

# UTBEAT Meeting #1: Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>

**Present:** Janet Harrison, Sarah Yakimowski, Rob Colautti, Natalia Sanina, Jessamyn Manson, Kay Hodgins, Jignasha Patel, Donna Wheeler, Sue Taylor, Maggie Neff, Meg St. John, Maria Bennell, Jacqueline MacDonald, Anne Pound, Damon Dewsbury, Bronwyn Rayfield, Michelle den Hollander, Anna Price, Elah Feder

**Minute-taker:** Kay

**Chairing:** Elah

## **Outline:**

- 1. Introductions and interests of members**
- 2. UTBEAT mission**
- 3. UTBEAT format**
- 4. Project brainstorming**
- 5. Projects to start this summer**
- 6. Next meeting**
- 7. List of project team members**

## **1. Introductions/interests**

- Janet: paper towel recovery, teaching lab issues
- Sarah: surveys of recycling across campus
  - o How efficient are we? How much waste is being diverted?
- Nat: turning lights off
- Jessamyn: carbon credits to offset our GHG emissions
  - o Elah: also paper offsets – plant trees to compensate for paper use
- Jignasha: plastic recovery
  - o Tip recycling is possible
  - o well plates
- Donna: tech teaching labs
- Sue: tons of paper waste in offices
  - o Elah: ReSource project of the Sustainability Office is doing something about this in a few departments including Forestry
- Maggie: website development for UTBEAT
- Maria: taps running in washrooms
  - o Need signs
  - o Different style (non-twisty) of taps may help as well
- Anne: double-siding assignments in courses
- Damon: green roof technology; lighting retrofits; paper recycling – pulping experiments with engineering
- Anna: Ramsay Wright renovations (e.g. glycol leaks)
- Elah: double-siding throughout departments; reducing our greenhouse gas emissions; composting, reducing air conditioning, so that people aren't wearing sweaters in the summer
- All others not listed expressed general interest in helping out

## **2. UTBEAT mission**

- to reduce the ecological footprint of CSB, EEB and Forestry
- Elah: some of these changes will only take us coming together as a group and asking; others will face resistance, but change happens, so we should not get discouraged (e.g. we got recycling implemented at UofT at some point)

## **3. UTBEAT format**

- projects will be mostly run independently by sub-groups
- we will meet once a month to update everyone on the status of our projects and get feedback/ideas from the rest of the group
- we can communicate via mailing list between meetings
  - o Nat will make Google group, which does not require Gmail account to join
  - o Can have a Facebook group for those on Facebook
- Will have elections in the fall for co-coordinators, secretary
- May need treasurer if we have funds
- Elah can coordinate in the interim

## **4. Project brainstorming**

- Anne: we can't make a policy for students to double-side assignments; faculty need to decide that at an executive meeting; we can only encourage & individual profs can make it a policy
- Elah: getting Greenbins outside the building will be easy; harder to get carestaff to take them from our labs to the bins outside; people may need to take their own compost to the bins outside
- Elah: composting already happening in ESC greenhouse and Ramsay Wright animal care facilities
- Can contact Bruce and Andrea about ESC greenhouse composting, Norm for RW composting
- Nat: members of UTBEAT can collect compost – have a bin on each floor
- Donna: issue of vermin at RW
- Composting doesn't mean more garbage, just garbage in a different bin; issue arises if that garbage isn't taken out as regularly
- Garbage is collected every other day in Ramsay Wright; every day in teaching labs
- Meg: green bins may even be better than regular garbage because they're sealed
- City is going to have large bin pick-up for apartments; they can collect it for our buildings too
- City gives the small (indoor) green bins for free;
- Anna: ask dining halls around campus what they do
- Rob: we can start it as a pilot project; determine how much waste is diverted
- Meg: city may support us, as they supported her apartment's composting

## **5. Projects to start this summer**

### **a) Composting**

### **b) Promotion: lights, taps, elevators**

- a. Putting up signs, speaking with admin about getting repairs & changing policies

**c) Paper towel recovery**

**d) Paper reduction**

- a. In courses
- b. In offices
- Anne will insert line in template syllabi encouraging students to double-side; will send email to course instructors
- TAs can tell their students as well
- Jess: why not make it a policy, instead of recommending?

**Website:**

- Johann has offered to make us a website
- Elah will talk to departmental IT guys about getting space for our website
- Jignasha: blog-style website would be informal
- Nat: RSS feed may be good for keeping people posted

**6. Next meeting: Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 11 am; Anne will book same room for us**

**7. Project Team members**

<b>paper reduction</b>	<b>composting</b>	<b>promotion (lights, taps, elevators, recycling)</b>	<b>paper towel recovery</b>
Anne Pound	Damon Dewsbury	Bronwyn Rayfield	Anna Price
Janet Harrison	Donna Wheeler	Jessamyn Manson	Elah Feder
Michelle den Hollander	Elah Feder	Jignasha Patel	Jacqueline MacDonald
Natalia Sanina	Kay Hodgins	Maggie Neff	Janet Harrison
Sarah Yakimowski	Meg St. John	Maria Bennell	
Sue Taylor	Rob Colautti	Natalia Sanina	
Elah Feder	Sarah Yakimowski		