
Guests: Karlee Siepierski

Motion to Approve Agenda: Sean McGinnis motion, Luke Juran second

Motion to Approve February Minutes: Scott Kerklo motion, Virgilio Centeno second

Old Business

STARS Submission
- Certified GOLD rating with score of 71.94
- Initial submission 12-19-17
- Second submission with reviews 3-1-18
- Represents highest score in VA & ACC
- Thank you to all committee members who provided input!
- Jeremy Smith question: Even though it is every three years, do you keep yearly updates so it's easier the next time around?
  - Denny answer: Yes. We are an AASHE member, so we can use the reporting tool each year for updates.
- STARS is primary feed for Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges and Sierra Club Cool Schools list
- Keep in mind versions and criteria change year to year, so it is often a learning process to submit updated data.

Policy 5505 - Jeff Orzolek Update
- Subcommittee met two weeks ago to take first look at what they want to do and identified key people and stakeholders that they want to meet with
- Planned timeline is to complete full review by 4th Monday in September 2018 (final product done)
- Last part of summer will consist of cleaning and polishing document
- Deliverables for upcoming meetings: review complete list of VT policies to see if there are any existing policies that should reference 5505, review policy 1000, review other documents referenced in 5505, look for 'low-hanging fruit' in terms of corrections to the current document
- Look at title of policy itself - does not mention sustainability
- Make sure we are looking at every section, including purpose
• Research other institutions that have similar policies to gain ideas on structure of document
• Education is a major area that is missing with 5505
• Sean McGinnis question: do we get credit in STARS just for having this policy?
  ○ Denny answer: Yes.
• Assessing any existing language that says ‘encourage’ is an opportunity to strengthen language and increase accountability
• Revisit comprehensive waste management policy, it has not been updated since we went single stream in 2015, needs to be updated

VT Lab Expo
• Tuesday 4/3 from 10am - 2pm @ The Inn
• Karlee will be hosting Office of Sustainability booth

New Business

Green RFP
• Budget office meeting took place on March 15th
• Angela Page, Brian Garber, Jeff Early, Kate Barbor, Wendell Vest, Stacy King all present
• Went through proposals one-by-one and each member went over materials beforehand
• 12 of 17 proposals will most likely move forward
• Pulled a few into category 2, some not pursuing, low on priority list
• Total amount of funding could be in excess of $100,000
• Official results not yet announced, official memo from Dwight Shelton will hopefully be announced late April
• Looking to implement funding ASAP so carryover is not an issue
• We did get more savings numbers on Sean McGinnis’ recommendation - thank you Sean!

Earth Week
• April 16 - 22
• Environmental Coalition, Office of Sustainability, Food Justice at VT, Dining Services, Students for Sustainable Practice, Environmental Student Org all hosting events
• Full schedule here: https://www.facilities.vt.edu/sustainability/sustainability-programs/earth-week.html

Internship
• Applications open through 3/30
• Looking for 20 undergraduate students
• Time commitment 7 - 20 hours per week, working on projects and outreach

Green Grads
- Any student or faculty can fill out pledge to live sustainably after graduation
- [https://www.facilities.vt.edu/sustainability/sustainability-programs/graduation-pledge.html](https://www.facilities.vt.edu/sustainability/sustainability-programs/graduation-pledge.html)

**Environment VA Conference**
- April 3 - 5
- Great opportunity for students; very cheap registration & great networking
- Two VT groups up for Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards

**Open Discussion**
- Jeremy Smith: He was announced SGA president for 2018-19 year running on a platform of ‘Sustainability, Solidarity, and Service’. Many goals surrounding net zero emissions, moving away from single use items, paperless football tickets, supporting student sustainability initiatives, and student-led newsletter. Many ideas with opportunities for feedback and improvement.
- Jeremy Smith: SGA sent two resolutions to President Sands’ desk regarding Mountain Valley Pipeline and Radford Arsenal, any help would be good from professors or administration
  - John Chermak response: data driven science is most important, we need to be very careful on what we do/don’t support. It's always a good idea to go in with numbers to be taken seriously.
  - Luke Juran response: Emily Satterwhite is an Appalachian Studies professor. Was on NPR this morning, leading efforts on air quality testing with land-owners and private citizens in Radford, could get in touch with her on citizen science.
- Gwyneth Manser: will present on composting program at April meeting.
- Denny Cochrane: Recycling Rate Report is submitted to MRSWA at the end of this week.
- John Chermak: April 19th his Geosciences students will host a poster session in Squires Old Dominion Ballroom from 9:30 - 10:40am & 11am - 12:15pm. Posters will analyze over 30 countries on issues related to energy, water, resources, and their environmental and social impacts.