NKU Fuse Meeting Minutes (09-26-17)

- There was a consensus that campus wide engagement is needed for successful sustainability and for NKU to forge its environmental identity
- Yearly progress reports
  - FUSE meetings will contribute to annual sustainability report
- Keep meetings open and not so structured
  - Don’t “pigeon hole” into one idea with each meeting but still focus on one or two ideas per meeting
- Strategic Depaving Project in Newport
  - The Ecologic Stewardship Institute was awarded with a $40k grant to support undergraduate research with students, faculty, and community members in order to co-design and co-produce small-scale greening interventions in Newport
    - What volunteer opportunities could we create for students in helping implement these projects?
    - Contact Tiffany Mayse, Director of Student Engagement
- To further sustainability on the side of energy management, NKU has entered into a performance contract ($4M) with external partners, headed by CMTA Consulting Engineers
  - LED lighting (interior and exterior)
- MEP Recycling program
  - With the new pilot program and the fact that the custodians are not entering into each individual office like before, some faculty have brought up the loss of rapport between Facilities Management and faculty
  - However, others reserve the thought that their personal office is their personal space and they prefer that others do not enter
  - Still a bit of confusion as to the usage of recycling bins vs. waste bins
    - Dr. Yates brought up that it may be that the color green is associated with recycling and not blue
    - Bill Moulton brought up the economics of the bags used in servicing, and that with the removal of these bags there is economic benefit
- It would benefit the meeting to have an open discussion time, perhaps with a slide that leads the group into an open discussion

Suggestions for moving forward with sustainability:

- Design and incorporate student and staff sessions for awareness in what can and cannot be recycled
- There should be signs for recycling in dorm areas that lead campus residents to recycling stations, just like how students are lead with signage to dumpsters
- Currently, there is a resident assistant (RA) that is working on teaching residents about recycling in Callahan Hall (Kimberly Sparks)
  - Perhaps we can involve her expertise when it comes to incorporating the Eco Facilitators program
- Dimming of lights in Kentucky Hall (perhaps by installing a motion sensor?)
- There is a need for more visible recycling in dorm areas
- There already exists an educational video of recycling dos and donts from an earlier project
  - Contact Abdulrazaq Alreshaidan for more information and to have the video shared (video is posted on Youtube)
- Similarly, there are resources that exist to educate about food waste (also contact Abdul)
- Continued collaboration with Green Umbrella’s Food Waste Action Team
  - There are currently no food waste/compost haulers in the Greater Cincinnati region
- Collaboration with ECOS and Chartwells
  - Program with taking food waste to churches, shelters, etc.
    - We need to find a way to continue and increase student interest throughout the year
- Education for recycling at orientations
  - UK has signage and a well-formed orientation program to foster sustainable choices within first year students and programs
- Recognition for students using alternative transportation to get to/from campus
  - Recognize the students that are riding the shuttle; incentivize bus usage
  - Ride your bike to school, get an apple
  - How to incentivize bike riding?
    - Bike Repair Clinic, similar to UC’s Bike Kitchen
    - Work collaboratively with Safety/Emergency Management to hold a day where part of campus roads are closed off for biking and walking
    - Incentivize bike share usage and using personal bikes by collaborating with Chartwells and perhaps other campus or community businesses
- Discussion board or other way of keeping in contact/networking with those who attended the meeting
- Dorm waste competition
  - This could also be a part of the Eco-Facilitators program if it comes to fruition

Attendees:
Abdulrazaq Alresaidan       John Metz
Danielle Augustine      William Moulton
Ronald Brown               Tess Phinney
Tiffany Budd                Meredith Read
Rhonda Davis                David Renaker
Brenda Hartle              Kimberly Yates
Rebecca Lanter