

Quarterly Liaison Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2009

Hiebert Lounge

PowerPoint presentation available in .PDF form on Sustainability Committee website:

www.bumc.bu.edu/sustainability

Meeting Notes by Category:

Pilot Recycling Program:

- Cardboard recycling (corrugated, not paperboard)
 - Cardboard bailer installed recently; getting up and running
 - Training of Facilities staff ongoing
- Recycling
 - Signs put directly on bins about what is/is not acceptable to recycle don't work, because bins don't come back.
 - Role of Facilities; buy-in to recycling program; training is done on a regular basis every 6 weeks; perception of extra burden
 - Can there be an online form for recycling tote empty request?
 - New Resource Request: sticker/poster for totes for liaison or custodial staff to mark off date when bin is picked up/brought back.
- Recycling bin accessibility
 - Public space resources for recycling other materials?
 - UPDATE: BUMC may be constructing a "recycling center" in the basement of L building.
 - Outside spaces: courtyard, near lunch areas
 - Lounge areas and meeting spaces need bins
- Social Marketing Materials
 - Multi-language, multicultural messages
 - Use visuals and comparisons to help people visualize, internalize value of recycling: how long would it take to accumulate used paper cups from GSU to reach from the ground to the top of the LAW building?

Transportation:

- Commuting Log and Carpooling Web System
 - Low cost parking for occasional drivers a possibility?
 - Oversubscribed parking facilities make such a program difficult
- Telecommuting
 - Difficult to implement; but can save money and fuel.
 - Has IT been consulted about telecommuting; feedback about feasibility?
 - Policies have been to encourage presence in person at the work site

Food Services:

- Dining: recyclable materials for plates, cups?
 - Resource: Kelly Dunn CRC Dining Services (tray-less dining)
 - Chequers is a private business and does not have the opportunity to use the economies of scale that BMC and BU's main campus do, but BMC is also negotiating with Chequers.
 - Hospital cafeteria is completely on recyclable materials program
- Student Coffee Mugs
 - Can we get new coffee mugs like the BMC green team that are specifically for students?
 - Joint student groups approved mug for Outtakes, "STUDENTS GOING GREEN" for SDM, MED, SPH

Communication

- How do departmental liaisons want to get information, communicate with Sustainability Committee
 - Emails from Bill Gasper's Office
 - Online, web site bumc.bu.edu/sustainability
 - Put up current list of liaison on website
 - Newsletter option

Reduction:

- Reducing vendor waste
 - Get off catalogue mailing lists
 - Don't rely on Purchasing to maintain mailing lists; contact vendor yourself to remove names from lists



- Renovations: materials
 - Materials' endurance as an aspect of "green-ness"
 - Look good, "green" materials that don't last aren't really "green"
- Reusing office supplies/materials
 - Sustainability Committee forum might be a place to start a communication system here
- Sub committee to focus on distributing extra items such as furniture, office supplies, equipment
 - SPH has lots of furniture: spzdweyer@bu.edu