AGENDA

JOINT COMMITTEES ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND CAMPUS PLANNING, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Meeting: 3:45 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2016
Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium

Committee on Educational Policy
Lillian Kimbell, Chair
Jane W. Carney, Vice Chair
Silas H. Abrego
Douglas Faigin
Debra S. Farar
Jean P. Firstenberg
Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana
Steven G. Stepanek
Maggie K. White

Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds
Steven G. Stepanek, Chair
John Nilon, Vice Chair
Jane W. Carney
Adam Day
Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana
J. Lawrence Norton
Peter J. Taylor

Consent Item
Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of May 20, 2014

Discussion Item
1. Progress Towards CSU Environmental Sustainability Goals, Information
Members Present

Educational Policy Committee
Debra S. Farar, Vice Chair
Rebecca D. Eisen
Lupe C. Garcia
Lillian Kimbell
J. Lawrence Norton
Steven G. Stepanek
Cipriano Vargas

Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds Committee
Rebecca D. Eisen, Chair
J. Lawrence Norton, Vice Chair
Adam Day
Lillian Kimbell
Cipriano Vargas

Public Comment

Trustee Rebecca Eisen convened the meeting and introduced the public speakers. Real Food Campaign representatives and CSU students Ms. Jessica Gonzalez (Cal Poly Pomona), Mr. Victor Arrendondo (Humboldt), and Ms. Jacqueline Martinez (Humboldt) expressed support for the proposed sustainability policy that includes a real food commitment.

Ms. Colleen McKinney, Los Angeles Food Policy Council, encouraged the Board of Trustees to adopt real food purchasing as part of the sustainability policy as a signal of the CSU’s commitment to the real food campaign. She added that as a large institution, the CSU’s purchasing power means enormous positive influence on food production practices from environmental sustainability to fair wages and safe work environments.

California State University Sustainability Policy Proposal

Trustee Eisen introduced Assistant Vice Chancellor Elvyra F. San Juan and Senior Director Ken O’Donnell to present the item. Ms. San Juan explained the role of the Chancellor’s Office staff in assisting the campuses in implementing the proposed policy. The two primary focus areas are to share best practices across the system and to seek funding for energy conservation and implementation of sustainable practices across all business units of the university.
Ms. San Juan introduced Carina Sass, Associate Director of the Center for Community Engagement and Dr. Ingrid Martin, Professor of Marketing in the College of Business Administration, both from California State University, Long Beach, to demonstrate academic program collaborations that integrate sustainability into the curriculum using the campus and the community as a living lab.

Ms. Sass characterized service learning as a teaching approach that integrates service into the curriculum—striving to meet significant community needs while providing students with a rich learning experience. She showcased the Villages at Cabrillo in west Long Beach, a 27-acre community built on former navy housing land, where non-profit organizations provide shelter, permanent housing, and services for approximately 1,000 homeless or previously homeless people. Dr. Martin explained the Saturday Masters of Business Administration program integrates sustainability and community engagement at the Villages at Cabrillo, where students develop projects to address a specific need of the community such as solar carports and improvements to the community garden. One of the key outcomes of these partnerships are that the students gain as much from what they do with the partners as the partners gain from the knowledge and skills that the students bring to the relationship.

CSU Chico President Paul Zingg shared that for more than ten years the campus has been infusing the principles of sustainable development into its curriculum, with the campus catalog listing over 250 classes from across all academic disciplines that identify student learning outcomes in sustainability. In a recent general education (GE) redesign, several of these classes were assembled into a sustainability pathway that fulfills GE competencies and presents a cohesive multi-disciplinary perspective on sustainability. This GE program culminates in a capstone course utilizing the campus as a living laboratory experience. Students completing 18 units in this curriculum not only gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics between socioeconomic structures and environmental realities, but also receive a GE minor in sustainability studies.

Many CSU Chico students engage in sustainability work, including the student-run Associated Students recycling program founded in 1996 and the "This Way to Sustainability" conference initiated in 2005.

CSU Chico also has a long standing sustainability partnership with the City of Chico. This partnership has led to strong progress on shared regional sustainability goals. Students and faculty have served on the city's sustainability task force since its inception in 2007. The university conducted the city's first greenhouse gas emissions inventory and developed the city's 2020 climate action plan.

In closing, President Zingg noted that CSU Chico was one of the 12 founding institutions that signed onto the American College and University President's Climate Commitment, later joined by other CSU campuses. The campus also signed on to the Alliance for Resilient Campuses along with CSU Northridge and Chancellor Timothy White.
Mr. O’Donnell commented that the creation of a sustainability minor program is being considered by some CSU campuses and community colleges and there is broad grassroots support for sustainability in the curriculum. Discussions are in place with the statewide academic senate about building the minor into the transfer apparatus for the state.

Ms. San Juan provided an overview of the draft 2014 Sustainability Report which is an update to the report published in 2011. The report reflects the proposed trustees' goals in anticipation of the meeting today. The report includes information across the different categories of sustainability for the system, introducing procurement and food services, transportation demand management, and the academic programs.

Trustee Eisen encouraged board members to read the report noting that the chancellor's remarks at the beginning are exceptional and uplifting. The report breaks down the various aspects of the CSU’s sustainability policy, describes the goals, and gives examples of what campuses are already doing in this area.

Lt. Governor Newsom expressed his support for the policy and integration of curriculum and student learning with community partners. He commented the CSU is uniquely positioned to lead the charge towards an economically sustainable future.

The committee recommended approval of the proposed resolution (RJEPCPBG 05-14-01).

Trustee Eisen adjourned the meeting.
JOINT COMMITTEES ON
EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND CAMPUS PLANNING, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Progress Towards CSU Environmental Sustainability Goals

Presentation By

Elvyra F. San Juan
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Capital Planning, Design and Construction

Colleen Hatfield
Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development
California State University, Chico

Helen Cox
Director of Institute for Sustainability
California State University, Northridge

Summary of Systemwide Progress

The 2014 Sustainability Policy adopted by the CSU Board of Trustees in May 2014 established environmental sustainability goals for the CSU across a broad range of operational areas (RJEPBG 05-14-01). While many of the goals are based on data that is already reported to the Chancellor’s Office, the 2014 Sustainability Policy is broader in scope than previous policies and established several goals in new policy areas.

This interim report provides an update on progress towards the policy goals for which the Chancellor’s Office already receives data from campuses, as well as an update on our work to expand the scope of data collection at both the campus and systemwide levels to allow for a more complete assessment of progress. It is anticipated the next report will occur in January 2018 in order to complete data collection for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The CSU has already met and exceeded its 2020 goal for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The 2014 Sustainability Policy sets a goal of reducing GHG emissions to its 1990 level or below by 2020, consistent with the statewide GHG reduction target set by AB 32. The chart to the right shows that in 2014, the systemwide GHG emissions were already less than one percent higher than the 1990 level and the emissions will decrease further as the CSU increases its use of on-site and purchased renewable energy (as measured in metric-tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, CO₂e).

Energy Efficiency

The CSU has made significant efforts to meet the Sustainability Policy goals of improving energy efficiency. Systemwide energy use intensity has continued to decrease, as shown in the Total Energy Use Intensity chart. The CSU has installed $128 million of energy efficiency projects since 2005 through the CSU/UC energy efficiency partnership. The CSU has received more than $30 million to leverage the state and CSU energy efficiency project funding. These upgrades have included LED lighting, building retro-commissioning, installation of high-efficiency heating and cooling systems, and building envelope improvements.

Renewable Energy

The CSU has met its goal of exceeding the State of California and California Public Utilities Commission Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) sooner than the established goal of procuring 33 percent of its electricity needs from renewable sources by 2020. In 2014, the CSU purchased 34 percent renewable power through its Direct Access service provider for 10 campuses. The balance of the CSU campuses procure power from their respective utility providers. These providers are also required to meet RPS standards. Additionally, the CSU will expand its use of renewable power as described below.
Self-Generation Capacity

The CSU is on track to meet the goal of 80 MW of self-generation capacity by 2020. The CSU currently has 19.5 MW of solar photovoltaic capacity, including 4 MW of contracted solar to be completed in 2017, and an additional 23 MW of cogeneration capacity on the campuses. To add more solar power, the planning for the Solar Energy, Phase 4 project has started. It is anticipated the implementation will result in a total of 78.5 MW of self-generation capacity by 2018. After the initial round of solar projects has been completed, campuses will have the option under the proposed master enabling agreement to add additional solar capacity to meet and exceed the 80 MW goal by 2020.

Water Conservation

The CSU has already met the 2016 water conservation goal of reducing water use 10 percent, and is on track to meet the 2020 goal of reducing water consumption by 20 percent if current conservation trends continue. The CSU has reduced systemwide 2015 water use by nearly 20 percent from 2013 levels. This conservation target was met through campus projects including behavior change, landscaping upgrades, plumbing fixture changes using various fund sources.

University Sustainability

Integration of Sustainability into the Academic Curriculum

In keeping with the policy adopted in 2014, which called for the CSU to “seek to further integrate sustainability into the academic curriculum working within the normal campus
consultative process,” CSU campus faculty have developed courses in which students confront real-world sustainability problems and address the planet’s environmental challenges. For example the Campus as a Living Lab (CALL) concept of course design was the outcome of National Science Foundation funding, *Mobilizing STEM Education for a Sustainable Future*.

The CALL initiative set an ambitious goal to seek interested faculty and facilities operations staff who would work together to incorporate a university sustainability challenge into course curricula. With the severe CSU budget reductions, the program sought to provide value to university operations by helping to address a facility sustainability goal while at the same time providing students an opportunity to work on solving a real-world campus problem. Campus operations staff is tasked to identify a sustainability problem and to work with an interested faculty member to redesign a course that would incorporate student learning and activities that respond to the campus challenge.

The CALL program has the potential to provide the campus real cost savings through the collection and analysis of data; assessment and implementation of technologies; and communication of programs and policies. The diversity of the CSU’s physical infrastructure, the complexity of federal, state, and local regulations, and the continual need to improve efficiency provide opportunities to develop student problem solving, critical thinking, and research skills.

Through the initiative, 57 CALL projects have been developed including two learning communities. Examples of linked courses and campus operations include:

- Biology: Water-wise landscaping, zero landscape waste
- Environmental Sciences: Re-use of green and food waste
- Capstone courses: Sustainable sites on campus
- Energy: Energy performance analysis, building energy analysis
- Transportation: Campus transportation system analysis and alternative transportation
- Restorative Ecology: Campus creeks
- Electrical Engineering: Meters for residential life, electrical distribution monitoring
- Campus Sustainability Awareness Campaigns

In addition, the CSU has many faculty, institutes, and centers engaged in teaching of the planet’s challenges. One example includes Cal Poly San Luis Obispo’s National Resilience Initiative Western Center¹ where CSU faculty make contributions to California’s climate action and resilience planning frameworks. We look to the campuses to carry out this aspect of board policy by continuing to integrate sustainability into the curriculum

¹ [http://www.caed.calpoly.edu/caed-selected-member-national-resiliency-initiative-network](http://www.caed.calpoly.edu/caed-selected-member-national-resiliency-initiative-network)
Campuswide Sustainable Practices

Climate Leadership Commitments

Fifteen CSU campus presidents have signed one of the two Climate Leadership Commitments (formerly known as the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment) created by the Second Nature organization. These 15 campuses have committed to developing Climate Action Plans that include carbon neutrality goals within three years of signing the commitment. Seven of these campuses have signed an additional commitment to conduct a vulnerability assessment as part of a comprehensive climate resilience plan, which will outline the steps needed to take in order to adapt to the expected impacts of climate change. A resilience plan goes beyond campus preparedness for climate change and integrates planning with the local community. These Climate Leadership Commitments align with the CSU and the state’s policy goals in addressing greenhouse gas emission reductions.

The CSU is supporting the fifteen campuses that are Climate Leadership Commitment signatories by organizing climate resilience planning initiatives and training. Recently, the Chancellor’s Office joined as an affiliate member of the Association of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation\(^2\). This partnership will provide a number of resources and opportunities to support CSU campuses in the adaptation and resilience planning process, as well as provide a forum to further extend the CSU’s academic leadership in this field.

AASHE STARS

Seven CSU campuses currently participate in the Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Rating System (STARS) created by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS is a reporting framework for universities to assess their sustainability performance. Eight additional CSU campuses will participate in STARS next year. The STARS framework awards points for sustainability performance in many of the operational areas covered by the 2014 policy.

Sustainability Officers

The policy encourages campuses to designate a sustainability officer who will be responsible for carrying out and coordinating campus sustainability efforts. Currently, 20 campuses have designated a sustainability officer, and a few campuses have multiple staff positions. These sustainability officers may report under Academic Affairs or Administrative Affairs. Monthly conference calls are used to communicate progress on initiatives and to share model practices and knowledge.

\(^2\) [http://www.arccacalifornia.org/](http://www.arccacalifornia.org/)
Current Chancellor’s Office Efforts/Ongoing Initiatives

Sustainability Metrics

The scope of the 2014 Sustainability Policy includes policy goals in operational areas not covered by previous CSU sustainability policies. As a result, work is underway in consultation with the campuses to find common quantitative and/or qualitative metrics to promote consistent reporting. Input on metrics have been received from 18 campuses to assist in the development of a standardized reporting format to track sustainability progress.

Based on the information provided by campuses at this time, the AASHE STARS reporting system seems to provide the common framework for data collection for the majority of campuses. The CSU is collaborating to define metrics for each policy goal and collect data to provide a meaningful assessment of the CSU’s sustainability performance.

Sustainable Procurement

The Chancellor’s Office will increase efforts on supporting the sustainable procurement policy goals this year. Staff is analyzing expenditures systemwide and defining criteria for assessing performance in sustainable procurement. The 2014 Sustainability Policy encourages campuses to increase their recycled content purchases in all Buy Recycled3 program product categories. Staff will also work with its systemwide vendors and campuses to assess and implement measures such as an auto-substitution program, where appropriate, to make the more sustainable products the purchasing default option.

Sustainable Food Purchasing

This area has been a challenge to address from a systemwide perspective and as a result dropped to a lower priority in terms of implementation of sustainable model practices. Campuses may contract out to a food service provider and/or use in-house university staff or auxiliary operations staff to serve the campus community. Some campuses are using the Real Food Challenge reporting framework but found it prohibits any staff from entering or viewing data and restricts this role to students. As result, the sustainability metrics provided by the campuses, review of the AASHE food tracking and criteria along with review of other higher education food purchasing policies and goals are needed actions in this area. The four Real Food Challenge criteria are expected to remain prominent in the systemwide discussion: Local and Community Based, Fair, Ecologically Sound, and Humane.

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3 State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC) is a joint effort between the Department of General Services and the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to increase the purchase of recycled-content products instead of non-recycled-content products. The SABRC identifies key product categories for recycled materials and sets minimum thresholds for the total recycled content in each product category.
Next Steps

The CSU has made significant progress toward the sustainability goals set out by the Board of Trustees and staff continues to address the broader areas of sustainable practices across all areas of the university. Staff anticipates returning to the Board of Trustees in January 2018 with a complete report on the 2014 Sustainability Policy, metrics and reporting framework along with recommendations for the board’s consideration to update the policy.

The State of California’s sustainability policies have continued to evolve and notably, environmental justice and climate resilience have featured prominently. Every CSU campus can be leveraged to serve as a hub in the communities we share to build capacity for resilience in the face of impacts from climate change. Serving disadvantaged communities and leading communities to successfully adapt to climate change are topics the board could consider for inclusion in future sustainability policies.