

SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

West Campus, Tuesday January 28th, 2020 @ 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attendees: Diana Bisbe, Paul Blankenship, Sharmaine Brann-James, Sarah Cruz, Sheddlyne Gedeon, Mukesh Georg, Deb Hall, Kimberlee Harvey, Mike Hilliard, Greg Noonan, Ron Owens, Andy Ray, Jerry Reed, Cheryl Robinson, Paul Rooney, Nancy Scoltock, Andy Sorrow, Danielle Montague Walker.

East Campus, Thursday January 30th, 2020 @ 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attendees: Kristin Abel, Jim Adamski, Loren Bender, George Brooks, Roger Corriveau, Wendy Givoglu, Lisa Macon, Sal Navarro, Jessi Pringle, Sydney Salorio, Nelson Torres Arroyo, Sylvana Vester.

Osceola Campus, Thursday February 6th, 2020 @ 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attendees: Yandelay Aguilar, Max Arb, Marie Cala, Marty Campbell, Scott Creamer, Julian Duque, Vivian Garcia, Shara Lee, Vanessa Lopez, Eileen Lowe, Amy Matson, Jessie Padgett, Melissa Pedone, Andrea Price, Stefania Salerno, Bryan Spangler, Jackie Starren, Lauren Thomas, Leilani Thomas, Nicole Yopez.

Combined Meeting Minutes

1) Sustainability Faculty Fellow Update- Dr. Edie Gaythwaite. *Presentation attached.*

- a. Spoke at numerous College events in the Fall and scheduled to do the same this semester.
- b. Several sustainability professional development opportunities for faculty this semester.

2) Sustainable Operations Participant Discussion- Carrie Black. *Presentation attached.*

a. Waste & Recycling

i. Recycling Advertising and Education

- a. **Plastic writing instrument and battery recycling program-** Advertise more, including additional signage on the bins to bring more attention to them.
- b. **College-Wide Recycling Program-** Education needed on proper recycling methods, such as clean, dry, and empty.
- c. **Note-** With the recent hiring of a Sustainability Assistant, this will be a priority area for him this spring.

ii. Waste

- a. **Working with Departments and Areas to reduce single-use waste-** There are many areas of opportunity to reduce single-use waste, within the daily processes of both academic and
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Valencia defines sustainability as *healthy economic, social and environmental systems that enhance quality of life for all community members present and future.*

operational departments. Sustainability can assist department employees, the experts in how their areas work, to identify low hanging fruit opportunities to reduce waste and how to incorporate these modifications.

- i. **Better Office Supplies List-** Having a list of more sustainable office supplies available would enable departments to prioritize purchasing reusable or more recyclable products.

b. Grounds

- i. **West Campus Grounds Changes-** There have been many changes to the grounds around bldg. 8, near the outdoor classroom, as well as along Lake Pamela. This included removing native plants and replacing with grass. The Laurel Oak that was the focal point of the outdoor classroom had a significant branch fall off during the Thanksgiving break, compromising the integrity of the remaining part and as a result, it was removed. There is a need for improved collaboration and communication regarding large changes like this.
 - a. **Note-** Sustainability is working with Grounds to get communication out to West Campus about the changes around building 8 and to create collaboration on the future direction for this area.
- ii. **Prioritizing Natives-** Concern was expressed about ensuring that planting of natives and Florida-Friendly plants is and remains a priority for Valencia, especially as we are an educational institution, a place where students learn about the importance of natives to the local ecosystem.
 - a. **Note-** We are in the process of updating our architectural and engineering standards, which includes grounds, and this is a great opportunity to ensure priority is given to natives.

c. Food

- i. **More vegetarian and vegan options-** Expressed at a few of the forums was the need for more vegetarian and vegan options in our cafeterias at affordable prices.
 - **Healthier To-Go Snack Options-** Students often purchase quick to go snacks in the Campus bookstores and students requested offering more healthy options.

d. Recommendations For Future Initiatives

- i. Adding more water cisterns
- ii. Exploring renewable energy options
- iii. More Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations
 - A committee of EV stakeholders is currently looking at EV charging station usage logistics, including such things as fees for usage and time limits.