



Staff Council Standing Committee

Committee Name: Sustainability [Staff Committee](#)

Meeting Date and Place: [Thursday October 6, 2022 10am](#)

AGENDA

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

[Previous minutes from 9/8/2022](#)

- 1) Choosing a chair: Sharina Desai & Carla Sakiestewa (co-chair)
- 2) Members will vote on a time slot for 1x/mo standing meeting time. (1st Thursday of each month @ 10am)
- 3) Members compiling a spreadsheet of contact people, departments, entities affiliated with UNM with an interest in sustainability with the intention of being a central hub of info for all things sustainability

[Goals](#)

- 4) Will try to get a Microsoft Sharepoint website established to better communicate. (Followed up with Amy Hawkins)
- 5) Will try to reach out to people/departments to invite to meetings/Information gathering

[Support for EC](#)

- 6) Help with information gathering for people, departments, committees that have an interest in sustainability

Indigenous Peoples' Land and Territory Acknowledgement Reading

Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.

[Welcome](#)

New Business

[Thank you John Shaski for all these great suggestions.](#)
[Potential Speakers to SSC or SWC Business Meetings:](#)

[Facilities Management, upgraded recycling rules:](#)
<https://fm.unm.edu/services/how-lobos-recycle.html>

Can we help get signs placed and distributed?

We must ask all staff councilors to spread the word to all constituents to bring attention to this and please print and post updated signs locally.

Can we add film category? (ex. bubble wrap and shrink wrap)

If we collect "film" locally we can contact John Shaski for pick up.

Going deeper to ask Facilities Managers on the status of replacing older lights with LED Bulbs

Single use plastics: Letting staff know that single-use plastics (utensils, clam-shells, beverage cups) should NEVER be added to a recycling bin is of much greater priority from a processing/operational perspective. These items make up a very small percentage of the waste stream by weight. Their greater negative impact is that they 'contaminate' the valuable recyclables, increasing the processing cost and commonly causing good material to be landfilled.

Composting success: UNM Food recycled 116 tons of food waste (SUB & La Posada) in 2019. Only 11 tons in 2020. Numbers for 2021 are not yet live.

A success story that is not widely known. There are similar stories (like energy saving programs).

Perhaps our committee should make regular notifications/presentations to the full council regarding these stories.

Educating students: Megan Chibanga (director, RL&SH) has invited John Shaski to include recycling information in the internal RL&SH newsletter.

Rafael Romero-Salas (Student Activities) has asked me to meet privately and brainstorm initiatives that might encourage student participation in recycling.

It's important that our committee notify the council of this activity and...solicit input/action from individual councilors that may have influence amongst these and other student focused groups.

A coordinated effort with a consistent message is bound to improve effectiveness.

Candidate guest speakers (John and Mary have a prelim list)

Let's survey our committee, create a ranked list of topics (composting on campus, solar power on campus, etc.) and schedule qualified guests to speak?

Mary Clark and I have already generated a preliminary list of speaking candidates.

1. Alan Billau (Facilities Arborist)
2. Scheduled for December meeting: Kolt Vaughn & Tommy Evans (Environmental Health and Safety – water projects and management)
3. Kelsey Rader (City of ABQ, Sustainability)

Announcements

[We have a list serve!](#)
SCEnviroSustain-L@list.unm.edu

Adjournment

Next meeting Thursday Nov 3, 2022 at 10am.
Open to suggestions for invited speaker.

Scheduled for December meeting:
Kolt Vaughn & Tommy Evans (Environmental Health and Safety
– water projects and management) to discuss EHS's scope of
work, mainly highlighting water projects

David Thomas: Water Systems Supervisor
UNM – Utility Services Department
505-277-1146
505-681-1121

To discuss the process for collecting samples under the SDWA