Discussion:

What is our role in achieving Strategic Goal E "Establishing a Strong Culture of Sustainability"?

Presenters:

Robert Ethington, Dean, Student Affairs Alexa Forrester, Instructor, Philosophy

QUESTION 1: Should the college adopt an eco literacy requirement in order to meet Strategic Goal E?

What is 'eco literacy'?

- The ability to understand how natural systems sustain life, and the ways human activities threaten to undermine those systems
- The ability to follow and evaluate discourse regarding how humanity can and should confront ecological limits

What classes increase eco literacy?

Any classes that focus on one or more of the following:

- Environmental values, debates and/or challenges
- Scientific understanding of Earth's natural systems and cycles, emphasizing humanity's role in the continuing viability of habitats and/or application of scientific principles and techniques to study the causes of and potential solutions to environmental problems
- Analysis of human activity and its impact on Earth's livability and sustainability
- Analysis of environmental problems
- Learning the practical application of technologies or strategies aimed at curbing the adverse impact of human activity on the natural environment and/or improving the sustainable use of natural resources

QUESTION 1: Should the college adopt an eco literacy requirement in order to meet Strategic Goal E?

Our current system:

- Some of our programs (biology, sustainable agriculture, etc.) have content that inherently increases eco literacy.
- We also have an environmental studies program that includes classes from a wide variety of disciplines.
- If students choose 'Option A' for their gen ed requirements, they must choose either an 'environmental literacy' or 'global perspectives' class

Perceived shortcomings of the current system:

- 1) Participation in these curricular elements are completely optional.
- 2) There is less coordination, cooperation, and visibility than is needed.

What more could we do?

- Eco literacy requirement for all students
- Eco literacy as its own category for gen ed Option A
- Better coordination and visibility of the content we already offer
- Coordination of efforts to increase content

QUESTION 2: Should we create a committee dedicated to Goal E?

Education & Culture

(Aligns w/ SP Goal A, B & F)

Curriculum Infusion
CTE - Green Jobs
Student & Staff Development
Civic Engagement & Advocacy
Sustainability Education & Events
Campus Ecology & Culture
Community Partnerships
Health & Wellness

Economics & Social Equity

(Aligns w/ SP Goal C & G)

Cross-Cultural Initiatives

EPP Policy - Responsible Sourcing

Student Equity Programs

Housing/Food Security/Access to Services/Jobs/Wages

Learning Communities

Environmental & Social Justice

Triple Bottom Line Decisions

CONCEPT DRAFT, 10.3.16

Standing Committee:

Sustainable SRJC

Addressing the Objectives & Metrics of Strategic Plan Goal E:

Establishing a Strong Culture of Sustainability 5 Spheres w Staff Leads

Transportation & Access

(Aligns w/ SP Goal A, D & H)

Transit, City/County
Pedestrians and Bicycles
SMART Train

Rideshare Programs/Carpool
EV Charging Stations

Air Quality

Facilities & Grounds

(Aligns w/ SP Goal D)

Green Design & Construction
Facilities Master Plan
Green Operations
Grounds & Gardens
Interface with Transportation
Interface with E/W/W

Energy/Waste/Water

(Aligns w/ SP Goal D & H)

Renewable Energy

Energy Efficiency

Climate Neutrality/ZNE

Water / Drought Response

Food Systems

Waste Diversion (compost/recycle)
Interface Facilities & Grounds