



TASK FORCE ON SUSTAINABILITY

Elena Fuentes-Afflick, MD, MPH, Co-Chair

Tom Newman, MD, MPH Co-Chair

DRAFT Minutes

March 17, 2008

Present: Elena Fuentes-Afflick (Co-Chair), Tom Newman (Co-Chair), Peter Bacchetti, Paul Brakeman, Nancy Byl, Gwen Essex, Christina Foushee, Paul Green, Steve Hulley, Tim McCalmont, Norm Oppenheimer, Susan Ryan, Arianne Teherani, Ellen Weber, Torsten Wittmann

Absent: Christian Apfel, Sheila Brear, Christine Cheng, Gurpreet Chopra, Mahavi Dandu, Durba Dutta, Laura Esserman, Stanton Glantz, Katherine Gundling, Merlin Larson, Karen McCune, BJ Miller, Rossana Segovia-Bain, Tracey Woodruff

Guests: None

Co-Chairs Tom Newman and Elena Fuentes-Afflick called the meeting to order at 9:08 am.

Introductions

The Task Force members introduced themselves and described their areas of interest with regard to sustainability. The topics discussed included the following:

- Global climate change
- Sustainability in health care
- Reduce resource use
- Recycle
- Reduce paper consumption
- Reduce waste production in clinical settings
- Reduce reliance on disposable materials and energy use in the perioperative area
- Reduce consumption of plastics in the laboratory setting – consideration of return to use of glassware when appropriate
- Reduce energy consumption
- Seek alternative energy sources such as solar and co-generation
- Reduce the impact of transportation
- Reduce air travel
- Increase use of web-based communication and participation in meetings

- Change culture at UCSF
- Educate researchers and clinicians about improvements in sustainable practices
- Prioritize sustainability actions according to their climate change impact
- Increase support for faculty changes to improve sustainability
- Provide educational materials online (syllabus on-demand)

Discussion of the Task Force Charge and Initial Ideas for the Work of the Task Force

Co-Chair Newman led the discussion of the Task Force charge and planning the work of the Task Force.

TASK FORCE CHARGE

The Task Force on Sustainability is charged with identifying faculty-relevant infrastructure or operational issues at UCSF that have a significant negative environmental impact. The Task Force members will work collaboratively with the appropriate administrative units to identify and implement potential solutions. The Task Force is charged with generating recommendations that will guide faculty leadership in educating students and faculty about the environmental impact of teaching, research and patient care activities, and what can be done to control the environmental impact.

An important component of the charge to the Task Force is education and incorporating more on sustainability into the curriculum. This is an area in which faculty expertise and participation is particularly important. This Task Force can be effective by sharing information with the colleagues, departments, Academic Senate leadership, the UCSF Committee on Academic Planning and Budget (APB) and the UC-systemwide University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB).

Any change in the culture at UCSF should be accompanied by support for such changes. For example, if laboratories return to autoclaving, efficient, centralized facilities should be available for the campus community.

Discussion of Creation of Sub-Committees and/or Working Groups and Initial Ideas for Leadership, Products, Timelines and Meeting Schedules

Subcommittees

The Task Force agreed upon topics for the subcommittees and volunteered to participate as follows:

Campus-wide issues (including energy efficiency, alternative energy, travel, videoconferencing, work-life, waste reduction and recycling)

Gwen Essex - *facilitator*

Peter Bacchetti

Nancy Byl

Elena Fuentes-Afflick

Paul Green

Steve Hulley

Tim McCalmont

Norm Oppenheimer
Ellen Weber

Clinical Activities

Christina Foushee - *facilitator*
Tim McCalmont
Susan Ryan
Ellen Weber

Education/Curriculum

Arianne Teherani - *facilitator*
Nancy Byl
Gwen Essex
Christina Foushee
Tom Newman

Laboratories

Torsten Wittmann - *facilitator*
Paul Brakeman
Paul Green
Norm Oppenheimer

The Task Force agreed that the subcommittees would identify the key issues for each topic and bring that information to the next meeting for consideration. The members also discussed prioritizing that information for the greatest impact and the relative ease of subsequent implementation. Opportunities for implementation include educating the campus community and influencing university policy.

Gwen Essex will create a wiki through the Library's Confluence system that the Task Force and each subcommittee can use to for group work. Documents and presentations can be uploaded to the wiki for reference and revision.

Website

The Harvard University Green Campus Initiative website is a model for the Task Force to consider for a sustainability website for UCSF (<http://www.greencampus.harvard.edu>).

Ongoing Sustainability Efforts at UCSF

UCSF has several ongoing sustainability efforts, including the UCSF Sustainability Committee (http://www.fm.ucsf.edu/ucsf_sustain_cmtte.html), the Medical Center's Green Group and the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Green Committee (<http://www.epibiostat.ucsf.edu/general/administration/green.html>). Also, the Chancellor is in the planning stages for a Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability, due to be announced soon. Task Force members want to be sure to complement the ongoing sustainability work on campus rather than duplicating efforts.

Task Force members discussed the ideas of including participation from the Medical Center and about participating in the Mission Bay Hospital planning process.

Discussion of Plans for the Next Meeting, Including Possible Guests to Invite

The Task Force requested that John Pihl, UCSF Sustainability Manager and Matthew St. Clair, UC Sustainability Manager attend the next meeting to provide more information about the UCSF and UC Systemwide sustainability efforts and specific suggestions about how the Task Force and the senate can be most helpful. Members would also like to learn more about the plans for a unified UCSF sustainability website.

Members requested that future meetings be held monthly and be scheduled for 9:00-10:30 am or 3:30-5:00 pm at the Parnassus campus.

Task Force members requested that remote connection resources such as videoconferencing and enhanced teleconferencing be considered for future meetings.

Adjournment

Co-Chairs Elena Fuentes-Afflick and Tom Newman adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.