

Energy and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2022
2:00pm

Zoom: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/83312274330>

Present: Mary-Ann Ibeziako (presiding), Jon Clark Teglas for Chris Kiwus, Nick Woods for Ken Miller, John Randolph (Interim), Alan Grant, Rob Lowe, Blake Bensman, Jamie Stein, Elena Spinei Lind, Mathew Eick, Todd Shenk, Dana Hawley, Lucas Goodman

Absent: Matt Hagy, LaTawnya Burluson, Abigail Belvin, Vineela Eppe

Guests: Wendy Halsey, Jeri Baker, Steve Durfee, Lowell Jesse, Simona Fried, Nathan King, Emily Vollmer, Mike Dunn, Sean McGinnis, Matt Earnest, Scott Kerklo, Eli Meyer, Jack Leff

Mary-Ann Ibeziako called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Approval of or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of November 15, 2021

Mary-Ann Ibeziako noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. Presentation

Mary-Ann Ibeziako (Chair, AVP Infrastructure & Sustainability & Chief Sustainability Officer), John Randolph (Interim Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Director), Nathan King (Campus Sustainability Manager), Emily Vollmer (Sustainability Coordinator), and Jack Leff (GPSS President, Graduate Assistant) gave a presentation that covered all agenda items including old and new business sections for the committee (attached).

4. Open Discussion

Resolution 2021-2022A:

In response to a question posed to him in the meeting chat, Jack Leff informed the group that definitions of social sustainability and environmental quality are in the CAC and will be self-determined by the climate justice subcommittee and so we don't necessarily need to define them in our charge or committee documents.

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the language in the PCG's resolution and to table Resolution 2021-2022A indefinitely. The motion carried.

Green RFPs: Category 1 Select Proposals:

Rob Lowe, Sean McGinnis, and Eli Meyer volunteered to join the task force with Nathan King and Jack Leff to review the Category 1 Select Proposals and pare them down to the ones that will be presented to the E&SC at the February meeting.

Todd Schenk asked where the RFPs are in the process of being funded or not. Nathan King let him know that they are going through the initial review. They will be prioritized for the E&SC to review and then go on to the Office of Budget and Financial Planning for them to decide which ones to fund. John Randolph commented that the priority list is important because the Budget Office has typically funded no more than \$500,000 in years past and the current list adds up to \$1,000,000. Mary-Ann agreed that it will be important to pare the list down to about the half-million mark. John mentioned that some of the larger projects could be phased in later similar

to what was done with the Stroubles Creek project (starting on a smaller scale now and then extending the project out later).

Wendy Halsey extended a thank you for including the Grounds and Maintenance personnel in discussion/coordination around the RFPs that involve those groups.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:51 pm



Energy & Sustainability Committee
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Agenda

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Approval of Proposed Agenda (if a quorum is present)
- Meeting Minutes: Electronic Vote Results
- Old Business
 - Upcoming Academic Year
 - E&SC Resolution 2021-2022A Second Reading
 - CAC Task Forces Update
 - CAC Implementation Update
- New Business
 - Green RFP Process and Category 1 Select Proposals
- Open Discussion

Upcoming Academic Year – E&SC Resolution 2021-2022A Second Reading



- We received information last week from the President's Committee on Governance
- Most Resolution 2021-2022A items are already being included in a resolution that will be updating the entire governance system

Charge as constituted in the new University Council Bylaws:

Charge: To provide guidance to the university administration on implementation of the university's Climate Action Commitment and opportunities to enhance Virginia Tech's pursuit of environmental quality and social sustainability. The committee makes recommendations regarding the application of policies; infrastructural and operational changes; educational strategies and modifications; and other steps intended to foster broad engagement with the university's environmental goals. The committee oversees subcommittees that each carry out aspects of the committee's charge.

Charge as constituted in Resolution 2021-2022A:

Charge: To review and provide guidance to all facets of University Administration on implementation opportunities relating to the university's Climate Action Commitment and the pursuit of environmental quality and social sustainability, through policy, infrastructural and operational changes, education, and broad engagement.

Membership:

- Vice President for Campus Planning, Infrastructure, & Facilities
- Vice President for Finance or designee
- Assistant Vice President for Utilities
- Director of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy
- Sustainability Manager, Dining Services, Housing, and Residence Life
- The Assistant Vice President for Planning & University Architect
- Four representatives from Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities selected by the Vice President for Campus Planning,

Infrastructure, and Facilities

- Senior Director of Transportation Services
- One representative from Virginia Tech Environmental Health & Safety Services selected by the Vice President for Enterprise Administration and Business Services
- Four faculty representatives nominated by the Faculty Senate
- Two A/P representatives nominated by the A/P Faculty Senate
- Two staff representatives nominated by the Staff Senate
- One dean selected by the Council of College Deans
- Two graduate student representatives nominated by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate
- Two undergraduate student representatives nominated by the Undergraduate Student Senate

One representative from the Provost's Office

One representative from Student Affairs

One representative from Student Engagement and Campus Life

Two representatives from student organizations with an environmental focus (nominees provided by the committee chair)

Two representatives from frontline community groups (nominees provided by the committee chair)



Upcoming Academic Year – CAC Task Forces Update

CAC Implementation Task Forces

- E&SC Name Change, Charge, Changes to Membership
 - Todd Schenk, Rosalba Ledezma, Nathan King, Jack Leff, Matt Earnest
- Subcommittees from the CAC and Lessons Learned
 - John Randolph, Jon Clark Teglas
- CAC Goal Task Forces
 - GHG Inventory
 - Sean McGinnis
 - Climate Action Living Laboratory (CALL); Education and Student Involvement
 - John Randolph, Mary-Ann Ibeziako
 - Climate Justice
 - Sustainable Campus Culture, Engagement, and Sustainable Choices (Goal 12)

*Invitations will be sent to individuals with relevant knowledge and experience to fill the remaining open spots in the task forces

Upcoming Academic Year – CAC Task Forces Update

- CAC Goal Task Forces (continued)
 - Town-Gown Sustainability
 - [Wendy Halsey, John Randolph](#)
 - Sustainable Procurement
 - [Blake Bensman](#)
 - Carbon Neutral Commuting; Carbon Neutral Fleet
 - [Nick Quint, Mike Dunn](#)
 - Carbon Offset
 - [Sean McGinnis, John Randolph, Mary-Ann Ibeziako](#)
- Review and Revision of Policy 5505
 - [Todd Schenk, Nathan King, Jack Leff](#)
- Sustainability Awards
 - [Emily Vollmer, LaTawnya Burleson](#)

Upcoming Academic Year – CAC Implementation Update



Climate Action Commitment Implementation Update

VT CAC Implementation Chronology:

VT 2020 Climate Action Commitment Working Group (1-7/2020)

VT 2020 CAC Unanimous Approval through Governance (9-11/2020)

VT 2020 Climate Action Commitment Executive Summary (11/2020)

VT 2020 CAC Financial Plan (3/2021)

VT 2020 CAC Unanimous Approval by Board of Visitors (BOV) (3/2021)

VT 2020 CAC Implementation Guidelines (8/21): pathways by goal (living document)

VT CAC Roadshow to engage entire university (9/21-5/22)

VT 2020 CAC Implementation Projects (3/2021 – 2030 and beyond)



Climate Action Commitment Implementation

VT 2020 CAC Implementation Projects by Campus Planning, Infrastructure, & Facilities (CPIF) lots happening but much more to be done



- Goal 1: **Campus GHG inventory** under CAC scope (multi-student IS project) (11/21)
- Goal 2: **Solar development**: 2 MW on 7 building rooftops (contract very close to being signed)
- Goal 3: **Steam/power plant**: boiler #12, upgraded power generator (in commissioning)
- Goal 3: **Chiller Phase 2** upgrade (in commissioning)
- Goal 4: **Lighting audit** complete; lighting + retro-commissioning \$ request for E&G and Aux buildings
- Goal 5: **LEED Gold**: Student Athletic Performance Center (10/21); sustainability design criteria for new buildings: Oak Lane Student Village and Mitchell Hall (Randolph replacement)
- Goal 6/7: **Zero Waste Campus consultant** study (12/21 RFP–12 firms at 1/22 info conference)
- Goal 9: new **EV charging stations** on campus (12/21)
- Goal 10: **Faculty retreat** with 50 attendees (9/21), 100 core faculty for Climate Action Living Laboratory (CALL)
- Goals 12/13: **Engagement** programs of Office of Sustainability (Sustainability Internship program; launch of Green Office Certification and Green Lab Certification; Green RFP: \$240K FY 21 projects)

Climate Action Commitment Implementation

Going Beyond CPIF: Engaging the entire University (CAC goals 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14)

CAC Roadshow: meetings with campus leaders, deans, commissions, and groups to promote university-wide engagement in CAC implementation:

- Faculty Retreat (9/17/21)
- Senior Vice President-Chief Business Officer leadership (11/1/21)
- Enterprise Administrative & Business Services leadership (2/9/22)
- Division of Student Affairs leadership (2/23/22)
- University Council (5/2/22)
- Others: President's Cabinet/Council, Provost leadership, Governance commissions, Senates





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- **New Business**
 - Green RFP Process and Category 1 Select Proposals
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2021-2022 Green RFP Key Points and E&SC's Role

- Formal university program for **student organizations** to submit sustainability initiatives or ideas.
- Program was launched in **academic year 2010-11**
- The uniqueness – proposals are submitted, reviewed, **select proposals prioritized**, approved proposals funded, & implementation initiated in the **same academic year**.
- **Evaluation criteria:**
 1. Does the proposal support the goals of the climate action commitment
 2. Does the proposal generate savings
 3. Does the proposal pertain to energy reduction/conservation
 4. Does the proposal address a one-time or ongoing need
 5. Does the proposal leverage other funding sources or volunteers
- E&SC to review & prioritize the 22 select proposals listed on the 2021-22 Green RFP Summary Table.

2021-2022 Green RFP Process and Timeline

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Sep 20	Green RFP 2021-22 announcement
Nov 19	Proposal deadline to CASE office
Dec 1	CASE office coordinates review with subject matter experts
Jan 24	E&SC Subcommittee to review & prioritize proposals
Feb 28	Subcommittee presents recommendations to <u>E&SC for approval</u>
Mar 4	E&SC presents proposals to the Office of Budget & Financial Planning
Mar/Apr	OBFP convenes Budget Review Committee- identifies funding sources
Apr/May	Select proposals approved - implementation initiated

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

Number	Title & Description	Student Organization	One-Time
1	<p>Covered Bike Racks - 10 Res Halls: This proposal would add covered bike racks to New Hall West, Johnson, Hillcrest, Newman, Slusher, New Res East, Miles, Payne, PY, and Hoge Halls.</p>	Graduate Urban Affairs and Planning Association	\$ 262,000
2	<p>Washington St. Bike Lane: This proposal would replace on-street parking on Washington St. and restripe to accomodate east and west bound bike lanes. Adds sharrows between Beamer Way and Duckpond drive.</p>	Graduate Urban Affairs and Planning Association	\$ 52,000
3	<p>Covered Bike Racks - Goodwin Hall: This proposal would add one bike rack shelter to cover bike racks outside of Goodwin Hall.</p>	Mountain Bike Club	\$ 24,000

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

4	<p>Bike Rack - Campbell Hall: This proposal would add an 8-loop bike rack at Campbell Hall where there is currently high (107%+ capacity) utilization of nearby bike racks.</p>	Hokie Bike Hub	\$ 31,000
5	<p>Bike Part Vending Machine - Hokie Bike Hub: This proposal would fund a bike part vending machine outside of the Hokie Bike Hub in the Perry Street Garage. This vending machine would enable cyclists to have easy access to necessary items for maintenance on their bikes, further encouraging their use.</p>	MGT 2354 - Leadership for Managers and Entrepreneurs (Management Course)	\$ 11,000
6	<p>EV Fleet - 4 Vehicles: This proposal would replace 4 fleet rental vehicles that are 7+ years old and/or have 100k+ miles with Chevy Bolt EVs. Additionally, this proposal requests funding for one charging station to support the electrification of VT's fleet.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 178,000

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

7	<p>Bike-friendly infrastructure: This proposal would add protected bike lanes and painted intersections to key on-campus streets including Kent St, Washington St, West Campus Dr, Alumni Mall, and Drillfield Dr.</p>	Office of Sustainability Interns	\$ 173,000
8	<p>EV Charging Station - Burruss Hall: This proposal would fund the purchasing and installation of a charging station on Drillfield Dr outside of Burruss Hall.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 26,400
9	<p>Occupancy Sensors - Shanks Hall: This proposal would fund the installation of seven occupancy sensors in Shanks Hall for lighting and HVAC in conjunction with retrocommissioning efforts.</p>	MGT 2354 - Leadership for Managers and Entrepreneurs (Management Course)	\$ 1,500
10	<p>Stadium Woods Restoration: This proposal would support the Stewardship Plan for the Old-Growth Forest by Lane Stadium by revamping the trail system, installing barriers, and removing invasive plant species.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 31,500

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

11	<p>Bee Box - Hahn Garden: This proposal would fund the installation of a bee box and native flowers at Hahn Garden to support local, native pollinators.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 700
12	<p>Stroubles Creek Restoration (Phase 5): This proposal would support the fifth phase of the Stroubles Creek riparian restoration project. This would include large-scale seedling plantings, education, outreach, and monitoring.</p>	Stroubles Creek Coalition, VT StREAM Lab	\$ 15,000
13	<p>Rainwater Harvesting System - Hahn Garden: This proposal would fund the installation of a rainwater harvesting systems alongside the Hahn Garden Pavilion. Collected water would be used to water plant collections and reduce the Garden's dependence on potable water.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 800
14	<p>MMTF Bicycle Locker: This proposal would replace five parking spaces in the Perry Street Garage with a bike locker area for secure, long term storage of campus users' bicycles.</p>	VT Triathlon Club	\$ 60,500

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

15	<p>Wildflower Meadow at Grove Lane Pond: This proposal would fund the restoration of a native wildflower meadow at Grove Lane Pond that was planted in 2007 but was overtaken by invasive species.</p>	Student	\$ 6,800
16	<p>Native Flower Gardens at Roundabouts: This proposal would fund the installation of two native flower gardens at the roundabouts on the east side of the Drillfield by Togersen Hall and the Newman Library.</p>	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)	\$ 800
17	<p>Reusable Bag Distribution to On-Campus Residents: This proposal would fund the distribution of reusable bag to each on-campus resident during the move-in process. Additionally, this proposal would fund the purchasing of reusable bags to be sold in all six dining halls with the intent to phase out single use plastic bags in compliance with EO-77 and the CAC.</p>	MGT 2354 - Leadership for Managers and Entrepreneurs (Management Course)	\$ 16,000

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

18	<p>Water Bottle Refill Station - Architecture Annex: This proposal would fund the purchasing and installation of a water bottle refill station on the first or second floor of the Architecture Annex.</p>	Students for Sustainable Practices	\$ 2,300
19	<p>Low Flow Toilets - Hillcrest Hall: This proposal would fund the replacement of the remaining 1.28+ gal/flush toilets within Hillcrest Hall with 1.0 gal/flush toilets.</p>	Hillcrest Hall Sustainability Officer	\$ 11,400
20	<p>Pollinator Garden - Huckleberry Trail: This proposal would fund the development of a pollinator garden along the portion of the Huckleberry Trail where it intersects with Southgate Dr.</p>	MGT 2354 - Leadership for Managers and Entrepreneurs (Management Course)	\$ 7,000

2021-2022 GREEN RFP "SELECT PROPOSALS" SUMMARY TABLE

21	<p>Compostable Bags in Dining Centers: This proposal would fund the purchasing of compostable bags to be made available in dining centers with the intent to move away from single use plastic bags.</p>	<p>UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy and Planning (Urban Affairs and Planning Course)</p>	<p>\$ 23,000</p>
22	<p>Plastic Bag Collection Pilot: This proposal would fund a pilot program for plastic bag collection and recycling in residence halls.</p>	<p>Residence Hall Federation</p>	<p>\$ 5,000</p>
22 Proposals		12 Student Organizations	\$ 939,700

Open Discussion

- **E&SC Resolution 2021-2022A**
- **E&SC Task Forces**
- **Climate Action Implementation Update**
- **Green RFPs: Category 1 Select Proposals**

Next Meeting:

**February 28, 2022
2:00 p.m. via Zoom**

