

**Chancellor's Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, October 7th 1:30 - 3:00 PM**  
**Cheadle 5123**

**Introductions & Welcome:**

**Attendance:** Renee Bahl (Co-Chair), Derek Musashe, Jewel Persad (staff), David Lea (Co-Chair), Garry Mac Pherson, Britt Ortiz, Mark Brzezinski, Sangwon Suh, Mo Lovegreen (advisor), Hunter Lenihan, Kristin Antelman, Kirby Bartlett, Janet Walker, Sophie Robert, Kathryn Foster

**Absent Committee Members:** Igor Mezic (advisor), Alan Heeger (advisor), Ken Hiltner, Roland Geyer, Dennis Whelan, Eric McFarland, Henning Bohn, Jacob Godfrey (advisor), Bill Shelor (Advisor), Sarah Swinnerton, Jianwen Su

**Other Attendance:** Katie Maynard, Heather Perry, Matthew O'Carroll, Jordan Sager, Andrew Riley, Sarah Siedschlag

**Announcements:**

- a) 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Coast Sustainability Summit on October 16<sup>th</sup> at Loma Pelona. Fran Pavley will be giving the morning keynote presentation and David Lea will be giving opening remarks.
- b) Harvest Celebration at the ECP Farm on October 8<sup>th</sup> – The Chancellor will be giving remarks as well as Jack and Kim Johnson.
- c) UC announcement on Fossil Fuel Divestment – announcement appeared in the LA Times, the UC is planning to divest from fossil fuels. The UC will have made its \$13 billion endowment “fossil free” as of the end of this month, and the \$70-billion pension will soon be that way as well.
- d) Letter from Higher Education Leaders declaring a climate emergency at UN Climate Summit – Over summer, Renee and David received a request about asking the Chancellor to sign on to a Letter from Higher Education Leaders declaring a climate emergency at UN Climate Summit. He signed on along with other campuses and he committed to a number of things.
- e) Resnick Pledge \$750 Million to Caltech to Support Environmental Sustainability Research – Caltech received \$750 M from Resnick for Sustainability. Sustainability is no longer a niche thing.

Comment: There is a water and power documentary about the Resnicks that highlights their role in draining California groundwater.

**Updates:**

**a) Sustainability Overview for 2019/2020**

A brief overview of the System-wide sustainability structure was given including the System-wide Sustainable Steering committee and the GCLC.

Under the Sustainability Steering Committee, there are several working groups and most are co-chaired by UCSB staff. The working groups oversee updated to the System-wide Sustainability Practices Policy. The Policy covers the following areas:

- Green Building Design
- Clean Energy
- Sustainable Transportation
- Sustainable Building Operations for Campuses
- Zero Waste
- Sustainable Procurement
- Sustainable Foodservice
- Sustainable Water Systems
- Sustainability at UC Health

**b) New Sustainability Site** – Over the summer we moved our sustainability site from Word Press to Drupal. It has a new look and we are interested getting your feedback - <https://www.sustainability.ucsb.edu/>

**c) Draft Annual Report to the Chancellor on Sustainability**

Over the summer staff worked to pull together a draft annual report on sustainability for the Chancellor. The report includes the following sections:

- Overview
  - Budget
  - Campus Surveys
  - Awards and Recognitions
  - Community Engagement
  - State & National Leadership
- Campus-wide Sustainability Updates by functional area
  - Accomplishment
  - Ongoing Initiatives
  - Looking Forward

Please send edits, suggestions, and comments to [Jewelpersad@ucsb.edu](mailto:Jewelpersad@ucsb.edu) by October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Next Steps - edits will be incorporated into final version which will be shared with CSC and voted at the Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting.

**Minutes:**

- a) **Approve Meeting Min. from June - Approved.**

**Presentation and Discussion:**

- a) **Open Forum Discussion on CSC Priorities for 2019/2020**

On which issues can the CSC be most effective in 2019-20? What CSC Subcommittees do we need? Some ideas include:

- On which issues can the CSC be most effective in 2019-20? What CSC Subcommittees do we need?
- UC Carbon Neutrality Initiative
- Looking ahead, how do we reduce Scope 3 emissions?
- Campus Waste, Water and Energy Metrics. Is using less the most (only) important goal?
- Long-term vision for Sustainability at UCSB

**Discussion:**

Which areas are we doing well in and which areas are we missing the mark?

- It would be helpful to see a dashboard of metrics that shows how we compare to other UCs.
- It is easy to focus on metrics/goals, instead of focusing just on reduction, can we look at per capita goals. Also, is less always better? STARS gives you more credit for water if you are in a drought area, sustainability is a local issue in lots of ways. Think this is a great way to prioritize goals.

The State of California's **Buy Clean California** act requires that suppliers' emissions performance will be taken into account when an agency is contracting to buy steel, flat glass, and mineral wool (insulation) for infrastructure projects.

- As a campus, we have not yet fully measured our scope 3 emissions. The Bren School measures scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, and scope 3 is about 60% of the total emissions.

- A stronger focus on scope 3 emissions could set us apart from other campuses and information gained can also be used to create better metrics for other goals around waste, procurement, food, etc.
- We could look at what the largest parts of pie chart are, and what the maximum reductions for efforts are.
- Can we extend the scope analysis beyond the Bren School? Could this be something we can expand to the entire campus? We tried this a few years ago and hit some road blocks around data. Data has improved somewhat but still isn't very granular, we could get a broad level overview.

EAB student reps voiced an opinion that they would like to see the long-term vision for Sustainability a priority for this committee.

- This may ultimately become a space issue and not a funding issue.

Wondering about intersection of sustainability and ecology? Another part of sustainability is sustainability biodiversity and ecosystem functions. What can we do on this committee to make an impact? Is there a room in this committee to think about this? Potential interactions? Professor Holy has been working on campus Flora project back to life and how to better engage our campus community in Flora. Looking at Mapping ever single species.

Themes emerging from this discussion:

- Sustainable conservation
- Office of sustainability
- Focus on Scope 3 Emissions and carbon accounting.
- The need to see a dashboard of where we are in comparison to other campuses and where we need to improve.

## **b) Proposed changes to the UC Sustainability Practices Policy**

**Revisions to Climate Change Section** - Updates address concerns around long term reliance on offsets and the lack of long term plans to phase out natural gas. This policy does not commit campuses to a course of action, rather only requires an assessment of alternatives.

- Summary of changes - Each campus will complete an assessment of Scope 1 emissions from natural gas combustion in 2035 or at the date when that location's CHP (or any other major fossil fuel-using campus infrastructure) debt obligation held as of 2019 has been amortized, or such infrastructure is planned for capital renewal or major repair.

- The assessment should determine the best pathway, at that point, to decarbonize at least 80 percent of Scope 1 emissions through means other than offsets.
- Next Steps - Gather feedback from the Energy Governing Board & Green Building WG Submit to the Steering Committee for a vote in January

**Proposed Food Policy Updates** – changes focus on better aligning with STARS criteria and to look at Cool Food Pledge. When policy was first written, cage free was a strong standard but now it is policy. The proposed policy updates these standards to better align with current best practices and to streamline reporting. Part of this streamlined reporting will include campuses signing onto the Cool Food Pledge (meet 25% reduction of food GHG by 2030).

Residential Dining at UCSB supports the proposed policy updates and believes that even with the stricter standards we will still meet the 2020 goal. There are still discussions around whether retail dining will be included.

**Zero Waste Definition & Target proposed policy updates** - Zero waste has been defined as a 90% diversion. 2 years ago, the system implemented reductions goals. The idea then and now is to put the focus back on waste minimization. The new language developed keeps the zero-waste goal with 90% diversion but also puts an emphasis on waste reductions.

### **Proposed policy language**

- 1) The University will achieve zero waste through prioritizing waste reduction in the following order: reduce, reuse, and then recycle and compost or anaerobically digest as described in section V.F.5. Minimum compliance for zero waste, at all locations other than health locations, is as follows:
  - a) Reduce per capita total municipal solid waste generation:
    - i) by 25% per capita from FY2015/16 levels by 2025
    - ii) by 50% per capita from FY2015/16 levels by 2030
  - b) Divert 90% of the municipal solid waste generated from landfills

Other proposed policy updates address single use items on campus.