

UTBEAT Meeting #5: Oct 25th, 2007

Present: Christian, Maria, Cam, Jessica, Virginia, Greta, Parth, Laura S., Ying, Simona, Patti

Chairing: Christian

Minutes: Patti

Agenda:

1. Current projects
2. 2007/08 projects and project teams
3. Elections: phase II
4. Next meeting

1. Current projects

- Christian and Maria describe composting and paper reduction projects

- composting

- Maria reported property manager is concerned about composting bins at RWZL and ESC attracting rodents
- Simona listed other U of T buildings that are currently composting as examples of successfully composting that could be cited to the property manager
- Simona informed group of UBC's on site composting project
- Christian suggested research of this nature would be useful to show U of T management that we are falling behind other large Canadian universities in environmental issues
- Patti reported that Janet has been putting recycling bins, composting bins and signs in the lunch rooms of RWZL and BIO252 labs to direct people to the correct bins

Action: Maria will talk to Janet about signs for composting/recycling for the rest of the building and ESC

- paper reduction

- Maria outlined the results of a meeting she and Elah had with the EEB chair, Rob Baker, who was in favour of the double-siding policy and the undergraduate committee who were not
- Jessica reported that McGill has a paper reducing policy
- Elah will need to update the group on this project at the next meeting

Action: Jessica will look into McGill policy and update Elah

- Promotions
- Maria outlines the progress made for promotions:
 - Maria has contact the property manager about the leaky taps and he is concerned with the cost of fixing all leaky taps in the building but is okay with UTBEAT putting up signs to remind people to fully turn off taps after use
 - Property manager is also fine with us putting up signs to reduce elevator use in the buildings

Action: determine if funds can be found to make signs for taps and elevators

- Maria also discusses reduced lighting and contacted the property manager about this who told her that they can remove superfluous lights if requested

Action: Maria will email the departments about voluntary lighting removal and will compile a list of willing labs for building services

2. 2007/08 projects and project teams

- Elah will stay on as the paper reduction project leader
- Simona will lead the compost project and will contact Elah about the logistics

Possible projects:

- Laura S. proposed an off-campus event to promote UTBEAT and increase environmental awareness, such as tree planting or a beach clean-up
- Ying proposed an origami fundraiser in collaboration with an origami club at U of T, selling eco-friendly origami around campus using recycled paper

3. Elections

- Christian described the positions and the following positions were filled:

Earth Sciences Coordinator: Greta (acclaimed)

Undergraduate Representatives: Parth and Ying (acclaimed)

Action: Parth and Ying will promote UTBEAT in undergraduate classes to increase membership

4. Next meeting

- The next meeting date was not arranged as the coordinator needs to be determined before a suitable meeting time can be decided on
- Christian will discuss with Elah a date and time for the next meeting