Sustainable Food System Task Force
December 16, 2011

Participants:
Tom Kelly, Margaret McCabe, Barb Wauchope, Gregg Orifici, Jo Porter, Charlie French, Steve Frolking, Catherin Violette, Jim Malley, Clayton Barrows, Rick MacDonald

Key Outcomes:
Mission Statement discussion
- Updating name to Food Systems Task Force was consensus after discussion about Mission Statement
- Discussion of adding “Sustainable” to name also
- Consensus that mission statement should say making “change” versus “recommendations”
- Updating wording to address broader community, not just President Huddleston

Group Activity
- Group paired up and discussed their background and what they see for this topic and the group’s direction, reported back to group

Students
- Involving students will be important, inviting them to meetings like Energy Task Force does.

Conducting and inventory, perhaps done by a grad student, to evaluate initiatives will be beneficial.
- Discussion of finding a grad student to bring on board.

Minutes:
Tom: Background and what sustainability is, how we’re organized.
CORE
ETF 2008, EcoTF 2011, FSTS now, in future to be named Culture TF

Involvement in STARS - we are Gold,
  has food information included
  FSTS can help in gathering/using data around food systems on campus
and also for ourselves and broader community

M.M. - Inventory what’s going on now
  how do we look as a university to funders/development?
  how to communicate to these people what’s going on at UNH?
ID gaps, what we should be doing that we’re not, what’s of interest in research?
    - future funding for regional food systems - take advantage
    - Master Plan - should MP address food, or does it?

Intro - pair up and discuss what we see as a vision.

Jim - CEPS - contribution - how to do sustainable food while minimizing water footprint?
Catherine - COOP Ext. and Bio/Med - voice for food industry, real world problems, public reactions - how does that form policy - policy is afraid of science - working with older adults and obesity problems,

- food policy issues, rural poverty, interest here is having appropriate objectives and see them through.

Steve - global picture - greenhouse gases, water, ag food systems from that view, make sure there are a lot of links w/ the right people on and off campus

Tom - Identify gaps and discover what we can work on, whole is greater than sum of parts, priorities for capital campaign around food system initiatives

Rick - driver of initiatives in dining services, growing more food for dining services on campus, UNH dining could be first dining service with a farmer on payroll.
Ties back to credit bearing activities,

Dairy program - CREAM - students from all over campus get credit for 2 semester seq of running a dairy herd.
Developing a CROP program - equivalent on vegetable growing side.

Clayton - Hospitality management - researching being done now on wine, Course in food and culture - other courses that are very similar in other disciplines - why aren’t more people talking to each other? Increasing dialogue. Connecting CORE, linking what we’re doing to UNH’s Mission

Jo Porter - inst. for health pol/practice - Healthy UNH - Sweet potato - last yr’s nutrition month, had s.p. theme. Had a lot, from UNH farm. How to bring that more across the spectrum

Greg - ctr for international ed. - UMass - permaculture - dining - international and social justice issues also addressed as gaps to fill

Margaret - NH dept. of Ag. - food systems regionally -

Charlie - seafood industry, id markets. Technology grant to give fishermen tech to access market
sustainable harvest international board.

Summary

Reducing Redundancy
practical systems for students as well as communities - campus and beyond
be effective, assessment a goal
producing local food - self sufficiency
Not getting discouraged if/when $$ is involved - turf issues on campus

Mission
Reference to paralleling EcoTF and ETF - acts as distraction, if mentioned
mention it later
 Doesn’t seem like mission statement, phrased more like objectives
Name question, Food TF or Food SYSTEMS TF?
Food SYSTEM is better choice
Full range of issues that related to food
Shouldn’t limit capacity of recommendations only to UNH president, should leave
it open to be able to make them to other outside group
Should be making “change” not recommendations
Goal is sustainability - not mentioned
Not excluding different groups/disciplines etc.

Distinction of Food/Food system -

Should define what a food system is somewhere, not necessarily in mission

Should be a framework - running through all aspects, address all the questions
needed to ask as a campus/community

We as a group value the full spectrum of ________ (to be named) issues and
topics
values - putting it into a global context

Do we want “sustainable” in the name - instead of “food system”

Sustainable Food System - putting values right in the title

Extend out the thinking/talent what we bring to bear to a very wide audience

Include that this is a model for outside or community scale initiatives and groups

Master Plan/Healthy UNH - is it too focused for an outsider to read
should not be included in mission statement - could raise more questions
than answers
Think about what in this statement is of value to an outsider or funder/potential funder

Bringing Students on board to Task Force

Various groups on campus
Slow food
OGC
Amnesty
Nutrition groups

Work Plan
Subcommittees?
    inventory of what’s going on on campus an achievable goal?
    CORE changing
    consensus that subcommittees would be successful
    need to look at what various goals/objectives are to decide what
    sub c’s would be
Inventories might already exist that just haven’t been networked and linked
    working to do that
Student position to do this?
How does engagement tie to the research?

Leveraging with the inventory where we want to be

Don’t start with what you want to do, but what you want to achieve

Tom/Sara distributing food systems part of STARS program

Create a visual of what we’re doing
Organizational chart