SSN General Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2015
12:00-12:50pm
SERF 232
Attendees: 20
Submitted by Brian Pierini (Membership Chair)

News & Announcements (10 mins)

- SSN Gift Fund Sponsor
  - Jen Bowser informed SSN that Sara McKinstry’s Campus Sustainability Office (with Gary Matthews’ support) will be the departmental sponsor for the SSN’s Regents gift fund, so we will be preparing to solicit donors for tax-deductible donations.

- Vol50 and SSN EB Meeting
  - Yvonne Brown discussed Vol50, a campus sponsored program that does service projects individuals can sign up to volunteer/participate in. Kim Newin came to our last Executive Board meeting to share information on Vol50. They also encourage groups to use Vol50 as a platform to showcase their events and log hours to add even additional hours to show how UC is giving back to the community.
  - The SSN hopes to tap into Vol50’s two funding mechanisms: one for project funds, the other for T-shirts and items for event volunteers.
  - Blink search Vol50 for more info.

- Collaboration event with Black Staff Association
  - The Co-Chair of the Black Staff Association met with Sasha Doppelt and Mark Ortiz to discuss co-sponsoring an informational event on water conservation and household rebate programs in which a speaker from the SD water department would speak to the campus, perhaps in one of the large Price Center rooms. Valerie Fanning would like to assist with planning and Hugh Hagues mentioned that it could be done in conjunction with the Sustainable Food Expo (October 27th). Chris Johnson could provide xeriscaping plants.

- SSN Staff Picnic Table Fundraising and Email signups
  - The SSN table, the donation-for-a-plant, and Solar Roller solar powered popcorn were a big success. We collected 126 new emails, so now our general email list is up to 270 contacts, surpassing our original goal for this year. The plant donation table collected $182 in donations.

Guest Speaker: Kimberly Nguyen from Engineers for a Sustainable World (ESW) (15 mins)

- ESW is a worldwide non-profit organization. UCSD’s chapter started in Spring 2010. Members gain hands-on experience and this bolsters their professional development. Currently UCSD has 60 active members that engage in a variety of activities including beach cleanups, water monitoring, the GAIA Festival, Sustainable Student Outreach Day, Solar Roller (portable solar energy mini-power plant).
- Projects have included assisting Chula Vista’s Solution Farms with aquaponics setup, as well as Bottles to Models (converting used plastic bottles to the “toner”
material needed for 3D printing). Currently there are 10 projects, and UCSD’s ESW has received over $50K in funding from The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF). ESW received $10K to design a “Solar Chill” facility that will be installed this Fall. This space will be a place for students to rest and recharge their electronic devices.

- ESW is looking forward to collaboration on future events with SSN, and is hoping some of us will attend their Fall Sustainability Mixer, an ESW project showcase and networking event.
- More info at esw.ucsd.edu. Email: esw.ucsd@gmail.com.

SSN Events (5 mins)

- Yvonne thanked everyone who volunteered at the Picnic Day. Next year SSN will work to set up a composting option.
- Tour of the new and improved Rogers Garden will be on 9/16/15, lunchtime, with no limit on the number of attendees.

SSN Goals and Events for FY ’15-’16 (20 mins)

- General discussion on what the SSN membership would like to achieve this year, with achievements spearheaded by Task Groups focused on particular task, as opposed to the Working Group model, in order to accomplish goals for the year. Ideas mentioned include:
  - Aforementioned water conservation presentation from SD water department. (Valerie Fanning)
  - Oct 6th Cool Planet Challenge (UC OP program) has different themes that include pledges (Valerie Fanning)
  - A field guide to the flora and fauna of UCSD, in coordination with the zoo, SIO, Native Plant Society, other groups. (Sandra Stocking)
  - Recycling bins in each lab on campus (Jennifer Stowe)
  - Zero waste Task Group. SSN could provide a standardized diagram of recycling items, to be shared widely. (Iris Magid) In many areas on campus, employees must take their recycle bins to a centralized collection location in or near their building. Coordination with Alonso Nobel’s replacement is key, so the SSN should meet with his successor after hired. Sandra brought up pressuring UCSD’s vendor tenants to reduce/eliminate packaging, and Hugh stated that’s an ongoing process and gave the elimination of Subway sandwich thin-film plastic bags as an example.
  - Another LEED facility/building tour. (Travis Johnson) Ideas include rooftop gardens and the first net zero energy laboratory facility in the U.S. (J. Craig Ventner Institute at UC San Diego).
  - Create a “Green Events” package for campus event planners. (Travis Johnson)

**Review SSN’s Idea Cloud list**

- Continuing brainstorming ideas for goals and improvements on the SSN Idea cloud.
  https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LO7zEyp2wPVUt6FVrFQme1yVDfhk3hjYs2khBSSD30/edit?pli=1#gid=0