

**Portland Community College
SLC Sustainability Retreat
Chart & Mtg Notes
5-30-2014**



Date: May 30, 2014 – 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, followed by lunch

Location: Willow Creek

Facilitators: Shirlene Warnock and Jeanne Nyquist, Innovative Growth Solutions, LLC

Retreat Objectives:

- Recognize and celebrate accomplishments.
- Provide Subcommittees an opportunity to develop a priority goal for the coming year.
- Identify strategies to spread awareness to College community, involve others, and integrate sustainability with College programs.
- Prepare for AASHE Conference.

Welcome – Interim FMS Director, Keith Gregory kicked off the retreat and welcomed Rock Creek President Sandra Fowler-Smith.

Accomplishments – Committees reported and celebrated the following accomplishments:

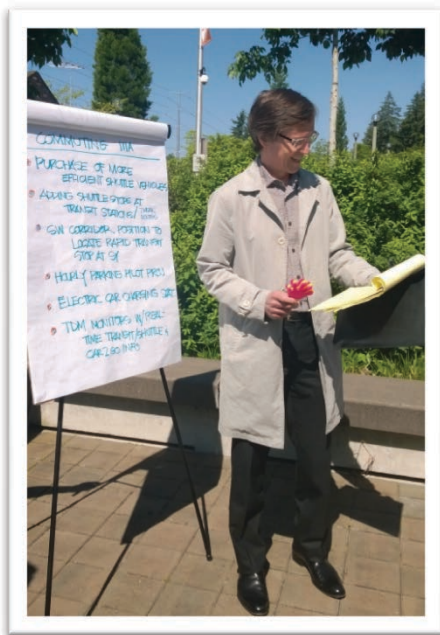
Scopes I and II: Buildings and Energy

Accomplishments:

- We picked a lot of low-hanging fruit –
 - Used stimulus money to replace old, inefficient boilers, reducing natural gas usage: example – reduced gas usage at Sylvania by 50%
 - Moved to LED lighting to reduce electrical consumption.
 - Worked with Energy Trust of Oregon to get rebates (\$700,000) that we have then reinvested in improvements.
 - Implemented energy audits to determine future opportunities.
 - Use of different tools, such as solar and net zero technology – Newberg 10 months without drawing off grid.
- We have used a holistic approach, collaborating across the District and with other agencies.
- We have made many of the design, engineering and equipment changes. Our next challenge is to change behavior to gain further reductions in energy usage.



Scope IIIa: Commuting



*There once was a guy from Sylvania
Whose job caused commuters some pain, Yeah?
He raised parking rates
Which garnered fierce hate
Before driving himself to insania!
-Mark Gorman*

Accomplishments:

- * Purchase of more efficient shuttle vehicles
- * Adding shuttle stops at transit stations / tweaking routes.
- * SW corridor position to locate rapid transit stop at Sylvania
- * Hourly parking pilot project.
- * Electric car charging station.
- * DM monitors with real-time transit/shuttle and

car2go information.

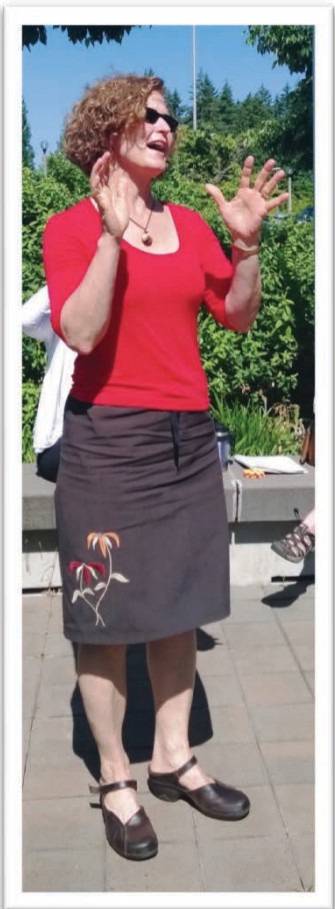
Scope IIIb: Food Services, Solid Waste, Purchasing

Accomplishments:

- Piloting a new reusable food to-go container program at Rock Creek next term.
- 3500 lbs. of food composted from RC.
- Decreased chemical use with installation of Lotus Pro machines.
- Founding member of Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council.
- Integrated sustainability criteria into waste hauling ITB.
- Reduced paper towel usage by 61% with installation of hand dryers.



Learning Gardens



Accomplishments:

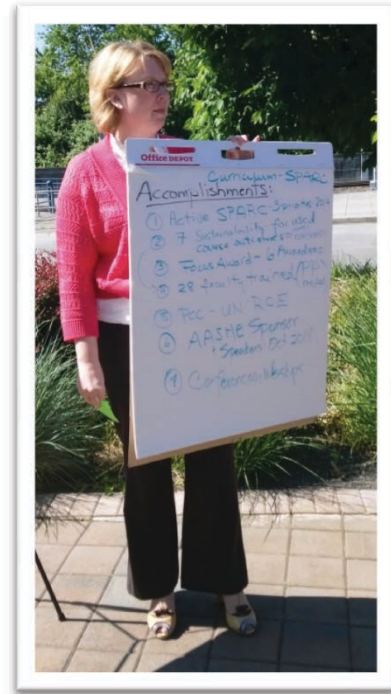
- *Revamped garden to increase food production to 3500 lbs last year.
- *Made compost program upgrades.
- *Vermi-composting – produced 1500 pounds.
- *Rocket composting.
- *All composting goes back to learning gardens.
- *We are acting as a collaboration hub with all departments at Rock Creek
 - *Working on increasing staff –
 - Ameri-Corp grant
 - Administrative Assistant
 - 2 student workers – work study
 - Volunteers off the street
 - *Education and community-based learning
 - *Collaborating with other universities
 - *No budget, but we have been successful obtaining grants and being creative.



Curriculum - SPARC

Accomplishments:

- Active SPARC – 3 priorities, 2014
- 7 sustainability focused course outcomes – some revisions
 - 28 faculty trained (PP model)
- Focus Award – 6 Awardees
- PCC UN RCE
- AASHE Sponsor and speakers – October 2014
- Conferences, workshops



Community Outreach

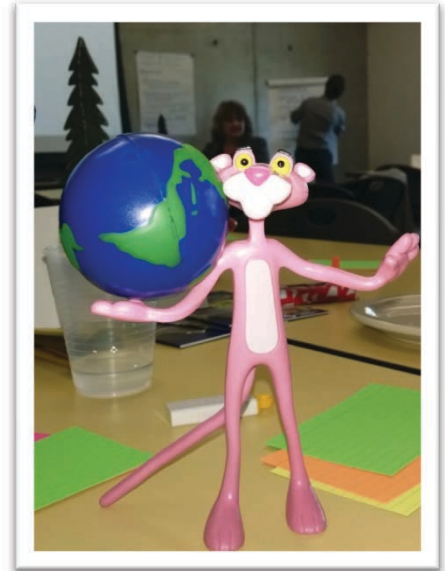
Accomplishments:

- Presented at local and national conferences
- Collaborated with non-profits and schools to help create UN Regional Center of Expertise
- Host institution for AASHE conference 2014
- Continue to host sustainability-related events
- Assisting with Climate Action Plan work
- Launched sustainability blog
- Expanded representation on PCC's News Site
- Updated Sustainability Map
- WE WON THE METRO GRANT!!!!

Success Patterns

In celebrating accomplishments, the group identified the following success patterns that will serve us in meeting future challenges.

- Funding
- Institutional support
- Leveraging resources – people and financial
- Internal / external partnerships
- Education – orienting new staff
- Champions / leaders at every level
- Collaboration
- Outreach – telling our story



Challenges and Ideas

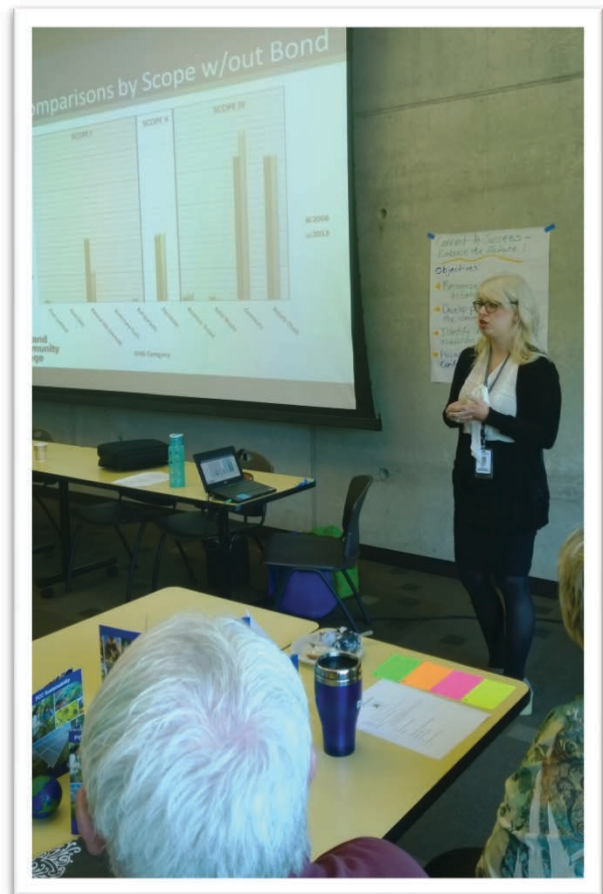
- Need to sustain the effort.
- Need internships for students with incentives.
- Need more funding.
- High turnover of students – need to partner with K-12 to instill good habits at a younger age.
- Need to offer Focu3s Awards for students and certificates in sustainability.
- Enrollment projections show a trend of more high school students. We need to bring their attention to opportunities for sustainability education.
- Creating partnerships is key to our success, but this has been challenging.
- Time, lack of staffing is a major constraint.
- Need more outreach to tell our story in a targeted way.
- Need targeted curriculum to bring sustainability into the classroom. Designate students in each department to be sustainability leaders and develop a network of contacts.
- Need to cultivate leadership from the top down at every campus, every department to focus on core outcomes.
- PSU connection – partner to engage students in internships
- Create multi-media presentations involving students.
- Create My PCC login messages regarding sustainability – 5-10 minute videos featuring sustainability efforts that tell our story.
- Strategic Plan theme 6 includes sustainability. We need to attend the briefing sessions and support our sustainability efforts.

- Team up with Grants Office to find grants to support our efforts (i.e. Farm Aid). Bonie Hester is good contact in Grants Office to assist with grants and internships.
- We need to quantify our savings and reinvest them in our program for further savings.
- Make use of Sustainability Revolving Loan Fund.

GHG Report

Briar School presented graphs depicting the 2006 - 2013 state of GHG emissions. Following are **observations** about the report:

- Commuting and purchasing are the biggest issues.
- Tracking BOND Build out: analyzing how buying (Scope 3) compares w/ & w/out Bond spending – need to take this into account when setting goals.
- Graph shows that we have already grabbed the low hanging fruit.
- Natural gas usage has decreased.
- Electricity use has stabilized.
- Next will be expensive upgrades to energy efficient technology.
- Increase in student enrollment impacts usage – we have almost doubled in square footage but have controlled energy consumption.
- Future focus needs to be on:
 - Continuing energy audits and investment in upgrades
 - Behavioral change
 - Getting a handle on purchasing



Goals 2014-15:

Subcommittees reported on their priority goals for 2014-15 and identified opportunities for synergy and collaboration.



Scopes I and II: Buildings and Energy

Goals: District and Campus Focus

- Change behavior of building occupants
- Conduct energy audits
- Lighting upgrades
- Control system improvements
- FMS-drive changes (behind the curtain)

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate:

- Collaborate with Deans on class scheduling to make more energy-efficient use of buildings (Charlie)
- How could we partner with utility providers to build a District-wide marketing campaign to 'turn it off'?
- Share reports with UNU.RCE to highlight replicable models for other colleges and regions.
- How can Outreach help you tell the story of these huge accomplishments?
- Collaborate with SPARC to get faculty and students involved as leaders, idea initiators (co-op, interns, etc. (Heidi)
- Offer a tour for our group once per year so we can see and learn more about some of the energy efficient equipment you are installing.

Committee Members: Laura Ward, Keith Gregory, Sandra Fowler-Smith



Scope IIIa: Commuting

Goal: *Funding.*

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate:

- Provide incentives for those who make behavioral changes – i.e. rewards system.
- Provide incentives for faculty, staff and students who carpool (i.e. lower parking costs, specific parking sections) (Heidi)
- Hope you have more 'fun' than 'ding'.

Committee Members: Linda Eden, Mark Gorman



Scope IIIb: Food Services, Solid Waste, Purchasing

Goal:

- **Analyze purchasing patterns with goal of centralizing purchasing to promote sustainable and financial best practices.**

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate:

- How could SPARC collaborate with you to support your purchasing initiative? (Heidi)
- Help promote stories marketing our purchasing efforts and culture change. (Outreach)
- Supply Chain – know where our products are coming from.

Committee Members: Dianna Benting, Briar Schoon, Charlie Geiger



SPARC

Goal:

- **Implementation strategy for 7 Core Outcomes:**
 - Increase support and funding for outreach
 - Increase revised courses
 - Increase student Focus Awards
 - Increase student internships and co-ops

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate

- Can we do anything to make this more official?
- Maybe define majors – to go on transcripts
- Outreach and marketing of Focus Awards and Outcomes
- Create marketing materials that outline pathways (we are working on this now)

Committee Members: Lutgarda Cowan, Josh Liebschutz, Peter Ritson, Heidi Sickert



Community Outreach

Goal:

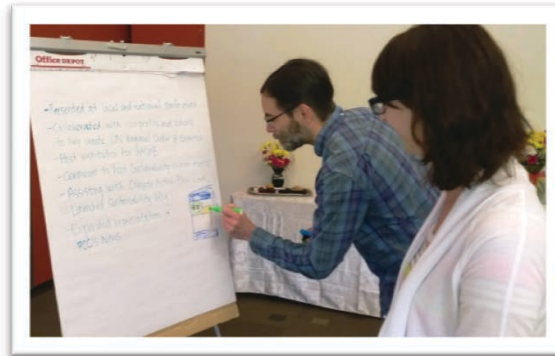
We won the Metro Grant to:

- **Create a sustainability accomplishments, providers and resource inventory**

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate:

- Will collaborate with other partners on the grant

Committee Members: Kim, Luis and Melissa



Staff and Students

Goal:

- **Provide input at strategic planning meetings with Dr. Brown.**

Comments / Opportunities to Collaborate:

- Will collaborate with other partners on the grant

Committee Members: Catherine Trzybrnski, student, Thi Nguyen, student, Bill Rude, staff, Elaine Cole, staff



Awards: Sandra Fowler – Smith, President, Rock Creek Campus, and Keith Gregory, Interim Director of Facilities, presented the following awards for outstanding dedication to PCC's sustainability efforts.



Lutgarda Cowan and Heidi Sickert



Peter Ritson and Josh Liebschutz



Thi Nguyen, Catherine Trzybrnski, Elaine Cole



Kim Smith



Luis Menchu, Keith Gregory, Melissa Aaberg, Laura Ward, Sandra Fowler – Smith, Briar Schoon, Linda Eden, Mark Gorman, Dianna Benting and Charlie Geiger

Wrap Up

Keith Gregory, Briar Schoon and Sandra Fowler-Smith thanked everyone for attending and encouraged everyone to work together on implementing their goals and engaging the College community. The facilitators suggested that everyone set an individual goal of engaging at least one other person or group in the sustainability program over the next year.