

College Environmental Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 20, 2011



DRAFT

Attendance:

Ralph Riddle	rwiddle@comcast.net
Alicia Detoro	detoroalicia@fhda.edu
Manny Da Silva	
Diana Martinez	martinezdianna@fhda.edu
Joseph Cooke	cookejoe@fhda.edu
Julie Ceballos	ceballosjulie@fhda.edu
Kristal Caidoy	kcaidoy@live.com
Greg Scoble	greg.s@earthlink.net

No agenda was provided so we focused on these topics:

- VTA Ecopass bus passes
- Waste Diversion, STARS database update, and campus clean-up day
- Community garden at the children's development center
- CAEG's shared governance compliance
- CEAG's contribution to De Anza's commitment to democracy

VTA Ecopass

Julie explained that an agreement has been reached setting a price and scope for discounted bus passes for De Anza students. The cost would be \$3/qtr per student. All students would be required to pay the quarterly fee regardless of whether they obtained a pass. It would be available to all full and part-time students. The issue will now be put to a vote of the student body. There are discussions underway about how the staff and faculty could participate. This achievement will be included in the "President's Climate Commitment."

Waste diversion and STARS database

Manny discussed the ongoing process to maximize diversion of campus waste from landfill to recycling. Recology, the waste removal contractor, has agreed to accept a single waste stream from the campus, including food waste, sort it at their facility and recycle or compost as appropriate. Finished compost will be returned to the campus.

Separately, Manny told the group that the city of San Jose has accepted an application for a grant that would, among other things, fund energy conservation awareness. The grant application is under review by the city.

The deadline for De Anza's input to the STARS database had been extended until August. Joe Cooke stated that he would request the deadline be extended further in light of the pending grant application.

Manny discussed the difficulty in arranging a regular campus “clean-up” day using student volunteers without running afoul of union rules.

Community Garden Project

Kristal Caidoy described the efforts to teach children attending the development center how plants grow. This project is just getting started.

CEAG’s shared governance compliance

Julie explained that CEAG is required to complete a survey by the shared governance committee. Julie distributed a template we will attempt to complete at our next meeting. I have attached a copy as a pdf file.

Commitment to Democracy

This initiative is supported by Brain Murphy. It insures that De Anza’s curriculum and processes are supportive of teaching democratic values in civic engagement. CEAG can be an example fo this support. The environment is after all, democratic. Rich or poor, we all breathe the same air.