

Meeting Notes – President’s Sustainability Advisory Council

Date: 2/20/2025 8:30-9:30 A.M.

Attendees: Joyce Lopes; Jack Herring, Laural Ballew, Kira Davis, Grace Wang, Matt Bryant, Stephanie Ashton, Traci Brewer-Rogstad, Emma Fredlund, Paul Wilson-Scott, Leonard Jones, Shelby Zimmerman, Jeff Aslan, Lindsay MacDonald, Sam Schmitt, Melinda Assink (administrative support)

Document Editing:

We continue to work on updating the plan and focusing on the next 5 years of priorities as requested by President Randhawa. We don’t want to lose sight of the updates already incorporated in the edited plan found here:

 [SAP PSC Priorities and Update - 6.3.24 CLEAN.docx](#).

Recognizing in light of various transitions occurring within the university and in the wider world, it would be useful to review the objectives and ensure they are achievable in the next five years.

The remaining sections should be reviewed and moved into a similar format by the start of the spring quarter. Feel free to update and adjust objectives to align with achievable outcomes for the next five years. It may make sense to combine some of these sections. Please feel free to reach out to others across the university and involve appropriate subject matter experts as appropriate. The goal is to have drafts ready in April for Sabah to review and then share with the university.

Dining at Western – Paul Wilson-Scott, Sam Schmidt, Gabrielle Brower, Leonard Jones

Faculty, Staff, and Student Commuting – Shelby Zimmerman, Andrea Reiter

Fleet Electrification – Shelby Zimmerman, Andrea Reiter

Solid Waste – Jeff Aslan

Green Building & Embodied Carbon – Traci Brewer-Rogstad

Green Procurement – Joyce Lopes, Lindsey MacDonald

Paid Business Travel – Nicole Brown, Kate Cabe

Water Conservation & Stormwater Management – Traci Brewer-Rogstad

Sustainable Investments/Investments – Stephanie Ashton, Gage Loots

Curriculum and Research – Grace Wang, Teena Gabrielson, Matt Miller

Student Life – Emma Fredlund, Matt Bryant

Wellness – Jim Sterk, Kira Davis

Climate Resilience – Jack Herring, Joyce Lopes, Matt Bryant

Equity & Social Justice—We agreed that this should be a thread throughout the document rather than a stand-alone item.

Question: Is this a revision or a supplement? It's not clear from the last meeting. Joyce shared that Sabah wants a five-year update, but the documents can link together. Sabah feels that the 2017 document is relevant; this is the next five-year plan as an update, honoring the spirit of the first plan but more streamlined and actionable. Matt Bryant offered to draft a statement.

Question: Timeline and next steps. The main document will need to contain a series of one—to five-page documents. Before it goes to Sabah, an editorial group will ensure a cohesive format. Council members will have the same opportunities to review the entire document and provide feedback and questions.

Action Items:

- **Council:** At some point, the full committee will review it, pass it to Sabah, and review it after his feedback. We will consider all perspectives. If there is a dissenting voice, we will take it to Sabah for his full perspective.
- **Subgroup—Editorial Group:** Edit the full document and create an appendix. As the plan is public-facing, the vision and appendix become more of an action plan.
- **Goal:** Drafts completed by the end of March. Place in Teams folder so all can review and edit together. We recognize that many sections are dependent on funding. We must align our resources to our goals and priorities. We need to be thoughtful about how we use our resources wisely. Look for grants and other opportunities to expand our limited resources. It starts with figuring out what we need to invest in and repurposing. Recommend a conversation at the cabinet that includes members of the council to discuss the costs of inactions and the moral imperative.
- **April meeting:** Be prepared to discuss community engagement. Jack would like feedback on a couple of areas. Climate change – will be larger with the current national environment. It will damage some of the progress. We need climate resilience. Other sections should talk about how we will be resilient. We will need to be teaching students to be resilient in other ways. Discuss a section on developing a resiliency plan. Agree to develop a more robust plan. Make sure we are building that out. Consider adding Monica Jackson, Director of Emergency Preparedness, to the Council.

Closing Remarks:

- **Acknowledgements:**
Joyce Lopes thanked everyone for their contributions and participation.
- **Meeting Adjournment:**
The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Notes taken by Melinda Assink.