1. ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES

Attendees: David Hamilton (DH), Priya Kurian (PK), Mark Thompson (MT), John Cameron (JC), Chris Eames (CE), Eva Collins (EC), Brennan Allen (BA), Jeff Hawkes (JH), Sarah Hill (SH), and Rachael Goddard (RG)

2. WELCOME

David Hamilton & Priya Kurian welcomed new members to the EPC: Chris Eames, Eva Collins, and Sarah Hill (WSU representative). They also welcomed the new Sustainability Coordinator, Rachael Goddard, to her first meeting of the EPC.

DH said that the EPC would serve as a steering committee to Rachael. The EPC will evaluate progress and act as a resource. Rachael’s appointment will allow EPC’s ideas to be translated into action.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To be confirmed

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) EPC Membership:

Maori Member: DH to talk to PVC Maori, Linda Smith. CE suggested that it may be useful to communicate expectations of membership of EPC for a Maori representative. EPC could seek advice from the Maori member as required, but regular attendance at EPC meetings may not be essential.

(b) Name changes (see below) to EPC.

5. NAME CHANGES

(a) Discussion of Committee title: The change to Sustainability Policy Committee was seen to provide a good alignment with the committee’s activities and with the University’s commitment to sustainability as part of its distinctiveness.

(b) Title of Sustainability Coordinator: There was discussion of whether the title of Sustainability Coordinator was too broad. RG to report back by next meeting on what other universities are doing and her recommendation for job title.

6. SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES ON CAMPUS

Six issues for discussion (below). RG said that she already has a draft plan to work on and will circulate that to the committee.
(a) An update on Gord Stewart’s report so that Rachael can begin with a benchmark of where the university is at on sustainability issues. (EC)
- RG will work on better communication. Create a dedicated page on the university website on sustainability strategies, current statistics, etc
- Develop an environmental check list
- Take up Gord’s recommendation for educating staff and students on sustainability issues on campus.

(b) A layered approach to work on sustainability, encompassing simple to more complex tasks ahead. (JC)
- RG identified a number of issues she will be taking up, including waste minimization. Reported that the halls of residence are to be refurbished and will see if better access to recycling can be ensured.

(c) Whole-school approach to sustainability (CE)
- CE to circulate a framework document to the committee.

(d) WSU perspective on sustainability issues on campus (SH)
- WSU is planning for next year when voluntary membership may come in.
- Fair trade: SH said that there is a fair trade club and students would like to work with procurements to see if the University can switch to more sustainable products. RG to work with SH and other students, meet Virginia Duncan.
- Unicycle programme: educate students on recycling
- Community Garden: students have asked if there is scope to start a vegetable garden with produce to be distributed through WSU.
- Information requested on the university’s smoke-free policy. Smokers often crowd around doorways outside building, which is against policy. Can there be better signage on the regulation?

(e) Lakes (DH)
- Sediment management a big issue. Have considered redistribution around campus, but may not be practical.
- Heat trap to get rid of catfish
- Discussion on whether as part of lake remediation, there was scope for converting part of a lake to a wetland (riparian planting and central island) (RG)

(f) Vegetation plan for campus (DH/MT)
- MT reported that there was active management of trees on campus
- Regular evaluation of long term and short term planting.
- Special collections on campus
- There is a master plan of campus with designated areas of development.

7. NEXT MEETING

Decided to meet monthly until December to provide active support to Rachael. Next meeting to be held in September.