**Environmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes**

**CEUS, 09/22/15**

**Members Present:**

Ferris Kawar

Sam Mah (mah\_sam\_jeremy@student.smc.edu) – Sustainability Commissioner for AS

Virgilio Cuasay (doncuasay@me.com) – Sustainability Commissioner for AS

Stuart Cooley

Poliana Raymer

Sasha King

Kaya Foster

Rina Gabbay (rina.gabbay@gmail.com) – student representative

Lauren Hollenstein

Garen Baghdasarian

**Members Excused:**

Tram Dang

Lesley Kawaguchi

Gina Garcia

Bruce Wyban

1. **Call To Order:**
   1. The meeting was called to order at 12:55 pm.
2. **Public Comments:**
   1. None.
3. **Approval of Minutes:**
   1. Approved.
4. **Announcements/Updates/Action Items:**
   1. Vote on EAC focus for next academic year

* Virgilio – comment on the Environmental Studies Degree at SMC. He stated that the degree needs ecology course for transfer to UC Santa Cruz. Students advocated for revision on Env Studies/Science majors.
* Garen – Stated that an ecology course may be difficult to fill since a minimum of 24 students is needed to sustain the class. Perhaps this is something the Life Sciences new hire could address? Ecology considered an upper division class. Pure ecology course would be difficult because of this.
* Stuart – An ecology class could be added to Sustainable Technologies CTE to help increase enrollment.
* Santa Cruz, UCLA, UC Berkeley are major schools Env Studies students are going.
* To revise these degrees we must work with counseling, institutional research, see what students are majoring in/interested in/where they are going. Curriculum committee, academic affairs, interdisciplinary studies (talk to Guido, Jenny, Georgia).
* Poliana – Partnering with the Public Policy Institute? Under their sustainability and the environment initiative. Take off table for EAC – this is something CEUS should address.
* Stuart advocated for Greening the Curriculum and Water Audit, in part to help move SMC to STAR system.
* Major questions regarding the water audit: What are facilities plans for the audit? Can we even add anything?
* Greening the curriculum should be institutionalized – courses should be marked with a symbol, such as leaves. Defining the difference between standard courses, sustainability-themed and sustainability-focused courses is important.
* Sasha – where will the management of these items fall?
* Virgilio inquired about the environmental audit – the brainpower required to put together the 2005-06 audit was explained. We don’t currently have enough interested faculty.
* Stuart suggested we should at least be involved in the water audit (e.g., establishing milestones, holding the college to these milestones).
* EAC members formerly regularly attended the BOT meetings.
* Sam suggested that revision of the Environmental Science/Studies degrees would push greening curriculum.

A vote was taken to establish what the primary focus of the EAC will be over the next academic year

The following members voted to make revision of Environmental Science/Studies degrees the EAC’s primary focus:

Sasha King

Poliana Raymer

Stuart Cooley

Ferris Kawar

Garen Baghdasarian

Cara Thompson

None opposed, no absentions.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm