**MINUTES**

**President’s Council on Sustainability**

Meeting of September 10, 2019

Present: Yasmeen Alhinty, Mary Andrews, Ankitha Anumolu, Richard Blair, Eric Bonds, Kevin Caffrey, Brenna Creamer, Kelly Flynn, Jillian Gellman, Alan Griffith, Shannon Hauser, Elisabeth Heras, Curtis Kasiski, Jeremy Larochelle, Mackenzie Marbain, Brian Ogle, Hunter Stephens, Jay Sullivan, Melanie Szulczewski, Chuck Whipkey

Guests: UMW President Troy Paino & Chief of Staff Jeff McClurken

Meeting began at 4:02PM.

* **Introductions**

With Dr. Paino & Dr. McClurken in attendance, Melanie and Eric gave an overview of the history/purpose of the PCS. Members of the council introduced themselves to the President and Dr. McClurken

* **President’s Charge to the PCS**

Dr. Paino expressed his desire to develop a strategic plan with clear sustainability targets, specifically with regard to reliance on fossil fuels. He would like the PCS to come up with a practical plan that considers/utilizes resources and research on campus and off campus. The PCS can come to Dr. Paino with any requests they need to achieve this. He is very interested in the developing targets that can be met; a plan is what is needed to get buy-in from the BOV. He would like then like to promote the plan and make it “high profile.”

Eric inquired about how technical the plan should be, to which Dr. Paino suggested looking at it in terms of phases. Chuck Whipkey asked about what administrators should be contacted regarding funding/resources (Answer: Paul Messplay). Melanie began a discussion on state restrictions. Dr. Paino explained that should we hear some responses that do not necessarily make sense we should come to him with them. Jay added that with a valid reason such as sustainability, the state may be amenable to making exceptions. Jeremy discussed the barriers in the past to accomplishing certain goals and confirmed the importance of institutional support. Dr. Paino indicated that Phase One of this charge may be to accumulate all the information/data as it stands now. Part of the practical plan aspect is to determine what is needed first. Some discussion of the Sustainability Fee came up, as well as sPower. When Eric brought up how aspirational the plan should be, Dr. Paino commented that it should be “realistic but ambitious.” Alan mentioned being able to submit other initiatives/plans (solar panels) to request as we work on the plan to which Dr. Paino confirmed that would fine. Dr. Paino is going to send this charge in writing to the chairs within the next week or so. The PCS should anticipate meeting with the board in the spring (Feb-April).

* **Action Goals/Attendance Policy**

With the President’s charge, it should not discourage members of the PCS from still working on action goals. Melanie went over the attendance policy/procedures if missing a meeting. Attendance is not mandatory, but contacting your respective chair is.

* **Upcoming Important Dates**
  + [Scheduled Political Debates on Campus](https://www.umw.edu/news/2019/08/28/umw-to-host-four-district-debates/)
  + [UMW Tree Festival](https://sustainability.umw.edu/blog/2019/07/25/umw-tree-festival-2019/) – Thursday October 3rd
  + [Walk and Pedal for the Planet](https://fossilfreefredericksburg.com/) – Fossil Free Fredericksburg – Sunday October 13th

Next Meeting – TBD