



Sustainable Practices for Academics and Resources Council SPARC

Minutes SPARC 10/23/2009

As a group, we decided that we would meet once a term. However, until we define our goals for this academic year we will meet once more this fall term. The plan is to develop sub groups to work on individual topics once we agree on those, with once/term meetings to share updates and progress.

Next Meeting November 20, 2009 Friday 9:00 CPWTC

- Next meeting: Have Todd present grant activities and long-range plans for Sustainability Center to the SPARC

Areas we identified as important to defining our short-term and long-term goals:

- Green Leaf/Gold Leaf certification for our curriculum
 - Can we identify a course evaluation tool so that courses which have included sustainability in delivering the outcomes can be identified with a green leaf or a gold leaf in our class schedule/catalogue? The purpose would be to inform students that the courses identified with the green or gold leaf meet SPARC recognition for including sustainability in the delivery of the course outcomes. An example course which has infused sustainability in delivering the outcomes was identified as Writing 122, "Arguments About a Sustainable Portland", by instructor Kirk Perry. We currently identify courses which include Service Learning, and the suggestion is that we do the same with courses which infuse sustainability.
- Define meaning of green and or sustainability for our purposes as a college.
 - Environmental scans of other Community Colleges (Lane CC for sure). What's out there? How will we define our green standard?
- Examine program reviews for how they've addressed core outcomes around "Environmental Responsibility".
- Partner with Assessment Committee as we define some of the work we plan to undertake
- Inventory current course offerings which do have sustainability infused in the course content
- Each member should review the Climate Action Plan with a focus on the section on Education and Community Outreach, pages 29-35. Note section on Actions to be taken by 2012 (page33) and the role of SPARC
 - Examine Climate Action Plan on Curriculum and Program Development. This is a "Living Document" which will need to be modified/updated periodically.
- CTE/LDT/Workforce development and noncredit: how it fits together?

- Look at Learning Lab opportunities for students with new bond construction projects.
 - SPARC rep on each campus for bond construction/living lab opportunities to facilitate and support student/faculty living lab opportunities.
 - Guest speakers/field trips on campus during the bond
 - Help faculty identify opportunities to incorporate how they plug in to living labs/field trips
- Create My PCC Group page for sharing SPARC documents and ideas
- We need a planning list of proposed curriculum and program plans for the future for sharing in general with the whole group.
- Standing agenda item for sharing: individual members having the opportunity to share what they are doing.