

CESAS Meeting January 22, 2008

Participants: Larry Erickson, Center for Hazardous Substance Research (CHSR, KNRC); Donna Shenck-Hamlin, Hale Library; Curtis Kastner, Food Science Institute, Rhonda Janke, Horticulture; Blase Leven, CHSR; Jim Steichen, National Institute for Land Management; Jennifer Anthony, Chemical Engineering; Ken Barnard, Department of Aviation; Justin Kastner, Food Science Institute; Laura Calwell, Friends of the Kaw; Terrie Boguski, Harmony Environmental.

1. Earth Day 2008 – Earth Day is celebrated nationwide on April 22. A number of activities planned for this celebration were announced. More information will be made available later.

2. Sustainability Seminars – Larry Erickson reported on the success of the Intersession Seminar held earlier in January. The intersession was video taped and it will be available for viewing through KSU's Continuing Education Web Site. The group discussed the possibility of offering the seminar at KSU as a regular one credit course during a future semester.

3. Focus the Nation, January 31, 2008 – Focus the Nation (<http://www.focusthenation.org/>) is a national teach-in engaging millions of students and citizens with political leaders and decision makers about Global Warming Solutions. A teach-in is a day when an entire school turns its attention to a single issue—when faculty, students and staff put aside business as usual, and focus the full weight of campus engagement on one topic. As a part of this initiative, there is a Focus The Nation Webcast, Wednesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m., Central Time.

To participate in this live sustainability webcast, go to www.focusthenation.org. Click on the "2% Solution" box. Look for the link to view the webcast.

4. National Council for Science and the Environment – It has been suggested that KSU join the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE). The NCSE is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the scientific basis for environmental decision-making. The Council specializes in programs that foster collaboration between diverse institutions, communities and individuals. The Council works closely with those creating and using environmental knowledge, including research, education, environmental, and business organizations, as well as governmental bodies at all levels.

KSU faculty have attended NCSE conferences in the past and because of their experiences, they have made the recommendation to CESAS that KSU join. More information on the NCSE will be provided at a future meeting.

5. NSF Informal Science Education proposal –KSU is working to develop a proposal to the NSF ISE program that would focus on sustainability education for citizens. Potential

CESAS partners include the CHSR, Horticulture, Center for Science Education, Center for Engagement and Community Development, the Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy, Friends of the Kaw, and the Kansas Natural Resource Council. Preliminary discussions shows that the partners are interested in developing information and seminars for distribution to communities, facilitating discussions with communities interested in learning more about sustainability issues, and developing community-led projects related to sustainability. We are waiting for the program's RFP to be released by NSF.

6. Other – Terrie Boguski encouraged members to visit and explore Greenopolis, an online community that provides members with access to a variety of green resources and interaction opportunities. The CHSR is developing a relationship with Greenopolis to provide educational resources for the site. www.greenopolis.com