

## Summary of Green Campus Committee Work

April 2006 – November 2008

Montserrat Archbald

April 2006

- Brian and Montserrat did a presentation imagining GCC's greener future on Staff Development Day.
- Norman hired Frank Evans to replace Dave Canon as our container recycling student worker, and we expanded operations to include the Downtown Center.

May 2006

- We changed our name from the Recycling Committee to the Green Campus Committee to reflect our broader focus.
- We met with Anna Lee Bradley from the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District to discuss relevant issues at GCC.

September 2006

- Brian helped to establish the Green Campus Fund within the GCC Foundation; it can receive direct donations.
- Brian got a 2 kilowatt photovoltaic display installed near the East Building. We had a dedication ceremony in September.
- We expanded container recycling—more collection barrels.
- We now have a line item in GCC's budget for \$2500.

October 2006

- We took over John Canon's inkjet cartridge recycling program and expanded with more collection boxes and plans to make more frequent returns.
- Brian helped to secure a grant to build a 10 kilowatt solar greenhouse.

December 2006

- We started pursuing the installation of Vending Misers to save money and electricity on GCC's many vending machines. Karen Phillips took over this pursuit.
- Brian and Montserrat wrote an addendum to the recommendations sent to Gensler regarding design of the new cafeteria. They requested facilities that would allow for composting, recycling, and display of information about green issues. This addendum was sent through Karen Phillips.

January 2007

- We moved container recycling operations from the dish room into the old greenhouse and prep room.
- Norman hired a second student worker, Josh Stuckey, to help with container recycling.

- We rescued over 26,000 recyclable containers from the trash between April 2005 and January 2007!

February 2007

- We had two showings of the film “An Inconvenient Truth” followed by discussion.

March 2007

- We presented our recent and current activities at College Assembly.
- President Pura signed on to the Presidents’ Climate Commitment.
- We sent a letter to Rep. Stan Rosenberg in support of the renewable energy bill.
- Norman, Teresa, and Montserrat attended a green building conference put on by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) in Boston.

April 2007

- MassPIRG rep Lily Cavanagh ran a global warming coffeehouse; we participated.
- Angel Russek organized a campus-wide celebration of Earth Day, 4/25.
- Brian is pursuing funding for the installation of a second 2kw photovoltaic display.
- Brian joined a new committee on managing the college’s forest land.

May 2007

- Nancy Bair helped to obtain a workforce development grant for sustainable practices in construction.
- We initiated an incandescent bulb eradication program: we purchased compact fluorescent bulbs and invited staff to exchange them for incandescents in office lamps.
- Brian served on the search committee for a new facilities manager.
- We met with President Pura to discuss implementation of the PCC.

June 2007

- We began discussions about whether/how to become a part of college governance.
- We bought nine Vending Misers out of our college budget.

July 2007

- We met with Bob to propose that a) Montserrat receive a stipend to chair this committee; b) Brian receive a course release to spearhead the PCC; c) we become a standing committee reporting to him; and d) the college hire an energy manager.

September 2007

- Allen Davis joined our committee.
- Brian organized a tire pressure clinic in the parking lot.
- Montserrat formally requested and received a stipend (\$4500/year) to chair the committee.

- Norman officially became our treasurer.
- We formalized the collection of bottle deposit money; half goes to the recycle worker and half goes to our inkjet recycling fund.
- Brian and Montserrat attended a PCC conference at UMass Dartmouth.
- Brian received a course release for serving as PCC coordinator.

October 2007

- Lou Hale and Fred Bellucci joined the committee.
- Brian submitted a proposal for instituting carbon offsets for air and auto travel to the Professional Development Committee.
- Brian began working on instituting an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy for GCC.
- Teresa initiated pursuit of a grant-funded faculty/energy manager position.
- We proposed a sentence about sustainability for inclusion in the General Education Competencies.
- Brian solicited a \$5000 donation to the Green Campus Fund!
- Recycle workers this semester are George Gajda and Demetre Lavigne.

November 2007

- Angel is working on establishing a farm-to-school link for when our new cafeteria opens.

December 2007

- Carbon offsets for professional development travel instituted: one cent per mile for auto travel, half a cent per mile for other travel. Carbon offset policy for all college travel under discussion.
- Brian drafted bottled water policy to encourage tap water consumption. Gradual implementation planned.
- College is installing solar powered emergency lights.

January 2008

- DCAM finally replaced incandescent lightbulbs in walkway with compact fluorescents. Brian and Montserrat posted signs at each end publicizing switch.
- Met with Alecia to plan for EPP changes in the bookstore. Alecia very proactive.

February 2008

- Funding for new solar greenhouse now assured: \$392,000 from feds; \$1000, 000 from Rice Oil.
- Wrote a proposal to become a subcommittee to College Council, approved by Bob. Spoke to all members of College Council to answer questions and garner support.

- Curriculum Action Committee approved Brian and Teresa's Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Certificate Program.
- College Council postponed voting on our proposal.

March 2008

- Met with IT folks Scott Conti and Martha Field to discuss energy-saving IT policies and practices.
- Met with Jesse Barba to discuss tracking numbers related to GCC's environmental impact and publicizing them.
- Montserrat attended Student Senate meeting to present proposed bottled water policy, met with mixed response.
- Bob alluded to carbon offset policy, EPP policy, and bottled water policy in all-college meeting (all of which he has approved; only the first has been implemented).
- Montserrat and Norman attended NESEA conference and talked with Massachusetts Energy Manager Ian Finlayson, who encouraged us to pursue a geothermal feasibility study for GCC.
- Montserrat started sending out "Green Tip of the Week" to all\_users.

April 2008

- Met with Richard Hillier and John Markwell to discuss core renovation: possibilities for geothermal, biomass, solar, and LEED certification. Committee recommended highest possible LEED certification.
- Montserrat attended College and University Recycling Council meeting.
- Proposal to become a subcommittee to College Council finally brought up at meeting, David Ram moved that proposal be changed to "subcommittee to College Affairs," which they approved instead. Committee chose to remain ad hoc.

May 2008

- Brian's students conducted a taste test pitting Greenfield tap water against Dasani; the 75 tasters were unable to say which was which more than 50% of the time.

June 2008

- Montserrat and Norman went on a MassRecycle tour of the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and the Covanta incinerator.

July 2008

- Montserrat coordinated container recycling for the Green River Festival.
- Nancy Bair has resigned from the committee; April Heaslip and Lou Peugh have joined.

September 2008

- Met with Gensler representatives Ken Fisher and Keller Roughton and others. Pushed for plans with better renewable energy and energy conservation LEED rating.

- Norman hired new recycle worker Seth Richardson.

October 2008

- Trevor Kearns joined the committee.
- Brian and Montserrat met with Bob Pura as a follow-up to meeting with Gensler. Talking points: raising the project's renewable energy and energy conservation LEED scores, replacing the glass façade with a more efficient design, committing to 1% renewable energy, and getting plans in writing.
- Met with Mike Assaf and Deanna Lovett and heard about IT's extensive energy saving measures.
- Met with representative from Ink Solutions. Julie switched to recycling inkjet and toner cartridges through them—more labor-and cost-efficient than previous system.
- Julie began setting up a Green Campus web page with Erica Goleman.

November 2008

- Proposed a computer shut down policy to IRM, not approved.
- Liberal Arts Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency Option approved by curriculum committee. It will become official in fall '09.
- Brian and Montserrat met with Richard Hillier about core plans. He requested that committee submit a list of specific suggestions for Gensler that he will deliver to them.

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