



UTBEAT meeting minutes

2011-01-10

In attendance:
Daryl, Aaron

Next Meeting: February (second week)

Attendance: Daryl, Aaron. Good times!

Agenda:

Previous items:

- Mugs for drinks at departmental events. (Daryl)
- Mug collection for departmental events (Daryl and Aaron)
- Posters: Lab Sustainability Tips (Daryl and Aaron following feedback from others)
- Plant Adopt-a-thon (Anandi)
- Undergrad outreach (Guarav, Attiya, Caroline, Daryl)
- Composting (in undergrad residences) (Guarav, Yibo)
- Paper saving (Guarav, Anandi)

New Items:

- Coffee Cup Sleeve reuse! (Aaron)
- Swap shop stuff (Daryl and Aaron)
- E-waste recycling (Daryl and Aaron)
- Administrative: Meeting minutes and website (Attiya)

- **Food at Departmental events**

DARYL: Speak to Food and beverages services re: reusable cups? For alcoholic drinks?

- **MUG-PLATE CAMPAIGN**

Progress: Guarav has picked up mugs. These mugs have to be received by CSB/UTBEAT and Guarav still requires reimbursement.

The requirement of branding the mugs with UTBEAT was once again brought up. Branding is thought to

- (1.) increase awareness of UTBEAT's contributions,
- (2.) cover up any possible branding currently on mugs, and
- (3.) allow us to "mark" our mugs.

Therefore, branding will be happening with another "mug painting" party.

Daryl: needs to pick up mugs from, and reimburse, Guarav.

Aaron: will ask friend re: painting mugs in a more durable fashion?

Daryl: ask Elah re: the ceramic paint.

Daryl: ask Guarav re: colour of mugs.

Daryl will plan the next mug painting party to happen before the end of January.

- **POSTERS**

AARON has designed posters to be put up. These are punchy, succinct, and witty. These posters are meant to quickly attract the attention of those waiting for the elevators at ESC and RW.

Daryl: follow up with poster. Print out on Friday. Investigate where to print out and on what media: Card stock? More durable/coloured paper?

Aaron: suitability of posters for ESC? Ask about putting them up in ESC?

- **Plant adop-a-thon!**

1. **Plant Adoption:** Ask people to donate their unused plants. We can replant those plants and give them out or request other people to adopt those plants. We also can put on a sticker on UTBEAT on the pot that will help us to spread the name of UTBEAT. **This plan is a go-ahead.**

Anandi: create follow-up announcement for this. Have first draft ready by Monday Jan 17th

Send out as an email announcement by next Wednesday (January 19th)

- **Undergrad outreach**

2. UTBEAT plans to give out 10\$ Gift cards along with a certificate to the students in appreciation of good suggestions about what else UTBEAT can do to make the university a more eco-friendly place. We have to contact Janet Harrison for the CSB undergraduate list serve and Courtney for the EEB list serve so that we can send email to all the undergraduate students about the UTBEAT competition. **This plan is still a go-ahead.** The email will be sent out sometime before Monday Jan 17th to coincide with the beginning of the semester.

For gifts **ANANDI** will look into getting some mugs from Goodwill the budget is around 10\$.

Daryl will follow up with the undergrad outreach team (Attiya, Guarav, Caroline, and Aaron) about the email.

First draft of the proposal should be done for Friday Jan 14th. Announcement sent out by Monday Jan 17th.

- **COMPOSTING**

At previous meeting, undergrads were to ask about green bins in residences. This will have to be followed up.

1. Introduce green bins at the University Residences. **GAURAV** and **YIBO** have to ask undergraduate students about whether they have green bin in their residences or not. **DARYL** has to forward an email to **GAURAV** about the link to Facilities and Services
2. **DARYL is going to ask whether we can put green bins next to the trash bins near the elevators in all the floors of Ramsay Wright**, whether it complies to the fire code or not.

- **SAVE PAPER**

The following actions were from last meeting and will have to be followed up.

1. **GAURAV** will talk to someone in the Human Biology department to request students to print their assignments on double sides.
2. **ANANDI** will talk to her the economics department about asking the students to print their assignments on double sides

New items:

- Coffee Cup sleeve reuse!

Aaron noticed that the coffee cup paper sleeves are completely reusable. There is an opportunity to set up a re-use bin wherein vendors can collect these sleeves for re-use. Aaron has already mentioned the Second Cup at the Utoronto Grad House is open to the idea.

Aaron: Coffee cup sleeve collection bin? By garbage? Ask Sarah (from UeaT/Aramark) and second cup guy.

Swap stuff?

Daryl noticed that sometimes staff put out office items (e.g. empty binders, hanging folder organizers, folders) for re-use. Could there be something for ESC? Should this be coordinated with the Sustainability Office's Swap Shop? These things are more likely to be taken and used if it is within the convenience of the building itself.

Daryl: Look into coordinating this in RW with the staff. Will ask Sue Taylor and other administrators. Could this be set up in the 4th floor lounge?

Aaron: Will look for a place in ESC.

- Electronics recycling

Dr. Dorothea Godt has brought to our attention the lack of knowledge regarding the recycling, disposal, or reuse of old electronic equipment. This has been identified by her as a big problem. Staff and faculty are really unaware of its fate other than setting it outside.

Preliminary research by Daryl: items are collected by the Facilities and Services (U of T). There is also a Swap Shop (Sustainability Office). However, there is still the concern regarding the ethical and responsible recycling of these materials (i.e. not ending up in third world countries).

Daryl: will look into this further. Will ask Facilities and Services about how electronics are recycled. Will also ask the Sust. Office regarding the controls for the Swap Shop.

Daryl and Aaron: Maybe set up a collection/recycling drive? This can be coordinated with F&S and/or the Swap Shop if their e-waste is responsibly managed.

This is timely considering it is the new year; people tend to want to get rid of their old e-junk.

Website updating

Daryl noticed Meeting Minutes and news are not being posted. Website should be up to date.

Daryl: follow up with web master (Attiya) re: website updating.

E.g. "Future UTBEAT Projects vote survey" should be removed, and our email put up instead. Removing the request to join our google listserv. (among others)

Attiya: Will update the website to include minutes and news.