

Minutes/Notes of 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the **EARTH** Group at ASC  
Tuesday, March 4, 2008  
Noon, Student Life Center, SUB  
<http://www.adams.edu/sustainability> (our website)  
<http://ascearth.wordpress.com/> (blog – add a comment!)

**Present:** Jeff Bauman, Christy Miller, Cameron Miller, Kailee Potter, Edgar Thomas, Ziane Frawan, Katie Hagaman, Kristin Young-Jaramillo, Kenny Babcock, Nina Gasparian, Marc Eaton, Dan Carver, Jared Beeton, Ray Jones, Chuck Reel, Erwin Young, Audrey Liu, Laura Moore, Rebekah Tirrell, Melissa Emminger, Patrick Price, Christine Preiss, Todd Norman, Maria Mondragon-Valdez, Paul Kobe, Marty Jones.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, April 1, at noon in the Student Life Center of the SUB. Regular meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month this semester.**

Marty started the meeting with announcements. President Svaldi signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment on February 25, 2008! Adams State College is the 10<sup>th</sup> college/university from Colorado to become a signatory to the Commitment (<http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/> - as of this writing, we're still on the front page of this website as a recent signatory). Provost Mumper has committed \$1000 to help with EARTH Week activities. Thanks to both our top administrators for supporting ASC's sustainability efforts!

The EARTH Week coordinating committee (Linda Relyea, chair, Maria Mondragon-Valdez, Tracy Doyle, Mary Hoffman, and Marty Jones) reported some of the events tentatively scheduled for that week (April 14-19): Monday evening - showing of the film "Who Killed the Electric Car?" and a presentation about biodiesel; Wednesday evening - webcast of the National Wildlife Federation's Campus Chillout; Thursday evening - concert in collaboration with Alamosa Live Music Association (ALMA); Friday evening - Telluride Film festival in collaboration with ASC Adventure Program; Saturday – several events, including lectures/demos/displays focused on solar energy (in collaboration with the SLV Solar Association), reduce/reuse/recycle garage sale (donations for sale gladly accepted!), Rio Grande cleanup, and Green Bike unveiling. At each of these activities, ASC Community Partnerships will have available for sale re-usable canvas grocery bags imprinted with the logo of Community Partnerships and EARTH. The bar code on these bags will be used by Safeway and City Market to direct small donations to each organization. Our heartfelt thanks to ASC Community Partnerships! Nothing is currently planned for Tuesday evening, to avoid a conflict with the already scheduled visit of an activist poet, David Smith-Ferri. **Each task force was asked to discuss activities they would help with that would encourage maximum participation by students during EARTH Week. Please send your ideas/activities to Marty ([mbjones@adams.edu](mailto:mbjones@adams.edu)) as soon as you can. EARTH Week is only one month away, and we need to firm up our plans.**

Our two EARTH work-study students, Edgar Thomas and Kailee Potter, reported that they have been continuing to work on consolidation of recycling efforts on campus. All the academic buildings have been surveyed with respect to location of existing bins for aluminum and plastic. Thanks to Habitat for Humanity, additional bins have been placed in many buildings. Base areas (central sites for accumulation of bin contents) have been identified for most buildings and a regular schedule of pick-up of materials for recycling is being developed.

Task Forces provided reports. Cameron reported that the **Energy Task Force** is waiting to get 2007 energy use data in order to be able to make a comparison between 2006 and 2007. Still to be completed is a study of lighting on campus. In several areas on campus, more energy is used for lighting than is really necessary. For example, when only one person is working in a large space, typically all the lights in the space are turned on because of how the switches are connected. There are some State of Colorado requirements for minimum lumens in work/study areas, but the task force will investigate whether we can still meet the requirements without having to illuminate unused space (e.g., by using desk lamps);

Christine and Dan reported that the **Recycling Task Force** met last week. One of the task force members, Kyli Kehler, has donated some old 55 gal drums from her for use as outdoor recycle bins. They need to be cleaned up, but should work fine. The task force plans to have art students decorate the drums, then during EARTH week, campus citizens will vote to select their favorite design. Still in the works: writing letters and otherwise seeking funding from Wal-Mart for additional recycling bins.

Laura reported that the **Composting/Food Task Force** will be working with Audrey Liu to use the teepee greenhouse north of campus for gardening. (Note: cleanup of the teepee started during spring break). Members of this task force met with Patrick Price for a discussion of composting at the Community Greenhouse (12<sup>th</sup> and Edison) on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Laura planted tomatoes that day, and will have plants available for the Saturday of EARTH week. The group will be planting radishes, hopefully at the teepee greenhouse, in time for that vegetable to be ready for EARTH Week, as an example of local foods. **Another session with the composting guru (Patrick) is scheduled for March 16 at noon, should anyone else care to attend.** Still in the planning stage is a food waste survey at the campus dining rooms this spring.

Dan reported from the **Transportation Task Force**. There will shortly be 9 bicycles ready for the debut of the Green Bike Program at ASC! (Of course, it would be nice to have weather a bit more conducive to cycling by the time the program is unveiled) The task force is still trying to decide how to administer the program – have students check out bikes with their student ID or just leave them in various locations on campus for use by anyone. The program will be unveiled during EARTH Week.

Kristin reported that the **Communication/Education Task Force** would like to get more Sustainability Tips for the weekly posting. Please send your tips to Katie Silva ([kgsilva@adams.edu](mailto:kgsilva@adams.edu)). The great-looking reusable signs for announcing our meetings have been put up on campus. If you don't have one in your area/building, please contact Katie. Also, if you do have signs in your area, please take responsibility for writing the date of the next meeting (April 1, 2008) on the signs. Thanks!

Marty reported that the **Water Task Force** could still use some new members, and a new leader. This task force will undertake a cleanup of the Rio Grande on the Saturday of EARTH Week, as long as the weather is appropriate and the river is not flowing too hard at that time.

Melissa Emminger, the new Community Gardens coordinator, introduced herself and offered to help with any gardening/composting/recycling activities. Thanks, Melissa, and welcome to the Valley.

**In the notes from the last meeting, I requested that each task force chair propose a modest budget to help with task force activities, either for EARTH week or ongoing activities. Thus far, I haven't received any budget requests, so I'm asking again.**

Thanks for all of your work for EARTH!

**The next meeting of the EARTH group at ASC will be on Tuesday, April 1, at noon in the Student Life Center of the SUB. Come ready to finalize plans and volunteer for EARTH Week activities.**

Submitted by Marty Jones, 3/13/08