**Committee on Sustainability
Chelsea Landolin, RN, MS, NP, Chair**

**Thursday, February 17, 2022
3:05– 4:30 p.m.**[**Zoom videoconference**](https://ucsf.zoom.us/j/94109580273?pwd=RWllZUVydzdyaUljK1NLb0U3c2R2Zz09)

**ATTENDING:** C. Landolin, M. Zlatnik, K. Brooks, K. Gundling, L. Hertel, N. Iverson, N. Byeler, E. Greenwood, T. Giedt, K. Lichter

**ABSENT:** K. Gruenberg, S. Ho, A. Karwa, M. Seielstad

Chair Chelsea Landolin called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. via Zoom. A quorum was present.

1. **Consent Calendar**
	1. The minutes from January 20 were approved.
2. **Chair’s Report** *– Chelsea Landolin*
	1. The Executive Council met on February 10. Most of the meeting’s content was not germane to this committee. Discussion of a relevant systemwide review was tabled until later in the meeting.
3. **Vice-Chair’s Report** – *Marya Zlatnik*
	1. The only update from the UC Climate Crisis Committee is the pending vote on the Fossil Free Energy Faculty Memorial (discussed below).
4. **Fossil Free Energy Faculty Memorial**
	1. M. Zlatnik provided an update on the status of the Fossil Free Energy Faculty Memorial, which states, “The University of California Academic Senate petitions the Regents for investments in UC’s infrastructure that will reduce on-campus fossil fuel combustion to 5% of current levels by 2030.” The Memorial passed through the Council of the systemwide Senate but has not passed through the systemwide Assembly. The Assembly had planned to vote on February 9, but the meeting had a full agenda, and the vote was postponed. The Assembly hopes to vote on the Memorial before its next scheduled meeting on April 13; otherwise, the faculty vote will overlap with summer break on some campuses.
	2. Academic Senate Executive Director T. Giedt explained the next steps.
		1. If the Memorial passes through the Assembly, then Senate faculty on each campus will vote. Because the Memorial originated in the Assembly, the faculty vote will be based on a simple majority of all Senate faculty across all Divisions. When a Memorial originates on a campus, each Division votes separately, and the votes of each division are compiled to determine the outcome.
		2. At UCSF, the vote will likely be administered through the Senate Service Protocol, which ensures that each faculty member votes once. All series will be able to vote, but only votes by Senate series faculty (Ladder Rank, In Residence, and Clinical X) will be included in the systemwide total, as per systemwide rules.
	3. A committee member asked whether it would be better to lobby colleagues in all divisions who are Senate series faculty rather than all colleagues at UCSF regardless of series. The former strategy is probably better given the voting rules.
	4. A member asked about the Sustainability Committee’s role. If the Memorial passes through the Assembly, this committee will work on publicizing the vote and encouraging participation.
5. **Earth Day Planning**
	1. Chair Landolin reported on a meeting among various stakeholders compiling ideas for Earth Day on April 22. The plan will be launched on April 1 and shared at a Town Hall on April 15. Ideas for events include advertising Bike to Work Day on the first Thursday in May, publicizing events during Grand Rounds, and potentially holding a discussion of the movie *Don’t Look Up*. Ideas for the Town Hall include PechaKucha slides, a student-led discussion of the Planetary Health Report Card, and speakers from the community. The Cool Campus Challenge will also be promoted. This platform, offered by UCOP, allows teams to compete in taking steps to reduce personal or departmental carbon footprints. Example steps include using a carbon calculator or wearing a jacket in the office to keep the temperature cooler. Chair Landolin suggested that committee members provide ideas for Earth Day to Gail Lee.
	2. Committee Member K. Gundling shared that the main purpose of these meetings, which are organized by the Center for Climate, Health and Equity, is to coordinate before Earth Day to avoid scheduling conflicting events and ensure a good balance of events. Notes from prior meetings can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t6Q53YDqO-atxfpm9_Q8BGzpYRAycXhg3Et4DjsR914/edit).
	3. K. Gundling volunteered to attend upcoming Earth Day meetings and share information with this committee.
6. **Letter on Decarbonizing UCSF Theme Year** (attachment 1)
	1. Committee members discussed a draft letter proposing an Academic Senate Theme Year focused on decarbonizing UCSF. The Theme Year provides a unique opportunity to make progress toward decarbonization but is also a major commitment.
	2. Committee member K. Gundling provided some background information on the proposal for a Theme Year. The idea came from a small team of faculty and students working on changing the culture of academic travel. The team generated a number of ideas, which they presented to EVCP Dan Lowenstein and former Academic Senate Chair David Teitel, who suggested that the Academic Senate designate a Theme Year.
	3. K. Gundling noted that many of the projects mentioned in the letter are already being worked on by various campus groups, including the Center for Climate, Health and Equity, the Office of Sustainability, and student groups. These groups can collaborate with the Academic Senate to push these shared goals forward.
	4. The proposed timing of the Theme Year was discussed. Designating the next academic year as the Theme Year offers some advantages. The Theme Year can be kicked off at the Senate Leadership Retreat in September, and the committee will have some time to get projects organized and operational before the Theme Year officially begins.
	5. The committee also discussed the scope of the Theme Year. The original proposal in the January meeting was a Theme Year focused on Climate Health and Sustainability. Narrowing the scope to decarbonization allows the Senate to focus on a few important projects (e.g., academic travel and electrification). Decarbonization can be connected to related work on campus, such as efforts to ensure resilience in the face of climate emergencies that are being developed from an equity and justice perspective.
	6. After discussion, committee members voted unanimously to approve the letter.
7. **Updates from Subcommittees**
	1. Symposium – The Mini-Symposium was held on February 16 and was a success. A planning meeting for the Symposium will be held soon. UC Davis will serve as the home base for the Symposium this year. Lisa Patel from Stanford is stepping back from her manager role, providing an opportunity if any Sustainability Committee members want to be more involved. Students play a lead role in the Symposium planning. Last year, the Sustainability Committee sent a blurb about the Symposium to each school to be included in their student newsletters.
	2. Electrification – The subcommittee chairs have met a couple of times and are working on determining a direction for their work.
	3. Advance – Committee Member L. Hertel is working on scheduling a meeting with the VPAA to discuss including sustainability as a field in Advance and suggested creating a faculty training module on sustainability. The Medical Waste subcommittee is also looking into creating such a training module, and they learned that the first step is conducting a campus-wide needs assessment to create a case for a mandatory training, which can take several years. A voluntary training may take less time to create but would likely reach much fewer faculty. The committee agreed to continue working toward a mandatory training despite the longer time frame. The question of whether to create a training module before including sustainability in Advance was raised. The committee agreed to that including sustainability in Advance should come first because of the long time frame to establish a mandatory training and because a sustainability field in Advance could bolster the case for such a training.
	4. Medical Waste – The subcommittee is currently working on developing a case for a mandatory training, as discussed above.
	5. Bicycles – A master planning process for bicycles and micro-mobility is underway, spearheaded by UCSF Micro-Mobility. Committee Member M. Seielstad is connected with that group and will be attending its meetings. The group sent a micro-mobility survey to the UCSF community, and Academic Senate promoted it. The survey received many responses, but some of the map data were lost.
	6. Speaker Series – The subcommittee chairs met with N. Beyeler to organize Climate Health Grand Rounds. The Grand Rounds will launch in the summer and will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The organizers are aiming to book speakers with wide appeal for the first few months to build interest and align clinical and non-clinical faculty around climate and health issues. The subcommittee is taking suggestions for speakers via email.
	7. Learning/Communication – The subcommittee chairs suggested that the Sustainability Committee find ways to improve advertising for events like the Symposium and Speaker Series. A Box document will be created to compile the relevant information.
8. **Systemwide Reviews** *– Liz Greenwood*

The following items are currently under systemwide review. Of them, only the review of recommendations for department political statements may be germane to this committee. Committee members were encouraged to send any comments via email.

* 1. [Systemwide Review of Recommendations for Department Political Statements](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/underreview/rh-systemwide-senate-review-academic-freedom-dept-political-statements.pdf) – Comments due March 15, 2022.
	2. [Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 424.A.3](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/underreview/rh-systemwide-senate-review-revision-sr-424.pdf) (Creation of an A-G Ethnic Studies Requirement for Freshman) – Comments due March 15, 2022.
1. **Old Business**

None.

1. **New Business**

None.

1. **Adjournment**

Chair Landolin adjourned the meeting at 4:32 PM.

Academic Senate Staff:

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