



**CESAS Meeting Summary**  
**102 Ward Hall, Kansas State University**  
**December 22, 2009**

**Participants**

Ben Champion, Director of Sustainability, Geography, K-State  
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC  
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research (via teleconference)  
Rhonda Janke, Horticulture Forestry & Recreation Resources  
Irma O'Dell, School of Leadership Studies, K-State (via teleconference)  
Becky O'Donnell, Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services, K-State  
Sue Pray, School of Leadership Studies, K-State (via teleconference)  
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State  
Lee Skabelund, Landscape Architecture/Regional and Community Planning (via teleconference)

**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)**

- It was noted that the ecoliteracy proposal was not funded by CECD but had been submitted for EPA Environmental Education; overall topic of "ecoliteracy" was further discussed and group expressed willingness to assist Leadership Studies activities (Becky O'Donnell and Wendy Griswold are CESAS contacts).

**Update on K-State Sustainability Task Force Activities**

- Ben Champion provided updates on the presentations delivered to various K-State units and leaders including new Provost and Senior VP (April Mason), noting positive feedback and encouraging prioritization; more to come on follow-up initiatives such as an energy conservation campaign (supported by President Schulz), office of Sustainability, certificate program, and strategic planning.

**2010 K-State Sustainability Conference: Kansas Advancing Sustainability in Higher Education**

- Plans are shaping up with various panels, including curriculum; an initiative to develop a network for institutions in the State of Kansas is underway which will use CESAS as a model for collaboration; individual projects will be presented during the poster session; see details <http://sustainability.k-state.edu/conferences/2010/>

**Speakers' Bureau and Speakers on Sustainability Topics, Proposal to Add Facilitation Services**

- Along with the network of specialists/subject matter experts available and funding opportunities, incorporating needed facilitation was proposed; using expertise, in cooperation with ICDD, preparation of a plan of action was recommended.

**4-H Project Update**

- Progress is being made with the USDA sponsored project; the team met recently and the sustainability STEM learning objectives are being addressed.



### **New USDA Grant “Biobased Products and Bioenergy” and AAAS meeting**

- Course planning for sustainability aspects are underway for the graduate certificate; John Schlup is working on the Sun Grant Initiative for online courses (Biorenewable Resources & Sustainability).
- Group discussed importance of university-wide ideas for commonalities, themes, and contexts for sustainability courses (e.g., social equity, environmental impacts, triple bottom line, policy, etc).
- Larry Erickson stated that he had been invited to participate in the AAAS Annual Meeting, Forum for Sustainability Science Programs (Core Competencies) in San Diego, CA, February 18, 2010; CESAS is listed in the AAAS Forum: Science and Innovation for Sustainable Development <http://sustainabilityscience.org/opportunity.html?Type=ET>; Larry Erickson will also participate in the Grain Science Seminar in the spring being coordinated by Charles Walker; Rhonda Janke invited Larry Erickson to share his perspective and results from the AAAS event with the Horticulture Seminar.

### **Movie “Refugees of the Blue Planet”**

- Group discussed this Canadian-made documentary which features the plight of environmental refugees, which outnumber war and political refugees, resulting from natural disasters (and climate change); purchase of movie rights (by Hale Library and/or other groups) was explored.
- Ben Champion added that the College of Architecture, Planning and Design had purchased a video on “Campus Sustainability Day” and Becky O’Donnell suggested the possibility for Hale Library to develop a “sustainability” section consolidating information which could be effectively organized and marketed for education, research, and outreach.

### **January 2010 Intersession “Greenhouse Gases, Carbon Taxes and Trading, and Carbon Sequestration”**

- Larry Erickson noted that the program was being finalized; group discussed open public session on public policy and reference document; details are available at <http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/sustainability-ghg/>

### **Fort Riley Sustainability Initiative**

- In terms of partnership with Fort Riley, Oral Saulters indicated that Alan Hynek, Conservation Branch Chief and coordinator for land management (ACUB) and T&E species, [alan.e.hynek@us.army.mil](mailto:alan.e.hynek@us.army.mil) will be the contact and representative for CESAS.

### **Develop a Friends of CESAS program**

- Group brainstormed possibilities for this program which would provide an opportunity for individuals to sign-up in support of CESAS via website link; levels of support, social activities, recommended reading and tools, and donations would be included; Sue Pray suggested partnering with the School of Leadership Studies (showcasing their new LEED Building) to develop this program and perform activities such as fundraising; ideas will be further developed.

### **See Important Upcoming Events at**

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

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, January 26, 3:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

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