

Senate Plant and Utilization Planning Committee

Minutes-

Monday March 1, 2010

Present: John Wilds, Paul Supowitz, Eli Shorak, Buck Favorini, Sam Conte, Nick Laudato, Cynthia Golden, Irene Frieze, Leslie Czechowski, Tracey Olanyk, Paul Munro, Michael Ramsey, Patty Irrgang, Nelson Totah, Susanna Leers, Joe Fink, Laura Zullo

Introductions were made.

The minutes from Feb. 1, 2010 were approved.

Campus update-

Eli will give us a status of projects next meeting.

Sustainability Subcommittee update-

Buck met with Patty Ross about Bob Pack's suggestion to focus more on the Green website, making it more central. It is now professionally managed with content coming from the SusC and the Mascaro Center. They are planning on making it more interactive in the future.

They talked in the Faculty Assembly about the April 8th event. It will take place at noon in the lower level of the WPU. There will be short presentations on food services, a historical perspective on the environmental movement and other topics. Lunch will be provided.

Buck also made a suggestion about building a green dorm. And invited Cathy Humphrey to the next SusC meeting but hasn't heard back. Next meeting is Thursday (March 4th) in Sennott Sq. All are invited.

Request from the University Times to attend meetings-

At one time the newspaper had a reporter cover the Plant Utilization and Planning committee and found it a useful source of info. They would like to restart that coverage. This request was debated. And it was decided that since the minutes are taken and available to the community that the University times reporters could use the minutes.

Classroom management on campus-

Sam Conte spoke to the committee about the Classroom management team. Its purpose is to renovate classrooms around campus. The team is comprised of members from Facilities management, CIDDE,

Provost's office, CSSD, Health Sciences, and a Faculty rep. Their charge is to track and focus on rooms that are most heavily used by undergraduates. They track use and technology requirements. They review classrooms and also solicit feedback from Faculty and Deans. Once the team has agreed on what rooms need the most attention they send the list to the Provost's office for approval and it then goes forward from there.

There are several types of technology that they are trying to make standard in classrooms as they remodel/update them. And a lot of new technologies that will facilitate teaching that they are investigating.

Classroom Technology-

Nick Laudato talked to us about Classroom technology. He reemphasized that the charge of the Classroom Management Team is to Implement classroom standards, commit to regular upgrades, and accommodate evolving technologies. He estimated that 25% of the budget they are allotted is dedicated to keeping the technology current. They look at and deal with technologies for presentation, capture, engagement, collaboration, and accessibility.

There is training support for the current and new technologies at the Faculty Instructional Development Lab (FIDL). This is a place where Faculty can use/learn the new technologies or just try them out. Blackboard training is also done there.

If you want to see some on the newly renovated classrooms you can see them at-

<http://www.cidde.pitt.edu/classrooms>

Agenda items for next meeting-

Report from Eli on campus updates

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is April 5th, 2010 in the Cathedral of Learning.