



**CESAS Meeting Summary**  
**102 Ward Hall, Kansas State University**  
**June 22, 2010**

**Participants**

Ben Champion, Director of Sustainability, Department of Geography, K-State  
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC  
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State  
Irma O'Dell, School of Leadership Studies, K-State  
Becky O'Donnell, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services, K-State  
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State  
Jean Waters, Pollution Prevention Regional Information Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

**Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks**

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**Review of the Agenda**

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

**Technical Assistance for a Sustainable Kansas (TASK): Environmental Education Proposal to EPA**

- Larry Erickson gave an overview of the proposal under development including background for the EPA National Environmental Education Training Program (NEETP).
- Many diverse partners would be collaborating on this nationwide effort with a focus on addressing community environmental education through various formal and informal areas.
- It was noted that this proposal, involving multidisciplinary teams, would present an opportunity to advance sustainability in many unique ways.

**Graduate Certificate for Sustainability Education**

- Ben Champion organized a meeting of campus leaders in sustainability, during which the group discussed the NRES secondary major for undergraduates as well as ideas for graduate students, including the graduate certificate in sustainability education.
- A plan will be developed to continue refining the concepts and options.
- Jean Waters commented on initiatives underway at UN-Omaha including the MBA with sustainability emphasis; Larry Erickson mentioned his positive discussions with Rick Yoder and ways to leverage mutually beneficial activities.

**Planning for 2011 Sustainability Conference**

- Planning for the conference is being led by Ben Champion, committee, and DCE (more to come).

**Dialog on Sustainability Planning for July 22, 2010 Co-sponsorship by CESAS**

- Details are being finalized for the upcoming Fifth Annual Dialog on Sustainability: Green Jobs - Finding the Right Path Forward, July 22nd, Leadership Studies Building.
- Group reviewed the program agenda and discussed potential co-sponsors including the Leadership Studies Program, Irma O'Dell will check back with her team.
- It was unanimously agreed that CESAS would be a sponsor at the \$500 (Gold Level); accordingly, the CESAS account will have a new balance of \$3,713.



**Community Forum on America's Role in the World: What Does National Security Mean in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Wednesday, June 23, 7:00 PM**

- Becky O'Donnell observed that this event was part of the broader national issues forum and would include important military and civilian perspectives.
- Jean Waters stated that the military was actively addressing climate change and other sustainability issues through the Executive Order 13514, green procurement, and small business projects.
- Ben Champion, Oral Saulters, and others have been working with military partners at the local level, including Fort Riley, to address planning and implementation of sustainability initiatives.

**USDA Grant "Biobased Products and Bioenergy", Related Sun Grant for new sustainability course at K-State**

- Graduate courses offered through the graduate certificate program are being reviewed for approval.

**Plans for Eco-literacy Book Club Activities**

- Becky O'Donnell shared updates on the eco-literacy initiative that she and Wendy Griswold are leading <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/sustainability/EcoLiteracyReadingGroup/index.html>
- The first book, *Green Collar Economy* by Van Jones will be discussed on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM at Bluestem Bistro, this will also be a focus for conversation the evening of the DOS.
- The next book will be *Farming in the Dark* by Rhonda Janke scheduled for September (details TBA), and a book on energy (TBA) will be discussed in November.
- Ben Champion suggested possibly expanding/connecting this initiative with the university reading program (K-State Book Network [KSBN] inaugural book is *The Hunger Games*), as well as a Movies on the Grass-type format (Books on the Grass); Jean Waters added that a book group at UN-Omaha is addressing women's health and cognitive behavioral changes.

**Sustainability Seminar, Fridays, 8:30 AM, Rathbone 1052, Speaker for August 6**

- With a dynamic lineup of topics and speakers, this sustainability forum running through August 6<sup>th</sup> should not be missed, for more information contact Larry Erickson, [lerick@ksu.edu](mailto:lerick@ksu.edu).

**Friends of CESAS program**

- Building on a strong network of organizational partners, CESAS leaders are working to expand the lists of interested individuals for information sharing, financial support, and engaged action.

**Other**

- Ben Champion indicated that his meeting with the new K-State energy manager was positive and productive; Ben also noted that he was completing data gathering for the Sustainable Endowments Institute survey as part of its green report card/campus sustainability; group discussed greenhouse gas inventory and renewable energy efforts.

**See Important Upcoming Events at**

- <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/events/>

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, July 20, 3:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

**Thank you everyone for your kind participation and support!**