

January 27, 2016

## Meeting Minutes

### QEP Curricular and Co-curricular Subcommittee

#### Attendees:

- Jen Wright
- Bob Mignone
- Jeri Cabot
- Ned Hettinger
- Consuela Francis
- Jen Jones
- Todd LeVasseur
- David Hansen
- Chris Ciarcia
- Page Keller
- Christine Finnan

Mignone guided the subcommittee through a face-paced and focused discussion of five strategies

#### Goal One: Awareness

Strategy One: Events – have a problem a year and events scheduled throughout the year which illustrate the how the problem relates to the concepts linked to sustainability, e.g., water

The problem could be selected by student vote the previous spring semester

Convocation could set the stage for the discussion

Create a College Solves committee to be a companion to the College Reads committee

Alternative Break trips could be designed to address the problem but in other settings

The College Activities Board (CAB) would be encouraged to devote most of its programming dollars to speakers/programs which match with the problem.

Recommendation – modify one of the student learning outcomes affiliated with this strategy to monitor learning for in-coming students only and not all students. This modification makes sense given that the first-year students are more likely to attend the events and be exposed regularly to the conversation.

#### Strategy Two: Orientation Sustainability Boot Camp

Convocation serves as a likely foundation upon which to present sustainability topics. For at least four years convocation would have themes related to Sustainability so that students become aware of sustainability as an issue the College take seriously and they will have opportunities to contribute to.

#### Create Preview Programs with sustainability themes

Target resources to expand the current sustainability boot camp. The current camp is offered during Welcome Week and attracts about 30-40 students to a single program. Not only first-year students have attended the boot camps to date.

#### Strategy Three: FYE-linked Sustainability Program

Synthesis Seminar: One site for a new module on sustainability is the FYE Synthesis Seminar. Peer Facilitators can be shown how to introduce sustainability debates to their students. A quiz or exercise can be administered within the Seminar to assess student learning.

FYE courses (Seminar or linked courses) – One way to encourage the increase in the number of FYE courses focused on a topic related to sustainability is to create a workshop. The workshop would link interested instructors to faculty who have created such courses. Specific student learning outcomes related to sustainability could be tracked through all the offerings. The workshop should build on the initiative currently underway: the informal group call Faculty for ??? and Sustainability, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Issues ??? This informal group is conducting meetings to develop courses, identify a research agenda and conduct community-based research. Arizona State University serves as a model worth exploring in terms of connecting courses with topics related to sustainability.

#### Strategy Four: Market Visionary Values

The committee agreed to postpone this discussion until a consensus about which values to promote is formed.

#### Strategy Five: Support for sustainability student organizations

Expand and assess the current training RAs receive from the Office of Sustainability. This effort could prompt the Residence Hall Associations to push beyond the current focus on recycling.

The Office of Sustainability should continue to offer student organizations the opportunity to apply for project funding and continue its relationship with the fraternities and sororities – each chapter selects a student liaison with the Office. More information is needed about these efforts.

Student Life mandates that all student organization leaders attend an annual student organization Summit in order to access their budgets and reserve space on campus. Sustainability concepts can be introduced at the Summit and financial incentives created to encourage group collaboration around the QEP topics, e.g., access to funds in the SGA Contingency Fund.

CAB and other departments could offer a movie series each year.