

## Chancellor's Sustainability Summit

April 22, 2004

3:30 – 5 pm

150 University Hall

### Agenda

- I. Introductions and Overview of the Summit
- II. Opening remarks by Chancellor Berdahl
- III. Overview of Sustainability at Cal
- IV. Overview of Efforts at Other UC campuses
- V. Overview of Student-led efforts at UC Berkeley
- VI. Overview of the Environmental Assessment
- VII. Chancellor's Campus Sustainability Awards presentation
- VIII. Special Award Presentation
- IX. Closing Remarks
- X. Reception

### Minutes

Prepared by Tami Lau

#### I. Introduction and Overview of the Summit

The summit began at 3:45 PM. Tim Duane, associate professor of Landscape Architecture, Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Sustainability (CACS) member, and chair of the summit thanked the chancellor for his support and his presence at the summit. He gave an overview of the summit and urged everybody to ask questions afterward and to think about general involvement in sustainability efforts, for example, through students, institutionally, and through CACS (which has open subcommittees). He then defined "summit," which means "the highest point," and explained the two main purposes of the summit: to survey the landscape and get a vantage point on sustainability, and to chart the paths ahead and define where we want to go next.

#### II. Opening Remarks by Chancellor Robert Berdahl

Chancellor Berdahl opened with a comment about the design of the table and of his seat, which greatly resembled a child's high chair. He thanked the members of CACS, especially Lisa Bauer and Ryan Buckley for their commitment and leadership. He then traced his personal history with the issue of sustainability, starting back when he worked at the University of Texas at Austin and was introduced to the idea of "green" building design. He applied this to the building of the new student services building at Austin. He said that this was more difficult at an older campus like UC Berkeley, where the buildings were built under a different environment with different needs. But it is possible to design grand buildings that are beautiful, useful and efficient. It is also important to improve existing buildings.

Chancellor Berdahl then mentioned the policy that the regents adopted last summer requiring LEED equivalent standards in building. He explained the need for an across the board approach to sustainability across campus and his hope that this consciousness will catch on, both on campus and in the community. He emphasized the importance of raising consciousness and of research on sustainable environments, which have multiple payoffs of various kinds down the road. He then welcomed everyone to the summit.

### III Overview of Sustainability at Cal

Lisa Bauer, manager of Campus Recycling and Refuse Services and co-chair of CACS, gave a general overview of sustainability efforts at UC Berkeley. She explained that this was the fourth such gathering on campus, but the first to be called under the banner of sustainability. The three previous summits had wonderful impacts on the campus. The first one created Re-USE (the campus materials exchange), established the Student Recycling Education Coordinator (SREC) program (which instills recycling values in students, especially new students), approved reusable mugs for campus distribution, gave the thumbs up for more recycling containers on campus and placed an emphasis on purchasing recycled content material. The second summit was a recap of the successes of the year and brought up initial discussions of “sustainability.” The third summit started establishing programs that solidified sustainability as an issue on campus, such as CACS, which provides a venue for voicing concerns and gives a level playing field for students, faculty and staff.

Ms. Bauer listed some current manifestations of sustainability, which include: UC Go Solar, the Regents’ green building and clean energy policy, CACS, the SREC/RREC program and it’s move toward sustainability, solar panels on the Martin Luther King, Jr. building, the possibility of solar panels being the Class of 2004’s senior class gift, classes focusing on sustainability issues, coordination with the city of Berkeley, the Green Schools program just starting up at Cal, and many others that add to the groundswell of sustainability on campus.

Judy Chess from Facilities Services then explained her division’s efforts at implementing the regents’ policy, which includes assessing their own practices and integrating sustainability in review of new projects.

### IV. Overview of Efforts at Other UC campuses

Matthew St. Clair, sustainability specialist at UC Office of the President, talked about efforts on other campuses. He started by mentioning UC Berkeley’s role as a model for other campuses, especially in regard to the green energy policy passed last summer. Leadership in this area has brought funding to the university in the form of the Green Campus program. Another program that has inspired other campuses is CACS – several campuses have formed an equivalent, and the others are in the process of starting their own, using UC Berkeley’s as the model.

UC Davis integrated students into green building policy by having them sit on building committees. Students there also organize many events. UC Santa Cruz has many active students and staff, and the campus has an annual Earth Summit. UC Santa Barbara was the first to create a sustainability committee. They also have a sustainability office with a fully funded coordinator. In addition, UC

Santa Barbara and UC Merced adopted policies requiring building to, at the minimum, qualify for LEED-silver, not just LEED-qualified. In all of these efforts, students were a key component.

#### V. Overview of Student-led efforts at UC Berkeley

Hillary Lehr, student and CACS member, talked about current student efforts. She mentioned that sustainability has become a more interdisciplinary issue and has integrated students, faculty, staff and administration. Current student-run efforts include Berkeley Worms (a student-led composting cooperative), ECo, Re-USE, RRECs, the sustainability director position in the ASUC, and the California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC), which sees the UC schools as a great base for change. CSSC works to bring student groups together to make them more effective and to give students a voice. Their current goals are to spread to the Cal States and to wage a transportation campaign called Move UC. Several of the CSSC students run the Education for Sustainable Living class, which brings prominent environmental speakers to campus to give guest lectures and encourages students to make positive changes in their environment through different projects, such as bringing organic food to the dining commons, encouraging the use of recycled material in publications, recycling in fraternities and sororities, and creating a database of eco-friendly office supplies. She emphasized that one of the key components of success is the integration of ideology with everyday action. She closed by saying that sustainability is here, and it's here to stay because students want it.

#### VI. Overview of the Environmental Assessment

Garrett Fitzgerald, CACS member and assessment subcommittee chair, gave an overview of the campus environmental assessment, which is a major project for CACS for the coming year. He emphasized the importance of moving toward sustainability in the university setting, and involving all stakeholders in the university community. The assessment is a way of understanding our performance in terms of sustainability. Through this, we can identify barriers and opportunities for improvement, in addition to developing a dialogue around campus sustainability issues.

Sasha Gennet then presented the progress made so far, which consists of the creation of a subcommittee, a review of other examples and selection of approach (which resulted in the choosing of a method similar to the one used at Penn State University, which used a series of indicators for various campus systems), the selection of systems (energy, water, food, waste disposal and recycling, material resource procurement and usage, land and waterways, transportation, built environment, community, education, and governance) and the selection of indicators.

There are several classes helping with the assessment already. Britney Gallivan, an undergraduate student from EPS 84 gave a presentation on the Dwinelle water audit, a building that is indicative of the campus because of its multiple uses and heavy traffic. Through the use of Water Misers, water flow bags and other measurement devices, students measured water efficiency and leakage of faucet and toilets throughout Dwinelle. The results will be presented next week to the Dwinelle building committee. Jubilee Daniels, a graduate student in Environmental Design, then gave a quick overview of her work on a water plan for the campus and Jane Lin's graduate level work on green building policy implementation on campus.

Karl Hans from Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) talked about EH&S efforts in sustainability. He explained the history of EPA inspection of universities, which started with a leak at Boston College that led to a whole cascade of events ending with the inspections and penalties. He explained the concept of an environmental management system (EMS), which aims to reduce pollution, reduce costs, eliminate wasteful processes, and improve health and safety. UC Berkeley currently does not have an EMS, but has certain elements of one and is participating in two processes that will move it in the right direction: the EPA C/U sector strategies program EMS work group and the UC system-wide ISEM/EMS development process. The next step for UC Berkeley is the campus assessment; EH&S and other campus departments already have many years of data with which to start.

Mr. Fitzgerald continued by explaining proposed next steps. These include outreach support (a letter from the Chancellor in support of the assessment), coordination/implementation support (tuition waiver for a graduate student who will work on the project) and outside expert advice. He then outlined the timeline for the assessment. By Summer 2004, indicators will be finalized, research for one-third of these will be completed along with statements of intent and targets, and delivery formats for results will be drafted. By Fall 2004, indicator research will be completed. The report will be written by the end of the year. In Spring 2005, vetting of the report with faculty, staff and administration will take place, creating dialogue between different people on campus. The final product will be edited, revised and presented at the next Sustainability Summit.

Immediate next steps include finalizing the initial list of indicators and completing and integrating Spring 2004 research into the new larger assessment matrix.

Chancellor Berdahl then promised funds for the assessment. He requested a detailed schedule, in addition to a long-term schedule that encompasses more than just one year.

#### VIII. Special Award Presentation

Chancellor Berdahl was presented with a special award from CACS because, in the words of Ryan Buckley, he is "very special." During his tenure, he has helped the university catch up in terms of sustainability and has allowed students to be successful. He was presented with a plate made of 94% recycled glass in recognition of his support. Chancellor Berdahl took this opportunity to acknowledge his wife, who helped raise his consciousness on this issue.

#### VII. Chancellor's Campus Sustainability Awards Presentation

Chancellor Berdahl personally presented awards to six people/departments who have done good green things that benefit the long term sustainability of this campus. The recipients were:

The ASUC for incorporating a Director of Sustainability into its Executive Office, for putting up a solar panel array on MLK, and for producing all publications on 30% post-consumer recycled paper. Kris Cuaresma-Primm and Tom Cordi accepted the award on behalf of the ASUC.

Delicia Nahman and Hillary Lehr for the innovative Education for Sustainable Living class, a unique student run class that was offered on 5 UC campuses. Course work involved choosing an on campus project which would bring about a more sustainable university.

Kay Ingle of Mail Services for the investigation, research and implementation of an Ecological Mail website, which reduces the amount of mail by listing names of people no longer employed by the university. This program will save the university 100 lbs of solid waste, 1 tree and \$18 for every person listed.

Parking and Transportation for its programs that reduce traffic and parking demand. 49% of campus employees and 89% of students commute by some form other than a single occupancy vehicle.

Re-USE Campus Materials Exchange for diverting over thirty tons from the university waste stream and saving the campus community tens of thousands of dollars in potential costs. David Siddiqui accepted the award on behalf of Re-USE.

Ryan Buckley for his instrumental role in sustainability issues on campus, including CACS, the SREC program, Earth Day events, the Sustainability Summit and other environmental activities on campus.

#### IX. Closing Remarks

Chancellor Berdahl said that the summit was terrific, but should not be called a summit because this is not the highest point. We are on a meadow on a slope that we are climbing, and we will reach the summit one day, making the campus more efficient and a good place to be.

Mr. Duane then said that the summit was a success because it achieved its goals of providing a vantage point and of plotting a course through the assessment and adopted policy. The challenge of the coming year is to translate commitments and intentions into action, one path of which is the Long Range Development Plan, which links the campus to the community. He stated the three E's to a sustainable environment: equity and economic efficiency. But there are also three I's: implementation, initiation and imagination. He expressed his hope that the coming year will bring progress and implementation, leading to initiation and imagination.

Harrison Fraker, Dean of the College of Environmental Design, then shared his experience with sustainability. He said that the biggest lesson is that it is necessary to have social capital to initiate change. There needs to be both social commitment and institutional support. Students are critical in the process in keeping pressure on the administration, faculty and staff. He referred to the assessment of Merced in pointing out that the biggest challenge is the whole system view because everything is so compartmentalized. He suggested that there be some measure every year for assessment and whole system evaluation.

#### X. Reception

The summit ended at 5:10 PM and was followed by a reception.