Green Campus Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2009

Present: Jamie Zibulsky, Mary Mornhineway, Aurora Bugallo, Alice Benzecry, Cynthia Radnitz, Gerardo Nunez, Diana Ribeiro, Sue Kaye, Marilyn Rubin, Sylvia Colon Cabassa, Chris Sorensen, Allen McDaniel, Kent Fairfield, Ed Lynch.

Greenhouse. A lot of plants belong to Chris. He has an inventory. Tahira Williams is doing the watering. It depends on the plant how often we water. We need to watch out for bugs or diseases.

The hose hook-up is useless. We need to put the right type of attachment on the sink. Alice will contact Facilities again.

The Board of Trustees would like to tour the Greenhouse on November 14. We will make sure we have a lot of plants there. We could request that people bring in plants. We can do bulbs for tulips. FDU has tax free status as a non-profit if we buy plants.

Marilyn asked if we could have someone there on Sunday, November 8 for the Open House? Gerardo could be there. They should check with admissions to see the tour schedule and speak to Lorena Williams in Admissions to make sure that the Greenhouse is on the tour. Gerardo will make it happen.

At the moment, it is unclear how people will get access, but Ed is working on a card key system.

There is also no shading. It was extra. Ed has a bid and sample materials for the shades.

Chris brought up that Ramapo College has a greenhouse and that we might check on how they are using theirs.

River Hike. Students have not attended our last two river hikes. Sign up list before the event. We need to check with students to see which is a good day. They suggested 10/22 at 2 pm. We will check with Daniel David and possibly change the date. Allen will speak to Daniel and Gerardo will speak to Jessica. Kent and Chris will do the publicity. Maybe we can encourage students to take photos with their phones or a camera. Another idea, we could have a photo contest from the nature walk.

New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability Conference. Kent, Chris and Cynthia described the conference we went to at Ramapo College.

One professor from Kean College (and before that Montclair State) described how he was able to implement composting on both campuses.

Georgian Court U has made a great many strides toward becoming more sustainable. They use china and silverware. They found doing away with trays reduced waste. They paid a consulting firm to do an energy audit and to help them to purchase cleaner energy within their energy budget. They spoke about doing this because it’s the right thing to do and because it adds to the reputation of the school.
Gerardo reported that we haven’t used trays in over a year in the main dining hall. It was a change that the students wanted implemented. Jeepers is managed differently.

We have no one at FDU in a paid position to oversee our moving toward becoming more sustainable. Chris suggested that we need a “Green Czar.”

Aurora brought up how much we waste paper. A lot of the paper memos could be eliminated. We could be more strategic in using paper, and we need an overall campus policy for reducing paper.

We need to continue to emphasize this point to change both behavior and attitude. If we had a paper budget people might use paper less.

Next Meeting: Nov. 3 at 11:30 a.m.