

University of Missouri
Environmental Affairs and Sustainability Committee

Environmental Affairs and Sustainability Committee (EASC)
Sub-Committee (Sustainability in Education) Meeting
Meeting Minutes: June 8, 2012 (1:00-2:15pm)
Location: MU Sustainability Office

Members in Attendance: Troy Rule, Dan Cohen, Steve Burdic, Chelsea Kaplan, Jason Hubbard

Sub-Committee Charge: At the previous EASC committee meeting (April 8th, 2012), the Committee moved to establish a subcommittee to define “sustainability education” and identify sustainability curriculum across campus. Mr. Burdic made note that the definition of Sustainability in this context could be two or three sentences that simply identifies whether a class is “sustainability-focused” or “sustainability-related” (focuses only on one portion of definition). Volunteers for summer committee include: Jan Weaver, Jason Hubbard, Dan Cohen, Jessi Gordon (jegordon@mail.missouri.edu) Troy Rule and Josh Baniak (to stay in the loop). Deadline is August, but the result can be a “beginning product.”

Friday, June 8th Meeting: Goal for the subcommittee: To develop a definition of sustainability in terms of education at MU consisting of two to three sentences that identifies sustainability-focused or related courses for two main objectives (explained by Steve Burdic):

1. For STARS reporting
2. For searches (key phrases/words) to quantify sustainability education across campus.

Group discussion identified that depending on the definition of sustainability in the curriculum, and breadth of that curriculum, most courses on campus would likely fall under two broad categories:

1. Sustainability Focused Courses
2. Sustainability Related Courses

The committee identified that a common articulation between both categories should be developed focused on:

- A) Short paragraph description (2-3 sentence description)
- B) Bulleted descriptive statements and/or key words

Chelsea Kaplan had already done some work for Steve Burdic on this, and had produced an outstanding “working” document that will be revised in the near future reflecting discussion. Steve Burdic requested that sub-committee members review the current list of 800 MU courses and assess whether each is reasonable in terms of offering sustainability related teaching. The sub-committee will work to identify a definition, specificity for MU sustainability related courses, and repeatable criteria for future sustainability course searches.

The sub-committee will continue to work via email, Google docs, and one to two additional meetings through the summer.