UWinnipeg Sustainability Council Meeting: Notes

June 9, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.| ROOM: Manitoba Hall Boardroom – 2M70

Meeting called by: Sustainability Office

Focus of meeting: FY2018 Sustainability Report

                       STARS | FY2019 Planning

Facilitator: Joseph Wasylycia-Leis

Note taker: Sara Campbell

1. Welcome & Introductions

Discussion:

Attendees did a quick introduction of names and positions.

Attendees:

Brian Daly, Mike Emslie, Kyle McDonald, Ian Mauro, Roberta Marsh, Ian Vickers, Inga Johnson, Mike Thul, Thiago Nunes, Sara Campbell & Joseph Wasylycia-Leis.

2. STARS Presentation

Discussion:

Joe started off introducing STARS, a universal sustainability rating system for post-secondary institutions and went on to talk about the scoring categories: Academics (AC), Engagement (EN), Operations (OP) and Planning & Administration (P&A) and the difference in score between our two submissions (2015 & 2019). Both years the University scored Silver, with 2015 scoring 58.33 and 2019 scoring 59.78. Joe mentioned that this was a bigger achievement than it lets on because of the way ASSHE restructured some of the STARS credits. Joe went on to briefly discuss all of the STARS categories and the breakdown of each one (it was noted that screen shots of categories were hard to see). Improvements: Campus Engagement; Public Engagement; Energy; Purchasing; Transportation; Waste; Water; Investments. There was no category where we decreased. Joe highlighted that we received 4 Innovation credits (the maximum amount) for our Indigenous Course Requirement (the first in the country), the Biomass Heating

Pilot Project, the Norway-Canada Sustainable Energy Project, and the Prairie Climate Centre for their Climate Atlas of Canada. Joe compared UW to the University of Manitoba (Gold with 70.27 points) and Thompson Rivers University (Platinum with 88.31 points). Joe noted that the University of Manitoba is a larger institution that is able to have 8 full-time staff members in their Sustainability Office and they scored +20.23 higher than UW in AC and +9.71 in P&A. Joe also noted that Thompson River's designed their Sustainability Strategy to mirror STARS requirements and although STARS is a great metric, sometimes focuses have to be shifted slightly to increase sustainability in your local context. <u>Accomplishments</u>: Maintaining Silver (1/147), Diversity (#1), Course Inventory, Development of new procedures & guidelines, Innovation, Linking to the Sustainability Strategy, Collaboration across departments. <u>Opportunities</u>: Learning Outcomes (AC), Scope 3 emission reporting, Diversity & equity reporting, Community service and public policy, an ongoing STARS membership, STARS & the next Sustainability Strategy.

Comments:

- Why do we have multiple "0's" in P&A?
- Brian noted about our Green Fund and its full disclosure and carbon footprint mapping
- Roberta would like to work with us prior to the STARS submission to run data sets and see if it's scoring the way we want it to.

Action Items:

- Maureen could meet with Brian and look into ways we can get points in P&A, it is most likely due to unavailable data.
- CSO to work with Brian to promote the Green Fund.
- Potential for an ongoing STARS membership ($1400USD/year for a [STARS membership](#)).

3. FY2018 Annual Report Summary Presentation

Discussion:

Thiago lead the discussion on the Facilities side of the FY 2018 Annual Report. He started with our total sustainability performance report graph, noting that Total Waste Diverted +13.23%, Total Electricity +3.77%, Total Natural Gas -11.27%, GHG Emissions, -10.92% and Water Consumption -18.08%. He then went on to state that we are under our target currently, but that we must reduce emissions by 50% to meet our next target. For cleaning products it was noted that Bee Clean now purchases 4% EcoLogo Certified products compared to 20% in FY2017. This is because Bee Clean now uses Iodized water for cleaning and therefore does not need the additional products. Thiago also mentioned that sometimes for the sustainability of our food, having food come from local and community-based programs instead of being third-party verified is better for sustainability in the local context. Joe then took over to talk

about the sustainability Course Inventory, which identifies 106 sustainability focused or related courses in the standard University catalog; 20% of PACE courses also address sustainability. Other examples of knowledge mobilization and education are the Forest Ecosystems Field course, the Langside Learning Garden and the Prairie Climate Centre for their research. The CSO founded Eco Team UWinnipeg, which allows our institution to make connections to students and provide professional development opportunities while helping us meet our performance objectives like improving waste diversion. We will have a full list of events and volunteer opportunities for students in September.

Comments:

- We should think of a better way to positively communicate the Bee Clean graphs

Action Items:

- Is there a way we can switch from tracking $ purchases, to items brought onto campus?

4. Richardson College Collaboration

Discussion: Sustainability research and knowledge mobilization through the PCC, Langside Learning Garden, experiential work-integrated learning (Field Systems Course) and Eco Team UWinnipeg (potential to connect to the micro-credential).

Comments: Talked about in more depth below in Table 5 "Goal 4".

Action Items: Talked about in more depth below in Table 5 "Goal 4".

5. 2019 Planning Activity

Discussion: Joe introduced a planning activity where we had 5 pieces of paper with different Strategy goals and the CSO had asked, "Where are we? What are the Challenges?" and "What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?" See in

the tables below…

Comments: *Notes are written in the tables above*

Action Items: CSO to look into a bus pass benefit higher than the sustainability and wellness account and how to communicate the availability of our secure bike parking. CSO stays in communications with Facilities about projects and development. Is UW fundraising and submitting applications to all available funders?

Goal 1: Exceed Canada's Commitment Under the Paris Accord		
Target 1	**Where are we? What are the Challenges?**	**What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?**
Achieve a 50% reduction of scope 1 & scope 2 GHG emissions compared to a 1990 baseline by 2020 and achieve 0 emissions by 2035.	Where are we: -solar & biomass will hopefully meet our target of 5% of energy to come from unconventional renewables by 2025 -Low hanging fruit is fixed – mostly Challenges: -Money, people, time -We need 5,000,000 for a steam plant conversion	-Operate biomass at full capacity -Look at alternatives – identify in FCA -Make decision on Sparling -Support the Library project proposal -Feasibility studies – project plans for fundraising -Fundraising -Are we tracking high and low times on campus? To lower the heat demand, etc. -Are we trying to rent out rooms during off times to make use of our energy? -Bus pass benefit for staff and more secure bike parking

Goal 2: Cultivate principled relationships with people on and off campus and with ecosystems near and far		
Target 7	**Where are we? What are the Challenges?**	**What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?**
Begin an ongoing institutional learning process with Indigenous elders and traditional knowledge keepers, to develop an implementation framework for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as it applies to the University and its activities and to continually integrate Indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing into our sustainability efforts. Complete framework by the end of 2018 and report on ongoing learning activities and outcomes annually in the annual Sustainability Performance report.	Where are we: -Lack of proper representation on the Sustainability Council Challenges: -knowing what the CSO's capacity/responsibility is	-Support institutional efforts on this file, engage with AVP and Indigenous Academic lead and provide support -Plan, assess the feasibility and necessary actions -Discuss with 3 new Indigenous Canada Research Chairs (Cidro, McCallum, Nagam) -Elder relationship with CSO and Sustainability Council and student groups. -Connect with Indigenous Advisory Circle, Aboriginal Student Services Centre & ASC. -Are there any calls to action from the TRC or the MMIWG Inquiry we, as an institution could support more or at all?

Comments: *Notes are written in the tables above*

Action Items: Set a meeting with the 3 Indigenous Canada Research Chairs. Connect with the Indigenous Advisory Circle and ASSC and Elders about UWinnipeg's Indigenization and invite new members to the Sustainability Council.

Goal 2: Cultivate principled relationships with people on and off campus and with ecosystems near and far		
Target 8	**Where are we? What are the Challenges?**	**What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?**
Link to the work of existing University bodies addressing human rights, equity, wellness, and accessibility for students, staff and faculty and include a summary of progress in the annual sustainability planning and reporting process by 2017. Work with the responsible offices for each of the aforementioned areas to establish and report ongoing data improvement processes to aid in evaluation and planning related to work in these areas, and include appropriate data in the annual sustainability performance report as it becomes available.	Where are we: - Challenges: -Refine the collection & extraction of HR data to support -Measure of the International Endowment Network (IEN) http://www.intentionalendowments.org/ -Build meaningful & honest relationships with departments like ASSC, Elders, Wellness, Human Rights, Accessibility, Equity… etc.	-Bring in additional representatives to the Sustainability Council – framework development – these could be students, staff and faculty. Ask someone from ASC, Elders, etc. to sit on SC? -Build relationships: Meaningful and honest relationships with groups. Ex: UIC probably feels left out and not important to us. What are they missing out on that's located on main campus that they don't have access to? (The gym, Student Union, etc.) -Utilize enhanced accessibility services student data base to better track statistics -Wellness Centre Counselling processes and data collection enhancements

Comments: *Notes are written in the tables above*

Action Items: Bring in representatives from Human Rights, Equity, Wellness & Accessibility to the Sustainability Council and meet with them to discuss ongoing improvement efforts. Work with HR to refine the collection and extraction of data.

Goal 3: Develop and deliver curriculum, student services, and programming that deepen student knowledge about sustainability and that help motivate thoughtful leadership and action		
Target 1	**Where are we? What are the Challenges?**	**What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?**
In collaboration with those responsible for implementing sustainability action on campus, generate, publish and promote a list of campus-based sustainability related student project and research opportunities annually. Support work to include these projects in coursework through efforts such as the establishment of the Campus Sustainability Course as a standing course in the University course catalogue and the launch of the Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility Certificate program at PACE.	Where are we: -CSO is now under facilities – easier communication -PACE is providing sustainability training to new students during orientation -Our sustainability related and focused courses are up online and we will start tracking enrollment for those classes dating back to 2015, onward. Challenges: -What skills do students have to help? -Need a portal to track -Hard to identify opportunities and partnerships for experiential learning and co-op/practicum placements.	-Micro-Credential proposed by RCFE includes focus for tracking of work-integrated learning -Develop an "app" for student opportunities -Develop a portal for tracking volunteer hours -Program launch that brings people together -Explore opportunities with larger events on campus – career fair, etc. -Look at opportunities with UWSA and other student groups and events

Comments: *Notes are written in the tables above*

Action Items: CSO to contact academic departments to put the call out for student research projects and connect it to our institutional targets. Let the departments know that we have published a list of sustainability "related" and "focused" courses for students to take a look at. Work with HR on developing a student volunteer tracking portal or an app. Work with the Eco Team on potential projects that the students bring forward. Any student opportunities with the Langside Learning Garden? How do we promote our Undergraduates to go into our Graduate programs such as Environmental,

Resource, and Development Economics; Indigenous Governance; MDP; Bioscience, Technology and Public Policy; and Management: Technology, Innovation and Operations.

Goal 4: Mobilize evidence & research to address local and global sustainability challenges		
Target 3	**Where are we? What are the Challenges?**	**What can we commit to working on in 2019-2020?**
Engage faculty, staff and students with relevant expertise to develop workshops and courses that support campus community members in better understanding how their day-to-day work on campus relates to, and can impact positively or negatively on, key sustainability issues. By 2020, have 75% of non-faculty staff complete at least one sustainability-related workshop per year. Develop targets for students and faculty as part of a sustainability outreach and engagement plan.	Where are we: -Very low participation Challenges: -75% is very ambitious -What do people want to know? -Plan workshops well in advance	-organizing list of presentations & promoting early! -Leverage technology and communication tools to promote, educate and participate in learning activities. Commuter Challenge – real time data. Sustainability app. -Engage with staff groups and attend staff meetings to provide workshops.

Comments: *Notes are written in the tables above*

Action Items: CSO to plan presentations in advance and contacts other departments about upcoming events

(Sustainable Winter Preparation GOP in November & a Purchasing GOP in January). Promote and encourage the January Purchasing workshop for all departments to attend through Communications, emails and phone calls. CSO collaborates with the RCFE and Student Services for introducing a Sustainability Certificate or "Micro-credential" as the next step to designating "sustainability-related" & "sustainability-focused" courses. Look into examples (U of Sask & U of Hawaii) and propose a plan for other micro-credential requirements such as a practicum placement (partnerships with local organizations & businesses), volunteer hours or a project and how we would manage and track the progress. Consider making the Indigenous Insights course mandatory for all staff (just as the accessibility training is required). The CSO attended Indigenous Insights and was shocked by the lack of base-line knowledge of our staff member's into the truth of our nation's history with the Indigenous people of this land. This would also touch on our targets to improve Indigenization.