EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHARGES FOR 2015-2016

Shaun Hansen, Chair
Gary Johnson, Liaison

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (EIC)

PPM 1-13, Article B-5, Section 4.6: Committee on Environmental Issues
The Environmental Issues Committee shall help facilitate the integration of environmental initiatives into academic affairs, student affairs, and facilities management. The committee shall serve as a local and statewide source for scientifically-based information and for leadership on environmental issues affecting Utah, the Wasatch Front and WSU campus communities.

1. Given the University’s commitment to sustainability, as state both by President Wight and as evidenced in the accomplishments of the Energy and Sustainability Office and the EIC, it would be great to have University leadership regularly voice their support for pro-sustainability behaviors on campus. I would love to see our SPARC Director serving on President’s Council. Many universities have claimed that is one of the most important wins they have achieved; when they get a direct Sustainability Advisor to the University President.

2. We (EIC) want to encourage or promote more environmentally friendly or green purchasing policies. We want energy efficient products, products lacking harsh chemicals or VOCs products made from recycled materials or rapidly renewable materials, etc. Paper and electronics, etc. should be Energy Star rated and paper should be comprised of 30% recycled content at a minimum.

3. Cut down on paperwork by eliminating letters to faculty and staff on stationary, flyers, and announcements, etc., to be electronic.

4. A “Ride the Bus” sustainability training program (30 minutes approximately) to educate new faculty, staff, and students on sustainability practices and expectations for newcomers to our campus community (mandatory training, but fun).

5. Do away with bookstore plastic bags.

6. As President Wight to sign on to the National Mayor’s sustainability initiative to be in concert and cooperation with WSU sustainability policies. Mayors in all 50 states have done this. You can see the list here: http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/agreement.htm

7. Find ways to empower each EIC members to pursue one or two sustainability-related projects that they are passionate about.

8. Find ways for SPARC and EIC to synergize, including getting the Sustainability Website up to date (and developing a plan to keep it up to date).

9. Analyze successful EIC projects of the past and seek to plan new ones accordingly. (For example, there have been two successful “Mormonism and the Environment” events and a third would therefore be in order this year.)