Minutes: GCI meeting 02/07/2011-4:00 pm

WALLER 38A

In attendance: JOHN HINTZ, JEAN DOWNING, CHRIS PODESCHI, SAFA SARACOGLU, ELI TOME, STEPHEN FURAI, LALAI FALATOONZADEH, NED GREENE, KASEY MARSICANO, BOB MURPHY, STEVE RIER, BRENNAN INCH, BRUCE ROCKWOOD, JEFF BRUNSKILL

Agenda items, in order and as discussed, were:

1. Ned Greene:
   - updated the committee on his work converting the Town of Bloomsburg Recycling Center heating unit from oil to all recycled vegetable oil and automotive crankcase oil
   - also mentioned that Mark Tapsak would be the contact person for any student or group who wanted to get the soap manufacturing project back up-and-running

2. Dining Services:
   - Kasey Marsicano, the new director of marketing for campus dining (correct me if I got the title wrong, please!) was here along with Bob Murphy to inform the committee about what current “greening” projects were in the works and get input from the committee.
   - Current/upcoming projects are:
     - Recyclemania:
       - the Commons will be weighing their food waste between now and April in an effort to reduce overall waste and educate students about the problem.
       - Some GCI members had ideas on how to bolster this project which ranged from installing a live web-cam in the dishroom which would tape and broadcast the mound of food waste as it developed, and possibly showing this on a screen in the commons (an idea that made the dining services marketers squirm a bit) to having some sort of screen or poster or chart set up that displays the food waste over time, so that students could at least get some idea as to the total volume of food wasted at the cafeteria
       - (one side note about Recyclemania: in the past we had also weighed our outgoing recycled cardboard, plastic, paper, metal and glass as part of the Recyclemania contest, but Vince DeLoretto informed Jean Downing that we were not doing that this year, unfortunately)
     - The idea of restarting Trayless Tuesdays was presented, and Kasey said that they could probably try this again.

3. Bruce Rockwood: proposed that the GCI sponsors a campus visit from the “Beehive Collective” (http://www.beehivecollective.org/english/front.htm) to campus either during the first week of April (when they will be traveling through the area) or possibly later in April as part of the campus Earth Day festivities. Bruce would like input and assistance
with this from anyone who is interested in pursuing a visit/event with this group. Email Bruce at: rockwood@bloomu.edu.

4. Chris Podeschi: “EcoArt” contest update:
   - Chris was not sure exactly the status of this in the Art Department, e.g., had faculty told their students about it yet, etc.
   - Safa was going to contact Sue O’Donnell to find out more
   - John was going to do the same with Jason Godeke (update: Jason said he had announced the contest in his classes at least)

5. John H: mentioned that after the dust settles from the 2/17 “Re-Energize BU” event that the timing would be prime to get going with the Earth Day planning. Requested volunteers for an Earth Day subcommittee. So far we have Tim Pelton, Jeff Brunskill, Safa Saracoglu and Laili Faltoonzadeh.

6. Eli Tome: Beyond Coal group and Powershift: asked if GCI could contribute money toward the Powershift student trip.

7. Chris Podeschi: asked if GCI would contribute money to help fund the LLC trip to the mountaintop removal mining area in WV. We voted yes to help out with this, as long as the trip wasn’t limited to just LLC members. (as per Jonathan Lincoln’s suggestion)

8. Jean Downing: following the last two requests for funding student trips, Jean suggested we develop a more formal structure for our funding, perhaps with a certain amount earmarked for certain things, like student travel. We all seemed to agree that this was an important topic to discuss at the next meeting, as it was getting late here so we decided to:

9. Adjourn! (5:15 pm)