

# Commission Meeting #6 7/19

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19 July 2019 / 1:30 PM/ NORTH CONFERENCE ROOM, GRAHAM

## ATTENDEES

Liz Barry, Andrew Berki, Anthony Denton, Stephen Forrest, Austin Glass, Brandon Hofmeister, Andrew Horning, Gregory Keoleian, Barry Rabe, Missy Stults, Lisa Wozniak

Regrets: Henry Baier, Jennifer Haverkamp, Larissa Larsen, Jonathan Overpeck, Camilo Serna, Anna Stefanopoulou, Logan Vear

*Meeting began 1:33 pm*

## Updates

### *UC3*

The co-chairs will consult soon with President Schlissel regarding the merits of joining the University Climate Change Coalition, and the responsibilities associated with membership.

### *Faculty Advisory Panel*

A sub-group reported on its initial discussions regarding the optimal roles and potential make-up of the panel. Members view the panel as a conduit between the Commission and the university units, and as an important sounding board representing a key stakeholder group (UM faculty). In addition, the panel might take on particular initiatives (e.g., developing recommendations on organizational structure considerations, best practices for faculty engagement, theme semester ideas, etc.). Views regarding panel membership included that it should be representative of the breadth of expertise across the university, and should include some faculty who are not steeped in sustainability and bring other important perspectives and experience.

### *Carbon Accounting Sub Group*

The sub-group is developing a recommendation regarding fugitive methane emissions for the Commission to consider. The sub-group is also working to identify methodologies, data gaps and uncertainties regarding scope 3 emissions. The group plans to work with several internal analysis teams to ensure activities are complementary throughout the process. This work should help in informing boundary definitions and establishing baselines.

### *RFP Status*

The scope of work document for the carbon neutral heat and power analysis is now complete and will be distributed shortly by UM Procurement to external bidders.

### *Internal Analysis Teams*

PCCN staff is close to finalizing commitments from faculty leads/co-leads (as identified by the Commission) for the analysis teams, and has put together a team charter with uniform expectations, timelines and deliverables. The Commission's discussion of the internal analysis teams included how it would oversee their work and emphasized the need to find multiple ways for UM Flint and UM Dearborn to engage with the projects.

### **Ross Integrative Semester Project**

Commissioners were advised that carbon neutrality will be the theme of the fall integrative semester experience for Ross Business School undergraduates, and that Ross would welcome commissioners' help in judging student project presentations in October.

### **Fall PCCN Public Engagement**

The Commission agreed to prioritize public engagement throughout the fall, and discussed ways to engage the broader community and identify opportunities to foster awareness, buy-in, and involvement across all constituencies. Examples include:

- Holding a UM-Ann Arbor campus town hall in September
- Hosting similar community gatherings on the Dearborn and Flint campuses
- Possible inclusion in new faculty orientation during the last week of August.
- Possible inclusion in new student orientation, which is already exploring ways to incorporate more sustainability content into their programming
- UM's Office of Communications is hiring a new position to focus exclusively on sustainability which will include working to communicate the Commission's work.

### **System Boundaries – Continuing Discussion**

#### *Scope Category Boundaries*

Commission members continued their discussion of which categories of emissions to include in their scope, with a strong preference for inclusivity. There was general agreement regarding how various types of Scope 3 emissions (e.g., waste disposal, commuting, food purchasing, etc.) should be classified with respect to the ability to accurately calculate their GHG footprint and control reductions.

#### *Geographic Boundaries*

Commissioners were briefed on U-M property holdings and discussed which to include in the scope. Approximately 95% of UM's facility square footage is owned, while 5% is leased. In addition, 86% of UM facilities are already included in the current greenhouse gas (GHG) emission accounting for the 2025 GHG emissions reductions goal. Those not included are outside the Ann Arbor area, with a handful located in other U.S. states and countries. There was strong support for including all owned facilities in GHG emissions calculations and associated goals going forward.

There was support for including leased facilities in the scope, but recognition that more analysis needs to be done. There was agreement that if a facility is owned or leased and already included in the current goal, UM should continue accounting for it and include it in the scope. There was interest in considering how to ensure future leased facilities will be held up to UM's environmental standards. A next step is to map UM GHG emissions by building categories.

*Meeting adjourned 3:29 pm*