

September 2013 – Green Labs Meeting

September 27, 2013

10-11AM

Attendees:

Spencer Nelson
Thomas Lentz
Frank Stillo
Aaron Schmidt
Cathy Brennan

Akhil Jariwala
Katelyn Blanchard
Kristen Blank-White
Ashley Kiser

Report on Lab Tours

- Lab tours went very well with students visiting two types of labs (one in Gene Therapy Center in Thurston-Bowles and the other in Drug Discovery Center in Gen Med building).
 - Talked about waste, water demands, recycling
 - Students found the vocab, work flow info, culture of scientists and quality of research to be helpful

Capstone Class

- Akhil & Katelyn attended meeting
 - Met members of committee
 - Reported on project's current status
- They have submitted a draft scope of work and will begin outlining Best Management Practices, in addition to 8 defined deliverables by the end of the semester
 - Best practice guide, marketing, pilot program/case study, a contact list, long-term implementation and interviews with both external green lab groups and internal lab researchers

5G Can Recycling

- Metal cans were previously thrown in the trash and EHS is now picking them up, crushing them and recycling via scrap metal.
- Frank shared data from the first 2 months regarding number of cans picked up (see attached).
- Committee members suggested we define the price based on numbers and yearly average in order to show the benefits
- EHS will pilot the program for 6-12 months at the Kenan dock, and then assess whether to roll out across campus.

Campus Survey

- Due to go out in the fall and needs to be finalized
- Action item to show current draft survey to capstone class for feedback
- After capstone class comments, we will send out to committee
- Once feedback is entirely received, the email will go out to all registered lab workers.
- Need to add PI Name as a Survey Field to see if multiple people from one lab are filling out the survey.

Other Projects/Ideas

- Thomas mentioned plastic bag recycling
 - Questions about Harris Teeter's practices once the bags are delivered to HT
 - Thomas will follow up with HT to learn more
- Thomas also mentioned that it would be nice to have a formal process for lab closeouts and the chemical reagents that result from these closeouts
 - Perhaps a central source or area could store these items, catalogue them online, and allow other labs to look through and determine if any of the spare reagents could be of use
 - Cathy will bring more info from other universities who currently implement the practice during the next meeting.

Results from Can Crushing, thus far:

Solvent Cans for Recycling				
DATE	# CANS	WT#	BLD	DRIVER
07/30/2013		22	45.98 Kenan	SP
08/09/2013		26	54.34 Kenan	SP
08/30/2013		22	45.98 Kenan	DW
09/06/2013		12	25.08 Kenan	MN
09/16/2013		26	54.34 Kenan	DW
	9123	34	(71 kg of metal)	