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**2011 Symposium on Sustainability –**

**Sustainability Interactive Visioning Session Overview**

Sustainability Symposium Student Session - Charting Our Sustainable Vision

Title of Group:

Committee Members (Chair and member names including department):

Chandra Peterson (Co-Chair), Senior, Political Science

Matthew Santee (Co-Chair), Sophomore, Civil Engineering

Whitley Gilbert, Senior, Environmental Science

Brittany Rayman, Junior, Civil Engineering

Chris Schubert, Junior, Political Science

Overall Objective:

Inform students about ISU and sustainability, engage students in ISU sustainability issues, and energize them to take action on the futuristic ideas they generate in the session!

Specific Goals and Outcomes:

Our end goal is to create an official Government of the Student Body Task Force for any objectives we generate from the student panel session. We will solicit names and emails from students who would be interested in being on the task force to help accomplish the goals we set during our session during the next year.

Process (How session is organized):

1. **What is going on at ISU?**

Game: Sustainability charades

The room will be paired into small groups and be provided with a sheet about something cool on campus dealing with sustainability. (The topics will be in the following categories: initiatives, student groups, With their topic or item they will have a few minutes to think of how they are going to get the group to guess their subject matter. The paper could be about a green building on campus, a green group on campus, or any other interesting campus activities regarding sustainability.

Once the groups have how they are going to present (they could draw on the white board, they could act it out, or they could play hangman to get the group to guess their topic). Matt Santee and Chandra Peterson will be up front to help the game run smoothly and efficiently.

The process of the game is as follows:

1. Group gets 5 minutes to plan out presentation.
2. Groups get up one at a time and present and students try and guess. The student who guesses right gets a piece of candy.
3. After a student guesses right the small group will ask the large group what their perception of this topic is and whether or not they think Iowa State has this. Small discussion will revolve around what people think about Iowa State’s achievements in this area are.
4. Lastly, the small group tells everyone what they learned from their information sheet about their topic for 2-3 minutes.
5. **What is our Vision?**

After establishing what is going on at Iowa State we will continue with 15-20 minutes of large group brainstorming of what we would like to see Iowa State reach for in the next year. We will then pick 5-6 top projects and every student will pick the topic they are most interested and form a small group with other students who want to explore that topic.

Every topic small group will get a “program model’ to fill out about their project proposal. In addition to this document, I have attached a sample of a “program model.” The reason for this is to give students points to think about (i.e. how much would this project cost, who on campus would need to be involved, what would the timeline be like, etc.)

Each group will then present to the entire group (including faculty and staff) about their topic and ideas they have.

Committing to the Plan:

We have asked President Roling to commit to create an official Government of the Student Body Task Force for any objectives we generate from the student panel session. We will solicit names and emails from students who would be interested in being on the task force to help accomplish the goals we set during our session.

Summary of Results:

On behalf of the 2011 Sustainability Symposium Visioning Session Leaders, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students that were able to attend. Through your support and thoughtful participation, we have made great strides towards developing a sustainable student vision for Iowa State University.

With 60 students in attendance, the session began with a brief introduction and then transitioned into two large group charade games. During charades, students formed groups of 5 and were given a topic to act out or draw. After each group presented, the large group brainstorming session began. With such a diverse group of students, it became apparent very quickly that there were so many categories related to sustainability that it was difficult to establish clear priorities. Through continued discussion the sustainable categories were prioritized. The categories of greatest significance to the group were: energy, public relations and education, the College of Design, and food systems.

Four small visioning groups were developed around the four major categories of interest. Each student was given the opportunity to join their committee of choice. Each committee was tasked with establishing a group objective, and a list of feasible projects that could be implemented on campus. These objectives and projects are as follows:

**Energy**

**Objective:** To make current buildings on campus more sustainable through, the use of renewable energy sources and the implementation of energy reduction technologies.

**Project Ideas:**

* Implement solar panels on campus
* Reduce energy consumption in campus buildings through competition
* Perform energy audits in campus buildings to identify the current need and lack of efficiency

**Public Relations and Education**

**Objective:** Develop a sustainability campaign/outreach to educate the student body how to live a sustainable lifestyle on and off campus.

**Project Ideas:**

* Develop a website that allows groups that are focused on a sustainable initiative to post documents, events and regularly updated agendas to promote inter-collaboration among groups
* Develop a sustainability focused student handbook, which provides tips, information and resources about sustainable initiatives at Iowa State University.
* Develop a course, where students can implement a sustainable project on campus and receive credit towards graduation.

**College of Design**

**Objective:** Create a program within the College of Design that focuses on the redistribution of design materials instead of recycling.

**Project Ideas:**

* Start a recycling program within the College of Design for project materials not used.
* Create an exchange program where students can bring in old materials in exchange for other used/scrap/leftover material.

**Food Systems**

**Objective:** Create an awareness of local foods, local food meal plans, and efforts in menu planning for seasonality.

**Project Ideas:**

* Expand current composting efforts found in ISU Dining Centers to across campus.
* Increase the purchase of local foods.
* Bring the Ames Farmer’s Market to campus, offering an opportunity for students to purchase local and organic foods.

To guarantee the successful implementation of these goals and objectives, a Sustainability Symposium Student Task Force will be formed. This task force will consist of four committees focused on developing, planning and implementing a project of interest to them in the realm of sustainability. In the next few weeks, participants that provided contact information will be contacted via email and invited to join the task force. For students who were unable to attend the symposium, and may not be aware of this opportunity, the task force will be advertised through the Green Umbrella, the Live Green Newsletter, and the Government of Student Body.