

UNH Energy Task Force Meeting

12/10/15 9AM-10:30 AM

Dimond 352

Present

Bill Janelle, Matt O'Keefe, Adam Kohler, Tom Kelly, Cameron Wake, Steve Pesci, Dirk Timmons, Tat Fu, Sue Bennett, Clay Mitchell, Rick MacDonald, Henry Herndon, Stephen Rivard, Michaela Burke, Emily Gold, Whitman Constantineau, Jenn Andrews

Notes:

Waste Minimization & Diversification

Presentation by Michaela Burke, Emily Gold, Whitman Constantineau : Waste and Recycling at UNH and Beyond

- UNH “comes up short” compared to CSU, UMASS Lowell, Stanford UVM, UOR, UCLA, etc.
 - Maine difference is less in operations and more in minimal prioritization of outreach and communication efforts
- Research
 - AASHE STARS, College and Universities Recycling Coalition (CURC), UO *Zero Waste Tool Kit*, Sierra Club *Coollest Schools* Ranking 2012-15
- UNH should lead in sustainability!
- Sierra Club Ranking
 - UNH awarded 6th “Coolest School” in nation in 2012
 - Dropped to 14th in 2013
- AASHE STARS
 - UNH = 67.34 (Gold) (but not Platinum!)
- Waste: 5/10
 - UNH in top 30% of schools
 - Waste Diversion and Waste Minimization – room for improvement
 - Cameron Wake– “But wait, per capita, UNH wastes less tons... why are we being penalized? These numbers do not seem to add up. We are not being scored accurately for waste diversion.” Jenn: It’s largely about progress from a baseline, so that is one of the challenges.
 - ZeroWaste Stadiums! Stadiums are excessively wasteful!
 - UNH Dining does front- and back-of-the-house composting

- “Food waste must be treated before going to compost and there is no infrastructure to do that right now outside of main dining halls”
 - Electronic waste drives
- More Outreach, Marketing, Communication!
- Create position for Waste and Recycling Coordinator!
- Use us (communicatin interns) more!

Comments:

- Rick MacDonald: UNH has been very successful reducing excessive printing, saving paper, etc. Let’s tell that story. PrintSmart
- “\$40/barrel oil means recycling market in free-fall; not energy or cost effective”. –Steve Pesci
- “AASHE imperfect system – Looks at improvement, doesn’t account for starting off well” –Matt O’Keefe
- “The main takeaway is less about operations and more about perception” –Jenn Andrews
- “Sustainability is now marketing pillar, let’s capitalize” –Tom Kelly
- “1) Landfill to air pollution waste ratio for UNH is better than most. 2) Look at zero waste goal” –Cameron Wake
- “1) Zero-waste committee is being formed.
2) JA and I are working towards AASHE Platinum, despite flawed system, is still a good target” –TC
- Use our relationship with TNH to tell these stories
- It would be great to see this info written up in a Sustainability Briefing

UNH needs to toot its own horn more. UNH needs to make sure it is getting recognized by AASHE, etc., for all of the good things it is doing.

Get the word out that these sustainability services are out there to the UNH community.

Did you know? Did you know UNH recycles mattresses? Did you know that UNH recycles computers? Did you know OSU does this? – Adam Kohler

Adam Kohler on RE Purchasing:

- Granite State Hydro is willing to distribute RFP for hgydro PPA to its members for us

- GSH not sharing info with us directly about members, generating capacity, etc
- They recommend we keep RFP as open as possible
- Our goal: 1.5MW of generating capacity by teaming up with multiple generators
- GSH recommends we leave it as open as possible and see what comes
- NH's net metering cap is a bigger challenge.
 - Eversource cap is 36 MW,
 - Total online and in queue is 45MW.
 - We could move up in queue if we get agreements signed. (Or not.)
 - GSH thought it would be a powerful statement if we hit the cap and then go to the legislature... Let's cross that bridge when we get to it.
 - **I will develop an RFP by early next year and move forward.**
- Consideration: affect of dam on ecosystem; let's not choose worst dam in NH
- Let's have a site visit analysis before signing on. Do our due diligence
- There may be a "LEED" for dams in NH – certification, ranking system.
- Current draft of legislation raising net metering cap –Clay Mitchell:
 - Increase by 50%, allocate 60% of that to 100kw and below, 40% 100kw-1MW
 - Send to PUC to remove cap.
 - Short-term release, temporary period where you NEM but will be subject to new rules
- "Eversource going after Steele's Pond (from which UNH currently buys electricity) to not allow them to receive Forward Capacity Market payments" – Clay Mitchell
- After this, our full energy load not from Eversource; our generation or purchased from other renewable energy sources (hydro)
 - Solar limits us to 1MW or less per agreement
 - With solar we need 5 agreements, or aggregate 5 facilities
 - Could do this with Group NEM? Get in a group?
 - With hydro you get renewals of agreement every 2 years
 - Solar is longer term
- ETF could make recommendation to submit written testimony to legislature regarding NEM Cap
 - Clay Mitchell agreed to draft a 1-pager to circulate to ETF for comment

CW/JA on Campus Climate Change Adaptation / Vulnerability Assessment:

Purpose: think about categories and how to populate matrix

Not much has been done on this nationally in terms of an agreed-upon framework for campus vulnerability assessments; UNH can lead, lay the framework

- Categories of vulnerability:
 - Heat

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- Flood
- Snow & Ice
- Extreme Cold
- Seasonal Shifts (i.e. pests)
- Categories Effected:
 - Built Infrastructure
 - Services
 - People
- Rough framework for the plan – looking for input
- DOT liquid filling station, still run busses when powergrid goes down – SP
 - List under energy? List under other?
- Budget for it, capture financial implications, prioritize, use this matrix as a tool to identify what projects should be.
- Could be a model for other agencies, universities, etc.
- Identify gaps, prioritize
- JA and CW will begin to fill out and send out
- Doesn't include hospitality, bringing in groups to campus, we don't have enough AC space, if we had more we could bring more people in generate more revenue
 - List Co-benefits
 - **Include Hospitality**
- Column for **Special Events**? How to escape from M-F, 9-5?
- Disease goes in Seasonal shift? Public Health? Is health a column or row?
- If there is extended extreme heat event, can UNH be prepared to house communities?
- Visitors need to be considered as well. **Special events**

Changing the Carbon Management Hierarchy – Jenn Andrews

- Putting out a report looking at national campus trends on energy and emissions
- Ideal approach: 1) Avoid 2) Reduce 3) Replace 4) Offset
- Universities have mostly been replacing.
- Scope 1 Stationary and Scope 2 emissions
 - 5% decrease in U.S, campus emissions since 2010 (Not great)
- Emissions are down, but consumption is up
- Enrollment and campus size are going up. Which drives up energy use
- UNH is significantly better than average in sector on emissions, about average on energy (consumption is a challenge here, too.)
- **Campuses have influence on policy that they aren't using. They need to use it.**
- **More collaboration and centralization on data.**

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Updates from Campus Planning - Steve Pesci

1. Published annual trans benchmark report this week. Now diving into fleet miles, CNG, C20
2. We got \$250,000 grant for fuel and bus stuff
3. Just filed new app for \$4.5 million for new CNG replacement busses also looking at CNG/electric
4. 90 landfill trash cans and 40 recycling containers on campus (outdoors, non-dumpsters). Going into GIS

Updated Numbers from Waste Management – Sue Bennett

Recycling increasing. Significant up-tick in fall 2015 compared to fall 2014.

“But is it a trend?!”-Cameron Wake