

Stony Brook University
University Senate
Campus Environment Committee

January 22, 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, Catherine Horgan, Matthew Maiorella, John Murray, Kristen Nyitray, Fred Walter.

Excused: Bob Aller, Malcolm Bowman, Ketty Dautruche, Wendy Fidaio, Mary Hotaling, Gary Kaczmarczyk, John Robinson, Dorothy Shannon Schiff, Paul Siegel, Catherine Vetter, Kathleen Weber, and Muriel Weyl.

Staff: Barbara Chernow, John Fogarty, Amy Provenzano.

Guests: Maureen O’Leary, Mallory Ress, Ana Topolovec.

Minutes

- I. Introductions – Gil Hanson
Introductions were made of all attendees. Guest Maureen O’Leary (Anatomy), Mallory Ress (Environmental Club), and Ana Topolovec (East Campus Architect) were welcomed. Note that Mary Woodward is now Mary LaCorte.
- II. Review of the Minutes – Gil Hanson
The minutes were approved with a minor change that there is no report from the Little Acre Wood Subcommittee to attach.
- III. Status Reports
 - a. Brookhaven Town Kettle Hole Park – G. Hanson
H2M is reviewing the issue with Chris Brennan, Executive Director of Facilities for the Medical Center. G. Hanson talked to Chris Brennan. He said runoff is overflow from nearby retention basin, but G. Hanson says this is unlikely. About 1 foot of sediment has been added to kettle hole already. B. Chernow told Gil that she will follow up with Chris.
 - b. Environmental Master Plan – B. Chernow
Master Plans are being completed for Southampton Campus and Research & Development Park. These are general master plans, which include environmental assessments. Will show plan from Beyer, Blinder, Belle (architecture and engineering firm, who has worked with SBU for many years) for Southampton Campus. Also have plan for R&D Park. Andropogon <www.andropogon.com> is sub-contractor for environmental aspects of both plans. Perhaps in the spring when more projects are underway, can report more to this committee.
 - c. Review committee charge from the University Senate – G. Hanson
 - Asked for comments from people who may have been absent and not able to comment last time.

- The committee decided to change the last line of the revised charge to “It will consult with and advise the Assistant or the Vice-president for Facilities and Services.” This will allow for flexibility in whether or not there is a position of Assistant VP.
- d. Effluent from County Sewage Treatment Plant on campus – J. Fogarty
- Suffolk County Department of Public Works (SCDPW) must reduce nitrogen input into Port Jefferson harbor from this plant by the year 2014. Propose to put recharge basins on campus. J. Fogarty asked SCDPW if a constructed wetland could work. They passed question on to Suffolk County consultant, who said no, it wouldn’t work. Historically constructed wetlands are not so effective for N removal. Main problem is that a wetland would require a liner to hold water, so there would still have to be a recharge basin downstream of the wetland.
 - G. Hanson contacted Paul Boyce from D.W. Grosser to find out about hydraulic conductance of subsurface sediments at the site of the recharge basin. Need to take into account clay layer under soils. Don’t know if or where there is a clay layer. B. Chernow says north campus recharge basin is working, so there doesn’t appear to be a clay layer there. G. Hanson will come to next meeting with Ben Wright from SCDPW to talk about modeling of recharge basin
 - J. Fogarty will receive a proposal from SCDPW on location of recharge basin. It will probably be in the wooded area next to DEC on north part of campus.

IV. New Business

- a. Southampton Campus – B. Chernow.
- The master plan is being worked on by Blyer, Blinder and Bell, estimated completion is 8-12 months. The plan will review site and recommend locations for buildings, residence halls, etc. Currently under renovation are 2 federal buildings, HVAC for several buildings, bathroom renovations, parking lot lighting, path and walkway lighting, business center where Long Island University rents space, Fine Arts and Wood Hall. Wood Hall is the building where food will be served.
 - G. Hanson asked if we should ask someone from Southampton to be on this committee. B. Dethlefs pointed out that the committee will need to get permission from University Senate (US) to add a committee member. May affect all 13 standing committees of US. F. Walter mentioned that they might form their own senate, and have nothing to do with us. Campus will be called Stony Brook Southampton. We currently have no representative from SB Manhattan. G. Hanson will bring this issue to the attention of the US, and ask for rep for next year.
- b. Research and Development Park – B. Chernow
- CEWIT (Center for Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology) is the first building; foundation was poured on time and on budget. Renovating building 17 (43000 sq ft). One tenant moved out, one will need 9-12 months before they can leave. Advance center for energy: finalizing consultant selection for those plans. G. Hanson asked if we need representatives from R&D Park as well. Ensuing discussion suggested that most people working there will already be associated with some unit on main campus, and thus already be represented on this committee.
 - M. LaCorte asked if CEWIT building will be LEED certified. B. Chernow stated that it is a possibility but more likely that they would follow the guidelines to keep in line

with Executive Order 111. CEWIT building may meet requirements of LEED certification but may not apply for actual designation.

- Will have a shuttle bus for transportation.
- Building 17 will be used for back office functions, which will allow University to create classrooms in lieu of space assigned to these functions now
- M. LaCorte asked if R&D Park would include archival space. B. Chernow said this is being discussed by procurement.

c. Recharge Basins – A. Provenzano

- There is a five-year process to deal with all recharge basins on campus. Last year the recharge basin near Tabler Quad was drained and cleaned out, but it had minimal sediment. Then water from the recharge basin on south campus near Westchester Hall was pumped into the basin near Tabler, and over one foot of sludge was removed. Next year, there are plans to work on recharge basins 1 and 2 (near NW corner of campus).
- The former recharge basin near Nichols Rd., also known as Lake Brianna to some, has been designated as a wetland by DEC, and discussions are ongoing with DEC on how to work on it, either by removing the wetland designation or working on it as a wetland. This used to be 2 discharge basins connected by a spillway.
- B. Chernow mentioned that although the Long Island railroad was washed out in 1991 because SBU drainage basins were not maintained, there is still a limited budget to maintain the basins. F. Walter asked what is done with the sludge that is removed from basins. A. Provenzano said that if it is tested as clean, it is put in an area near south P lot. If tests showed contamination, such as oils or heavy metals, a licensed contractor would remove it, but so far, none of it has been contaminated. There are different levels of sludge in different basins. F. Walter asked if we could save money by not cleaning out basins until they have a problem, but various people pointed out that policy leads to problems like flooding.

d. Campus sustainability task force – B. Chernow

- Met with Justin Greenblatt-Grimm, Chair of the Student Environmental Club, Mary La Corte and Amy Provenzano, and came up with list of projects she would like to work on with the club. Hope to get students involved in projects such as recycling and estimating the campus's carbon footprint and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. A pilot study of waterless urinals is underway, to assess potential problems with maintenance and odor. Also discussed how to reuse or recycle instead of tossing students' stuff during the end of semester student clean out.
- There is now paper recycling in dorms. We are now part of the Recyclemania program.
- Recycling was instituted in Jasmine Restaurant in the Wang Center.
- Want to develop web site to share with students to share what the task force is doing. Environmental stewardship website will be up in a few weeks. Another sustainability task force is in development, and we will know more about it soon

e. Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) – A. Topolovec.

- Came to ask that this committee recommend that SBU join the AASHE. AASHE is an organization of colleges and universities in U.S. and Canada. They publish plans of what different schools are doing toward sustainability, so other universities can see

what is applicable to their campus. Some member schools publish sustainability commitments to document and advertise them.

- A. Topolovec showed two handouts of material from the AASHE website.
- A. Provenzano said that the University has now joined AASHE, so committee did not need to take any action. We are also member of the Green Building Council.

V. Subcommittee Reports

a. Smoking Policy Sub-committee – B. Dethlefs

- US asked for three issues be addressed before brought up for a vote (see last month's minutes). As chair, B. Dethlefs sought input from broad committee.
- The subcommittee has met two times, and will meet once more. The first meeting focused on the issues to be addressed. The second meeting was to brainstorm for content for the three charges from the US. During the third meeting the committee will refine charges to turn over to CEC and senate.
- SUNY Chancellor Ryan approached trustees, and they voted to implement a total ban on smoking in all SUNY residence halls, effective 7/1/2007.
- Dean Stein (Dean of Student Affairs) and others are meeting to discuss strategies for working with students on new policy.
- Text was added to proposed amendment to allow for smoking cessation (see attachment A).
- Smoking cessation assistance is currently available to anyone living in NYS by contacting the New York State Quitline at 1(866)697-8487 or www.smokefree.com.
- Representative from Long Island State Veterans Home (LISVH) will meet tomorrow to address the issue of an exemption for LISVH.
- Enforcement: old campus policy referred to Article 13E of the New York State Public Health Law, which was in fact the Clean Air Act. This was amended in 2003 and requires the counties to enforce the Clean Air Act. SBU police chief Doug Little will be at the subcommittee meeting tomorrow to discuss role of campus police in enforcement. The focus is to be on education and awareness rather than enforcement. Current enforcement at east campus is by the county. R. Walls asked if there has ever been enforcement or ticketing by the county. Need to ask Doug Little about this. A. Provenzano said that the county will write up smoking violations if a health issue is raised, but has generally addressed enforcement as administratively rather than as a law enforcement issue.
- The subcommittee found 34 campuses across the country that have smoke-free policies. All had adjustment phases. Several campuses are similar to SBU in size and number of students. Those campuses that have banned smoking have seen decrease in smoking rates.
- M. LaCorte asked if the benefits office involved (as a health issue). Lynn Johnson, Director of Human Resources, is consulting the subcommittee.
- M. O'Leary asked if this is a tobacco ban or just smoking. As it now stands, the proposed ban includes all forms of tobacco, and there is a clause to ban receipt of tobacco money for research. The Research Foundation (RF) already has a policy that prevents researchers who receive money from tobacco companies from receiving funds from the ACS.

b. Friends of Ashley Schiff Park Preserve – M. LaCorte

- The committee is looking forward to the presentation of the 2006 research awardee. She did her research on the American Chestnuts found in the preserve.
 - The committee is meeting on February 8, 2007 to discuss the engagement of future students and faculty in the scholarship program.
 - B. Chernow requested that a new map be posted near the preserve, because the old one is no longer legible (due to the weather).
- c. Little Acre Woods – All
- Waiting for spring before planting can begin. Still looking for volunteers to help with the planting.
 - M. Ress said that the Environmental Club would probably be willing to help.

VI. Other

- a. Environmental Club – M. Ress
- i. Met with the president. FSA is going institute reusable travel mugs for all FSA locations for a discount. Also discussed other initiatives such as paper recycling and default use of double sided printing in university computer labs.
- b. M. LaCorte asked what renovations were planned for the Math and Physics area. B. Chernow said that this committee meetings was not the appropriate forum to discuss individual building issues. M La Corte pointed out that this was one of the aspects that the committee was charged with.
- c. B. Dethlefs complimented Facilities and Services for their completion of the new sidewalk/bike path from the Hospital to South Campus. The rest of the committee expressed their pleasure at its construction and hopes a similar path will be built heading north from the hospital.
- d. M. LaCorte invited Ana Topolovec to be an at-large member of this committee. She accepted and the committee agreed.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at 1:00 PM, in the Administration conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30

Attachment A

The original one-paragraph proposal, as amended to include specific reference to the availability of smoking cessation resources, is as follows:

Effective fall 2006 smoking will be limited only to pre-designated areas on campus. These areas are yet to be determined, but will allow for existing limitations as noted for dormitories, the hospital, and the Long Island Veterans home. In a time frame not to exceed three years a total ban on smoking is to be implemented campus-wide. This ban will follow a policy recently implemented by SUNY Upstate Medical University

that affects all faculty, staff, students, patients, and visitors. Smoking cessation assistance is available through the New York State Smokers Quitline by calling 1-(866)-697-8487 or online at <http://www.smokefree.com>.

Note: All residents of the State of New York, including faculty, staff, students, patients and other visitors to the Stony Brook University campus already have access to this service. For many requests, the caller will be referred to local resources.

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			

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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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Matthew Maiorella		mmaiorel@ic.sunysb.edu	9/07

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2006/2007

At-Large Members:

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

Administrative Contact: Barbara Chernow, AVP Facilities and Services

Facilities and Services Supporting Staff: John Fogarty and Terence Harrigan