

GREENetwork

Minutes

Illinois Wesleyan University

Year 2009

Meeting Minutes, October 30, 2009

GREENetwork

Called to order at 12:10 p.m. with the following people in attendance: Liz Kuehn, Carl Teichman, Sara Schaller, Matthew R. Damschroder, Sarah Stumpf, Kelly Petersen, Erin Spear, Lynda Duke, Given Harper, Abby Jahiel, Laurine Brown, Meg Miner (co-chair)

1. Sandra Lindberg: a brief report on Dr. Wuebbles' talk at U of I on midwest global warming. [Sandra was ill; this item will carry over to next week]
2. Sandra Lindberg: follow up report on the 350.org tabling event 10/22
 - In Sandra's absence, Meg read excerpts from the written report Sandra supplied [see attached].
 - GN students who passed by the table agreed it was a good location – couldn't miss the action!
 - A brief recap of EcoWeek activities followed, with bamboo plantings being noted as one of the hit events.

3. Lynda Duke: On getting advice from students about promoting paper-saving measures in Ames Library.

Started with an overview of paper usage in the library: approx 1.4 million pages printed last year, a significant amount of printing is for non-academic purposes and much ends up in the recycling bins. Lynda is on the library's marketing team and came to GN to ask for suggestions. Here's an unranked list of ideas people contributed:

- institute print quota, but it needs to be campus-wide. Some economic incentive is needed, and people need to know they are paying extra (make costs visible as an awareness mechanism)
- post suggestions to MyIWU
- put a message on all computer monitor desktops (like a background image in place of the Ames logo)
- put physical signage up on monitors or in workstation carrel areas
- create a display of waste paper
- weigh waste paper and then create a promotional campaign equating those figures to something silly or unexpected (e.g., one month of paper waste = weight of football team)
- make default printer settings 2-up and double sided (would require lots of signage)
- provide stickers or some kind of giveaway that shows people have committed to saving paper
- have an incentive program similar to the "no plastic bottle" pledge students did last year
- give library waste paper that's only been printed on one side to SSC. They get waste cardboard and make used paper notebooks that they sell in Pre-Shrunk
- designate one printer as a place with paper that's already been printed on one side. Don't make it the default printer for that location but make people aware it's available and why.

Lynda thanked all for their ideas and asked that other ideas be sent to her at lduke@iwu.edu

4. Carl Teichman: update on recycling containers at Memorial Center

Mike Walsh is moving forward with purchasing containers that will be positioned around the building. Funds come from his budget line -- apparently this is a discretionary fund that builds up periodically and that he chose to spend in this way.

- Sara Schaller will provide stickers from ORL recycling campaigns
- Question from a constituent about how office recycling paper is handled hasn't been addressed yet. Carl will pursue.

5. Other questions:

- Lynda: Does Physical Plant always change garbage bags in offices, no matter how little garbage is in a can? Seems like a waste of bags/money and an unnecessary addition to landfills.
 - Carl checked after the meeting. Dave Shiers says the policy is for bags to be replaced only if food/wet waste is in it. They are not using an unusual amount of bags, so he doesn't suspect a widespread problem. If we see a problem we should let Dave know.
- Does Shirk recycle at major sporting events? Is there an update on Shirk recycling containers?
 - No to both questions. Carl is checking.
- SSC asked about outcome of additional bike rack cost question brought up at last meeting.
 - Carl: Bud Jorgenson believes the range for the rack and installation cost is \$1,500-\$2,000
 - Kelly: Have cheaper models been looked at?
 - Carl: Durability is assured with the chosen model, but if you have others in mind they'll consider them.
 - Kelly will make suggestions available.
- Meg updated the group on GN's long-awaited SPBC meeting. We were scheduled for last Friday (the reason we cancelled the regular GN meeting) but were asked to reschedule for November 23 due to other issues needing to be addressed by SPBC right now.
 - Meg stated we will no longer be recommending items exactly as stated in [the report](#) we prepared for SPBC last spring. Instead, we will suggest no-cost ways the campus can remain on a path that shows our commitment to environmental sustainability and that will save the University money.

6. Old Business:

- What happened to SSC's idea of putting paper towel waste awareness stickers on dispensers in the dorms?
 - Carl checked after the meeting. Dave Shiers says he's okay with this but would like to see the stickers ahead of time. Carl also wants to show the stickers to Cabinet. Carl will work with SSC on this.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Meg Miner

Report on 350.org event by Sandra Lindberg, October 28, 2009

Original announcement posted to 350.org:

On Thursday, October 22, from 11:30-1:00, members of IWU's student body and faculty will table in the student Dugout. We'll be there to offer two kinds of cookies to passersby: cookies baked at 350 degrees and some that are a little too toasty--baked at 450 degrees. We'll sell the yummy 350 cookies to raise money for IWU's sustainability efforts. The cookies that have been burnt to a crisp are our way of reminding people that letting CO2 levels get too high on planet earth will turn up the heat for all of us in ways we won't like. We thank RealFood.org for this cookie idea! Our table will have a 1/2 page handout with great web sites, including 350.org's, where folks can read the latest about global warming and ways for them to reduce CO2 emissions. We're planning some visuals too--posters and banners that will bring people over to the table. A student photographer has volunteered to document the event for us. And there will be lots of black balloons filled with our own CO2 laden breath, to represent the ever-increasing amount of CO2 in our atmosphere.

Summary of local action:

Our event was part of IWU's Eco-Week events, as organized by IWU's Office of Residential Life; Matt Damschroder heads this department. IWU hosted an environmental talk by Laurine Brown called "The SUV in the Kitchen." IWU presented the film FLOW last night at 7:30 p.m. And various activities in the dorms highlighted environmental awareness of all kinds.

Our 350.org tabling event was great, though smaller than many I saw on the 350.org website. We sold about 260 cookies at .25/ea., raising about \$65.00 which will be used to pay part of the cost of a campus sign for our new prairie planting. We had fourteen bakers, all students and faculty from the School of Theatre Arts. We had a four-student display committee; these folks are taking an Environmental Health class with Professor Laurine Brown and they created our table displays in part fulfillment for that class's course requirements.

Most importantly, we talked with MANY people about global warming. Most visitors bought only 1 or 2 cookies. We're estimating we shared information with about 125 people, and that's a conservative estimate. Some of these people said they heard information from us about global warming that was new for them. We liked hearing that.

Below are three photos from our tabling event. The third picture is our attempt to dramatize how some of us want to banish the presence of excess CO2 in our atmosphere (those are the folks dressed in green clothes), though the folks who think CO2 is not a problem are still struggling to 'stay in the room' (they're dressed in black clothing). The photo was a nice idea but doesn't really tell the story as clearly as I'd hoped. Oh, well. Live and learn.

The photographs below were taken by Joshua Levinson '13

[note: anyone who knows names of more of people pictured below can send them to mminer@iwu.edu]



Kate Rozycki '13, in background on right; Erin Daly '10, in foreground on right



Kate Rozycki '13 and Erin Daly '10