

CESAS

Consortium for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

CESAS Meeting Summary

102 Ward Hall, KSU

July 10, 2008

Participants

Jennifer Anthony, Chemical Engineering, KSU
Ken Barnard, Aviation Department, KSU (via teleconference)
Michael Bell, SGA Director of Sustainability, KSU
John Blair, Urban Operations Laboratory, M2 Technologies
Ben Champion, Director of Sustainability, Geography, KSU
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, Stewardship Comm., KSU; also representing the KNRC
Leslie Jamka, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, KSU
Rhonda Janke, Horticulture, Forestry, & Recreation Resources, KSU
Curtis Kastner, Food Science Institute, KSU (via teleconference)
Chet McLaughlin U.S. EPA Region 7, representing Blue Skyways Collaborative (via teleconference)
Ruth Miller, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Wind Applications Center, KSU
Becky O'Donnell, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Service, KSU
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, KSU (via teleconference)
Jim Steichen, Biological & Agricultural Engineering, NILMT, KSU
Marie Steichen, Center for Engagement & Community Development, KSU
Mike Steinke, Wind Energy Consulting & Contracting (via teleconference)
Ken Warren, Land Institute (via teleconference)

Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Agenda Review

- The participants reviewed the tentative agenda and concurred on its content.

Student Sustainability Campaign & Conference

- Michael Bell provided an update on plans and goals.
- The “Students for Education and Empowerment of Living Green (SEE Green) Campaign” will work to enhance student awareness in terms of personal, campus, and community stewardship.
- Efforts will focus on key strategic areas: transportation, recycling, and energy with goals, pledges, petitions, events, and commitments.
- Initial activities include web development and participation in Freshman orientation, those interested in supporting the campaign can join via e-mail mlbell@ksu.edu or facebook.com
- The “Leading Kansas in Sustainability, The Role of K-State” conference is scheduled for January 23, 2009.
- The milestone event, which is being strongly supported by K-State Administration, will address internal and external initiatives, and feature prominent speakers.
- Planning for the conference is underway and ideas for speakers and sponsors were briefly discussed.
- Further details will be shared at upcoming CESAS meetings (contact Ben Champion).

Dialog on Sustainability, July 17

- Larry Erickson noted that the location of the event had changed, due to storm damage, from Fiedler Auditorium to the K-State Alumni Center Ballroom.
- Oral Saulters is coordinating sessions with facilitators, speakers, and panelists.
- Pre-registration is free and can be completed by notifying Sheree Walsh, smw@ksu.edu

CESAS

Consortium for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

- The program schedule, agenda, invitation, request for exhibits, posters, and co-sponsors are available on the website <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/sustainability/>
- Sessions and activities include: wind energy, policy, community development, campus sustainability, field tours, and a potluck in the park.
- Wendy Griswold will be leading the group reflections and Becky O'Donnell is setting up post-event activities (field visits and community potluck).

Pew Charitable Trust (proposal on sustainability)

- Group discussed vision for a broad proposal (Kansas as initial framework) which would address public education with respect to sustainability, health, and environment in cooperation with CESAS partners.
- Chet McLaughlin recommended contacting Eileen Claussen, Pew Trust leader on climate, and inviting her participation as a speaker in the January 2009 conference.
- Ideas on public outreach and community development were exchanged, including possible opportunities to leverage the Greensburg, KS model to assist the Chapman, KS rebuilding effort (severe damage to local schools).
- Marie Steichen noted the importance and unique nature of communications during crisis between various agencies and stakeholders.

EPA Brownfields Sustainability Conference at KSU, September 9-11, 2008

- From Brown to Green: Sustainable Redevelopment of Contaminated Properties Workshop.
- Program is being supported by several regional and local organizations.
- Agenda and supporting materials will be available soon.

Sustainability Seminar (CHE 670), Fall 2008

- Larry Erickson will be teaching and facilitating series activities.
- Seminars are scheduled for Thursday evenings, 7:00 PM, one credit hour, 50-60 minute presentations, open to the public, room can accommodate approximately 60.
- Suggestions for publicity include: K-State Calendar of Events, UFM listing, and Sustainability Calendar.
- Additional K-State Sustainability related courses will be taught in the fall and beyond, including: Ben Champion (Sustainability Science), Rhonda Janke (Organic Agriculture), Ruth Miller (Wind Engineering), and others listed in the interdisciplinary Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences secondary major program.
- Student input and communications will be encouraged.

Sustainability Speakers Bureau

- Experts and practitioners on various sustainability-related topics will be coordinated through the speakers bureau.
- Chet McLaughlin mentioned that he has prepared a presentation on the History of Sustainability and would be willing to speak during the Fall Seminar and/or as part of Speakers Bureau.
- Other ideas for topics and speakers were discussed (e.g., local food systems, green buildings, and energy efficiency).
- Ruth Miller noted that the energy efficient features at the Riley County Shops (Rod Meredith, 785.539.2981) would provide an informative field visit.
- Please contact Larry Erickson for further information.

CESAS

Consortium for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

Other

- A suggestion for an NSF Proposal to integrate sustainability into a K-State wide research experience for undergraduates, which would incorporate small colleges, was discussed.
- Group congratulated Jennifer Anthony for the NSF Award she recently received.
- Symposium on Sustainability of Biofuels, September 16, 2008, K-State Alumni Center, sponsored by KCARE (contact Bill Hargrove) <http://www.kcare.ksu.edu/>
- Sustainable Development to Save the Earth (SDSE 2008) Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, December 11-13, 2008. <http://www.sdse2008.com/> K-State presentations on Greensburg work (Bert Biles and Brandon Utech), carbon footprint calculations (Terrie Boguski), and other possibilities were discussed, abstracts due July 31, 2008.
- Chet McLaughlin indicated that he was involved with a pilot project, regional carbon footprint challenge, and could share preliminary findings.
- The importance of indicators and metrics in documenting progress was discussed.
- Kansas Wind & Renewable Energy Conference, September 23-24, 2008, Topeka, KS. http://www.kcc.state.ks.us/energy/kwrec_08/index.htm
- It was noted that the Heartland Foundation (St. Joseph, MO) received an EPA Award based on its collaborative work with the K-State Center for Hazardous Substance Research for contamination cleanup and redevelopment.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

Thank you everyone for your kind participation and support!