

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)

Thursday, December 6, 2007 - 8:30 am
Physical Plant Conference Room

Minutes

Present: Laurence Fischbach Roy Coons
Renee Gonzales Fran Trevino
David Jensen (by proxy)
Liz Smith

Absent: Louis Katz

1. Roy Coons called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. Requested a motion to approve the Minutes from the November meeting. Laurence Fischbach motioned to approve and was seconded by Liz Smith. Minutes unanimously approved.
2. Roy Coons requested a motion to approve the Draft Commission for the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). David Jensen suggests (by proxy) assigning a student organization or group to the Commission Draft. The (EAC) membership expressed concern about having a student member serve on the Council based on the academic time constraints placed on them.
Membership: Motion to remove the word *students* from the membership and amend the Commission to include a student or student organizations as members of sub-committees: Motion approved.
3. Motion by Renee Gonzales to amend the draft By-Laws by replacing the wording *Graduate Studies office* with *Office of Graduate Studies and Research*: Unanimously approved
4. **“Let’s Get Started”!**

Roy Coons suggested inviting Gordon Evans, A&M System Environmental Manager to the next (EAC) meeting. Mr. Evans can provide an overview of the TAMUS Environmental Policy and Environmental Management Planning. The Council will invite a member of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to speak at a future meeting.

Listed below are environmental projects that can have an immediate impact on the environment and will be included in the draft TAMUCC Environmental Management Plan.

Conduct a TAMU-CC Auto-Check Day! - Activities to include utilizing the Community Outreach Auto-Check to analyze University and other state vehicle tail pipe emissions to ensure that they are properly tuned and not a contributor to poor air quality. Students could also bring their vehicles in for analysis. Renee Gonzales volunteered to work with Jim Needham, Dean, University Outreach and Gretchen Arnold, Director, Pollution Prevention Partnership to initiate the Auto- Check Day program for University vehicles.

Ozone Action Day – TCEQ recommends: not to fuel vehicles or mow lawns. The campus can shut down gas pumps and follow other TCEQ recommendations.

Liz Smith teaches a Coastal Ecology course – after the Council’s first meeting, she met with her class to inform them about the University’s Environmental Advisory Council. She asked students what they thought were big environmental issues. At their next class meeting they will debate what issues are the most important and will prioritize them. Recycling programs seemed to be important to students. Liz said she will submit a list of their environmental issues to the Council.

Laurence Fischbach explained how some schools are conserving energy by using bio-fuels and wind energy.

5. Roy Coons informed the Council that the Environmental, Health & Safety Department has two PIN numbers for Safety Specialists. He would like to utilize one of the Safety Specialist PIN’s to create a new position and job description for an Environmental Specialist. The new PIN would assist E,H&S in meeting the System requirement that we develop an Environmental Management Plan. The Council endorsed the proposal.
6. Roy Coons asked for a motion to adjourn. Renee Gonzales motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Laurence Fischbach. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, January 16, 2007 at 3:00 pm. Place to be determined.