

**UCSF Advisory Committee on Sustainability  
9/9/2020 Meeting Minutes**

Agenda Topic	Notes	Action Item
FY20-22 Appointment Cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brian and Sheila are continuing as co-chairs</li> <li>- Subcommittees were created in response to members' desire for engagement and results-driven meetings</li> <li>- New structure for each quarterly meeting:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Informational updates will be sent in advance by email</li> <li>▪ Meetings will start with 10 min of introductions and updates</li> <li>▪ Subcommittees will meet in breakout groups for 45 min</li> <li>▪ Everyone regroups for progress updates during last 30 min</li> </ul> </li> <li>- If subgroups need to meet outside of the UACS meeting, Gail's team can help facilitate</li> </ul>	
New Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bennet Kissel, Human Health and Climate Change Student Group</li> <li>- Christopher Cadwell, School of Dentistry</li> <li>- Annemarie Charlesworth, Earth Center</li> <li>- Tim Orozco, EH&amp;S</li> <li>- Chelsea Landolin, School of Nursing</li> <li>- Alicia Murasaki, Campus Planning and Campus Architect</li> </ul>	
Sustainability Org Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total of ~100 people in the UCSF community working on various aspects of sustainability, either as part of their job description or as volunteers</li> </ul>	
Charge of the UACS Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Committee charge: Advise and approve strategies for UCSF to become a national leader in health and sustainability by 2025               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accomplished by supporting implementation of UCOP's Sustainable Practices Policies and socializing sustainability principles across the UCSF community</li> <li>▪ Behavior change is the main challenge needing member influence</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Four subcommittees               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Academics: Explore and advocate for academic strategies to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum/practice</li> <li>▪ Health: Explore and advocate for UCSF Health strategies to incorporate sustainability into health system</li> <li>▪ Building &amp; Operations: Explore and advocate for UCSF buildings and operations to incorporate sustainability into campus operations</li> <li>▪ Communications: Explore and advocate for broader communications across all of UCSF to incorporate sustainability into our community</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Subcommittee Priority Projects	<p><b>Health – facilitated by Gail Lee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Include sustainability into value analysis of contracts               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consider factors such as waste generation, energy consumption, whether it is single-use or reusable</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Cost transparency for the 5 most expensive items or top 10 purchases               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Difficult to do a cost-benefit analysis when there's a lack of cost transparency</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

Agenda Topic	Notes	Action Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prefer reusables vs. disposables when given the choice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can we prevent new waste from entering our hospitals? Reusable materials will reduce our total waste generated. We should also select purchases with alternative, less wasteful packaging.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Infection control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Infection Control is usually the main barrier in getting sustainability ideas implemented; they seem to have “veto power” if anything has a perceived risk. We need to question and improve our understanding of Infection Control policies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Buildings &amp; Operations – facilitated by Brian Newman</b>  (Criteria: cost/value, environmental impact, ease of implementation given 2 year timeline, support any pre-existing projects, existing UCOP sustainability policies)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mandate reduction and replacement of freezers with Energy Star models <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduce quantity in addition to mandating Energy Star models to reduce carbon footprint of freezers</li> <li>▪ Use stronger language regarding Energy Star purchasing policy (from “encourage” to “mandate”)</li> <li>▪ Hits criteria for cost, impact, ease of implementation, and there is already a School of Pharmacy pilot ongoing (if successful, we can roll it out and mandate it for the rest of campus)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Support LEED for Operations (need target) and Green leases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Restarting LEED for operations and setting a target for Silver, Gold, Platinum certification</li> <li>▪ Will focus on green leases moving forward</li> <li>▪ Cost, ease of implementation, already in progress</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Connect buildings to chilled water system and install heat recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Primarily focus on Mission Bay at first</li> <li>▪ High ROI and environmental impact</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Academics – facilitated by Dorie Apollonio, detailed group notes available below</b>  (Criteria: budget limitations, opportunities to leverage ongoing programs (e.g. Climate Health Center), opportunities to engage supportive leadership and generate recommendations for them to implement projects)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Climate reset <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developing materials and engaging higher-level strategy conversations about optimizing carbon-reduction as we transition out of the pandemic (e.g. telecommuting, business travel)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Multilevel communication strategy to reduce carbon</li> <li>3. Process to share environmental health and climate change patient education material in UCSF clinics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medical students have expressed interest in working on this</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Communications – facilitated by Rowena Eng, detailed group notes available below</b>  (subject to change after input from absent members)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Outreach and education to the greater SF community on UCSF’s commitment to carbon neutrality</li> </ol>	

Agenda Topic	Notes	Action Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not only focus on economic benefits, but also conduct outreach on the environmental health benefits UCSF brings to communities</li> <li>2. Incorporate climate change and carbon neutrality goals into department- and UCSF-wide communications               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Host a sustainability town hall using the Diversity and Outreach annual leadership meeting as a model. Holds chancellors and deans accountable by asking them to present their work on sustainability.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Training and mobilizing advocacy work               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Leveraging our research and other resources to influence policymakers and the public on environmental regulation</li> <li>▪ Engage the UCSF Community &amp; Government Relations and the Health Care Climate Council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Feedback & Wrap Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Starley: we should make sure that we're coordinating with existing initiatives.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gail: there is diverse representation on the committee, so any awareness of existing programs should be communicated across the group</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Sheri: there is room for cross collaboration between sub-committees (e.g. communications subgroup and Climate Health Center on environmental justice)</li> <li>- Brian appreciated the breakout room discussions and interaction. Agrees with Sheri that we should make sure we're not siloed in our subgroups and keep room for cross collaboration</li> <li>- Alicia: will need more than quarterly meetings to tackle all the projects identified               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gail: the SSC workgroups could support UACS projects. In the past, each UACS member was assigned to mentor one SSC workgroup. Let's keep in mind that the UACS' focus is on affecting change management and behavior from top-down initiatives, so this could help guide next steps</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Next Meeting	Thursday December 9, 2020, 1:00-2:30pm	

## **Sustainability Advisory Committee - Academic Subcommittee**

Meeting Notes – 9-9-20

**Attending:** Marya Zlatnik, Bennett Kissel, Chelsea Landolin, Starley Shade, Dorie Apollonio, Arianne Teherani, Sheri Weiser, Annemarie Charlesworth

**Goal:** To pick priority areas.

### **Discussion:**

- Purchase only Energy Star
  - Topic should be under building and operations, but maybe academic culture needs to move toward awareness and support of moving to Energy Star
  - Consider a communications campaign to target faculty, researchers, staff, etc. about how to reduce carbon offset
- Carbon offsets to UCSF staff travel - (possible, but maybe not donate)
- Consider leveraging current efforts going on and combining efforts
- Process to share environmental health, climate change patient education materials in UCSF clinics
  - Creating education materials
- Climate reset – climate positive changes made during COVID that we would want to continue
  - Advocating telecommuting, zoom conferences, etc.
  - Business travel reduction
  - Leverage groups like the Academic Committee on Space to join hands and move this issue forward
- UCSF is in budget crisis; good to think about what's feasible financially
- Discussion to have, possibly through this committee - What is the best way to engage University in Carbon offsets?
- Think about ways of maintaining positive carbon offsets/outcomes from COVID in the next year.
  - What are reasonable asks to maintain the positive outcomes?
- Communications strategy to reduce and calculate carbon offsets
  - Labs
  - Telecommuting
  - Telehealth

### **Priority Projects:**

- Climate reset – Develop materials and engaging in higher level strategy conversations about optimizing carbon reduction as we transition out of pandemic (i.e., business travel and telecommuting)
- Communications strategy to reduce carbon
- Process to share environmental health, climate change patient education materials in UCSF clinics

### **Considerations:**

- Awareness of budget limitations;
- Leverage the Climate Health Center and other ongoing efforts to accomplish these priorities; and
- Leadership is very committed to climate and health...could generate some recommendations to get support from leadership to implement projects.

## UACS Communications Subcommittee - 9/9/2020

**Attendees:** Sapna Thottathil, Wylie Liu

**Not present:** Lisa Cisneros, Theresa O'Brien

**Moderator:** Rowena Eng

### **Prioritization Criteria:**

- Feasible within 2 years
- High impact

### **Priority Projects:**

1. Outreach and education to the greater SF community on UCSF's commitment to carbon neutrality
2. Incorporate climate change and carbon neutrality goals into department- and UCSF-wide communications
3. Training and mobilizing advocacy

### **Project discussion:**

#### **1. Incorporate climate change/Carbon Neutrality Goal in all communications**

- Relate UCSF-wide communications to our carbon neutrality goal and climate crisis whenever there is an opportunity
- Wylie suggests modeling after VC of Diversity and Outreach, Renee Navarro's annual leadership meeting, which is used to track progress on diversity and outreach from all the deans and chancellor-level staff. Can we do something similar and hold an annual leadership meeting/town hall to ask what each of them have done/are doing for carbon neutrality? This holds them more accountable because they each have to present on their progress.

#### **2. Outreach to community of UCSF's commitment to Carbon Neutrality**

- What are we doing around that? Can we share more to the public community? How to get the word out better?
- Wylie: we can do a better job communicating externally about our climate work. Not many people are aware of our work and our UC goals.
- During the State of the University Address, Chancellor Hawgood touched on the topic, but there could be more robust communications about climate change.
- We need more department and division meetings about the climate
- On the med center side, climate change has not been front and center of communications either
- Wylie is committed to bring environmental piece more front and center
- Anchor institute currently focuses on economic resources for local communities. For example, creating jobs to help people purchase food. Can we purchase services through Procurement to benefit small business and help create greener jobs?

#### **3. Share successes of Climate Health Center, EaRTH Center, Human Health and Climate Change Student Group, other projects**

- This work is more "after-the-fact" since it's highlighting accomplishments related to climate neutrality
- For example, promote more broadly the HHCC Student Group's [Planetary Health Report Card](#). Students created a scorecard and conducted outreach to other med schools for participation. They scored and benchmarked 12 medical schools (including UCSF) on their level of engagement in addressing the climate crisis.
- The Climate Health Center is being developed by Sheri and Arianne, and focuses on 4 pillars: research, education, health system sustainability, and advocacy

- Earth Center (Annemarie) focuses on environmental justice, environmental health research, reproductive health, common chemicals that should be phased out (plasticizers and endocrine disruptors). They will focus on educating and outreach, especially training practitioners to educate their patients on these chemicals
  - Both Centers are still under development, but the communications can begin sharing their work and progress
4. [Training in Environmental Policy Advocacy During Challenging Times](#)
- training people how to advocate for policy
5. [Mobilize Strategies for Environmental Policy Influence](#)
- Using our robust environmental research and initiatives at UCSF to influence policies
  - Internal and external strategies: Educating the public to put pressure on policy makers, and also forming direct partnerships with policy makers to see our research get translated into legislative decisions
  - #4 and #5 can be combined into one project because they are both related to advocacy
  - Wylie suggests reaching out to Francesca De Vega from Community & Government Relations, who can provide training on advocacy on the local and state government levels.
  - Sapna brought up Health Care Without Harm – they might have opportunities to engage with Healthcare Climate Council
6. [Beyond Doom and Gloom: Climate Solutions](#)
- Templates for reaching out to policymakers about pushing for clean energy solutions
  - not about a political campaign.
  - It is about civic engagement opportunities for anyone regardless of where they are on the political spectrum. It is also not a requirement, but a sharing of information about what is going on in the community and how people can weigh in and use their climate knowledge to help shape the future, if they choose to do so, by practicing civic engagement skills, a high impact practice in teaching and learning.
  - UCSF is not member of AASHE but we can model after their resources
7. [Beyond Doom and Gloom: Engage Students in Climate Solutions](#)
- Become a “Sustainability Policy Partner”: connect with orgs advocating for energy and climate policies, have them send you policy alerts or opportunities for involvement (by receiving policy updates from local and national organizations, and sending a monthly update to interested campus members)
  - Help faculty connect to these policy issues/opportunities whenever possible
  - Set up ongoing communications. Have someone who is monitoring policy updates/alerts and share with your audience on a consistent basis

## UACS Health Subcommittee - 9/9/2020

**Attendees: Seema Gandhi, Dan Henroid, Gail Lee**

**Not present: Sheila Antrum**

### **Priority Projects:**

1. Integrating sustainability into procurement (all)
  2. Cost transparency (all)
  3. Prefer reusables when given the choice (Gail, Seema)
  4. Increase waste diversion (Dan)
- Gail – the lockers and batteries at MB hospital are a good example of how using sustainability criteria would be helpful in purchasing decisions
    - a. When MB hospital opened, they decided to use electronic locks that required a battery for every locker. They felt it was not efficient to replace each battery as they run out. Instead they would replace the batteries in batches, even if they were not empty. Lots of batteries were tossed even though charge left.
    - b. Dan – it was also because facilities didn't want to maintain the lockers
  - Seema – most of the purchasing decisions are made at the Supply Chain level. Sustainability is not currently involved in the purchasing process. If we don't offer green alternatives, departments will not be aware of them. We should identify the top 5 most common items and offer green options. They will begin to think about cost transparency if it's in their face
  - There is no incentive to be more cost-effective
    - a. Incentives can be used to go back to the department for educational and development programs. Physicians don't care about getting incentives for themselves, but they might be interested if incentives went towards the department
  - Seema and Kaiyi are using Apex to look at pricing, but it is available for only limited items
  - The medical center is lacking adequate charge capture. Not all costs are accounted for, yet departments are nickel and diming other things. People also assume many things are covered by Facilities or overhead costs
  - The general philosophy at UCSFH is that we should provide the best patient care regardless of the cost. Departments also say they don't want cost to drive their decisions in providing quality health care
    - a. Committee agrees that cost shouldn't drive healthcare, but cost should be used to eliminate waste
  - Seema will gather and present data on missing charge capture and let the medical center decide if/how they want to address this
  - Unclear who is responsible for ensuring charge capture: department, materials service, procurement?
  - Not just about the most expensive items but also the highest volume. For example, gloves might not be captured because each glove's cost is considered negligible. But if people are tossing gloves and using new ones every minute throughout the day, it can add up to a lot of uncaptured cost.
  - Group can ask Sheila to shine a spotlight on cost transparency and get more collaboration from Infection Control
    - a. Infection Control has a lot of competing priorities right now due to COVID