

UTBEAT meeting #2 – June 29th

Present: Donna, Sue, Maria, Maggie, Heather, Patti, Christian, Anna, Ashley, Laura, Janet, Susan, Brenne (spl?)

Chairing + minutes: Elah

Agenda:

1. Composting
2. Paper reduction + paper towel recovery
3. Promotion (lights, electricity, recycling, taps)
4. Website (including constitution)

1. Composting

- Several places around campus have large green bins outside building including Innis and Woodsworth residences, large cafeterias and kitchens, daycare centres, but none have carestaff collecting compost from offices/suites/labs and taking them to the external bins
- Ramsay Wright's (RW) Animal Care and ESC's greenhouse have large green bins which are collected by U of T's Facilities and Services;
 - o Animals Care is very happy with their service of nightly pick-up; have found it diverts a LOT of waste from landfill
- Challenges right now:
 - a) getting small-sized bins for offices/labs
 - b) figuring out how much compost we produce
 - c) figuring out cost to get sealed compost bin for each office
- Donna called city – they will NOT give us free bins; bins cost \$18 each!!
- **Action: Need to ask Meg for her building's contact**, as they got bins for free (Maggie?)
- We might be able to get white pails from RW shops for free (Patti will ask)
- Ashley: there's also a pile of white pails up for grabs on the 6th floor
- **Action: Each UTBEATer's lab will get any kind of sealed container (possibly white pail from 6th floor/shops) and keep track of how much compost they produce for the next month**
- Ultimate challenge: once we know how much the compost program will cost, get approval and money from depts. and maybe Sid Smith for large green bins to be collected alongside the RW Animal Care + ESC Greenhouse green bins

- Promote as *solution* to vermin problem, as we are not increasing food waste, but simply putting it in SEALED containers (compost bins), rather than open containers (garbage bins)
- **Action: Elah will contact Sid Smith/Office** of the Faculty of ArtSci and ask if they'd want to participate + support our program by paying for a greenbin to be placed between Sid Smith and RW

2. Paper reduction + paper towel recovery

- BIO150:
 - **Action: Rob and Sarah in charge of BIO150 blurb, due by end of July**
 - Will prepare text for syllabus, as well as a line next to every assignment's instructions
 - Also important to emphasize this to TAs in Moment's Notice/Instructor's notes
 - Sue is available as back-up
 - **Action: Elah will contact Corey about disseminating Moment's Notice online**
- ReSource:
 - Sustainability Office program to reduce paper use
 - worked with three departments, including Forestry
 - currently on hiatus, will resume in fall
 - anyone interested in getting us involved in this program can ask Elah/Susan K. for Vig's contact info
- Current challenges:
 - a) Compiling list of libraries which have double siding
 - Gerstein's does not have double-siding, but Robarts and Earth Sci do
 - we don't need to speak with *all* libraries, just those close to the bio buildings and the other two campuses
 - b) creating online resource for double-siding
 - c) compiling list of all course instructors and coordinators
- **Action: Heather (with help from Elah) will develop online resource for double-siding**
- **Action: Sue will get a list of all CSB courses + their instructors from Janet Mannone**
- **Action: Elah will ask Anne Pound for the same list for EEB**
- once we have the lists, we'll divide them up among UTBEAT members who can speak with instructors/coordinators about implementing a policy of double-siding
- points to emphasize:

- BIO150 is doing this
- May be U of T policy to accept double-sided assignments (Elah currently looking for people who know of the ENSU campaign)
- We will provide resources for students → should not be too much of a burden for them
- Susan and Forestry peeps will get list for Forestry (and be in charge of all Forestry UTBEAT projects?!)
 - Paper Towel Recovery:
 - Janet – paper towel recovery already happening in bathrooms
 - According to Reno of Facilities and Services, paper towels from bathrooms are recycled as paper
 - Current challenge: raise awareness that wet but *unsoiled* paper towels can be recycled, so that they don't get thrown out in labs/ offices (a Promotions task)

3. Promotion (+ funding and recycling issues)

- Need money for campaign materials (signs, stickers, paint, etc.)
- Need undergrads to lead projects to get money from UTERN
- Harder to find undergrads during summer, as student unions on hiatus
- hook up with ENSU to collaborate with more undergrads
- **Action: all UTBEAT members should recruit undergrad summer helpers from labs – tell them to join the list by emailing efeder@zoo.utoronto.ca or going to <http://groups.google.ca/group/utbeat>**
- **Action: Heather plus undergrad in her lab will apply for money with application form on UTERN website: <http://utern.sa.utoronto.ca/form/uternform.html>**
- each lab needs two bins: one for paper, one for other recyclables (1 & 2 plastics, recyclables)
- **ACTION: Elah will confirm that these recyclables need to be separated with Reno**
 - Some labs are missing bins (e.g. Patti's), and we need to find out which ones
 - **ACTION: Donna will check basement and 1st floor RW for missing bins**
 - **ACTION: Christian will check 3rd floor RW for missing bins**
 - **ACTION: Maria will check 4th floor RW for missing bins**
 - **ACTION: Janet will check teaching labs missing bins**
 - **ACTION: Forestry peeps will check forestry**
- **Email Janet at lorax@zoo.utoronto.ca if you find missing bins and she will let Reno know**
- Still need people for ESC and RW 2nd, 5th and 6th floors

Maria's promotions team report:

- so far have come up with some ideas:
 - walk around building, see what rooms have too many lights; take out bulbs
 - talk to people & encourage them to use less light
 - Elah: must let facilities know when we take out bulbs, so they don't replace them
 - "George" is in charge of lights at RW (and ESC??); communicates primarily via notes on carestaff office door (across from RW 1st floor elevators)
 - Heather might have his phone number

 - teaching labs → encourage BIO150 TAs to use less light
 - Donna to look into replacing all bulbs with compact fluorescents

 - taps –surveillance to know which taps are top offenders
 - Janet – 3rd floor women's washroom is bad
 - Sue: some limp-wristed women on 4th floor
 - signs for washrooms to remind people to turn off taps
 - Elah: may need new washers for some
 - Campaign to inform people of "83000" to get taps repaired in labs/offices? Ask Tamar what she'd prefer.

 - Need signs for elevators
 - UTM has "think of your heart" signs
 - Donna: small plaque next to up/down buttons may be effective
 - Elah: paint on elevator doors
 - Maria: Find out how much energy is used by elevators to include in signs

4. website content

- **ACTION: Heather to find constitution for us to copy**
 - Susan: group like ENSU might be better than UTERN, which is primarily dedicated to giving away money

5. Next meeting: Thursday August 2nd – 10:30 am