethlefs	HSC Alumni Relations, 4-8305	wdethlefs@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07
Mary Woodward	Procurement, 2-9849	MWoodward@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07

Graduate Student:

Ramona Walls		rwalls@life.bio.sunysb.edu	9/07
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Undergraduate Students:

Ketty Dautruche		Ketty87@aol.com	9/07
Matthew Maiorella		mmaiorel@ic.sunysb.edu	9/07

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2006/2007

At-Large Members:

Dorothy Shannon Schiff dshannon@ic.sunysb.edu,

Catherine Horgan, SHTM, chorgan@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 4-2251

Malcolm Bowman, Marine Sciences, mbowman@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8669

Muriel Weyl, (retired faculty), murielweyl@yahoo.com

Bob Aller, MSRC, raller@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8746

Kathleen Weber, Kathleen.Weber.1@stonybrook.edu, 2-4887

Ana Topolovec, campus architect, atopolovec@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 4-1812

Ex officio members: Gary Kaczmarczyk, Director of Environmental Health & Safety

Administrative Contact: Barbara Chernow, AVP Facilities and Services

Facilities and Services Supporting Staff