

To: FIU Faculty Senate Environment & Planning Committee

Re: MINUTES for Wednesday, 22JAN2014 Meeting

Dear E&P Committee Members,

The following minutes are submitted for your approval:

In attendance:

Committee: Roberto Rovira, Chair (CARTA), Peter Craumer, Vice Chair (A&S; via video conference from BBC), Mahadev Bhat (Earth & Environment / Agroecology), Xia Jin (Engineering / Civil & Environmental), Constance Bates (College of Business)

Ex-officio: Ryan Vogel (Office of Sustainability / FIU Preserve), Tony Vu (Treasurer)

Guests: Carlos Carrasco (CC), Graham Center Dir. of Business, Finance & Operations

Roberto Rovira

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1. **Minutes:** Review and Approval of Minutes from 11DEC2013 Meeting: Approved
2. **Discussion:** Presentation by Carlos Carrasco:
 1. CG as living room of university:
 - a. 303,000 sq. ft. facility
 - b. Retail Operations: Barnes & Noble, Food Services, Hair Salon, Barber Shop, Panther's Cleaners and the new Panther Tech Store
 - c. 23 classrooms
 - d. Student support services offices
 - e. Event Venues: Ballrooms, Panther Suite, Meeting Rooms, GC 140 and GC 150 auditoriums
 - f. Computer Lab with 77 PCs
 - g. 15,342 events in 2013
 - h. Over 4.0 million guests per year
 2. Recycling measures at GC:
 - a. 10 duplex bins added in last 6 mo.
 - b. Dyson dryers: slight drop in paper towel use (10%); no heating element, therefore energy savings
 - c. LED vs. tungsten lights in fish tank (energy savings)
 3. Diesel Tanks for generators: EPA mandated these be above ground
 - a. Mahadev: safety issues of having exposed fuel
 4. Acoustic & Lighting challenges of GC: loud and off-putting acoustically
 - a. CC: light and sound improvement proposal by MC Harry is underway
 - i. Drawings expected by end of month
 5. Atrium area: has no recycling options/bins despite heavy use of the area (Subway, SushiMaki)
 6. Student Government funds 2/3 of operations from fees
 7. Business Services funds for common areas; furnishings
 - a. Tony Vu: can Business Services also fund recycling efforts (vs. using E&G and A&S funding)?
 8. Styrofoam still being used:
 - a. Business Services is working with vendors to change this
 - b. Constance: some Styrofoam is better/more environmentally friendly than others
 - i. Recommendation:
 1. make sure that the type being used by GC abides by these standards
 2. omit Styrofoam altogether
 - c. Business Service contacts: Jeff Krablin, Roger Clegg (Aramark)
 9. Tony Vu: perhaps we can bring together Aramark/GC/ Facilities/Business Services to discuss how to track and have a standard for recycling on campus
 10. Peter Craumer: not a lot of issues concerning recycling in BBC; only 10% is contaminated in university as a whole; mostly about curbing careless behavior
 11. Carlos: vendors are agreeable to best practices and making changes

- a. RR: do vendors contract with Aramark or with Business Services? CC: Business Services
 - b. RR: All parties should abide by same measurement of recycling effectiveness; 4M people is a lot of people; small change could yield gigantic results
12. FIU STARS Silver Rating: STARS Silver rating by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Akq179-jaQ&feature=youtu.be); Vogel: very few institutions are platinum; tracking is very important
- a. Parking is over half of energy emissions; need to bring new Parking Director into the conversation

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roberto Rovira". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Roberto Rovira, Chair Environment & Planning Committee