

Nicholas School Student Council

Meeting Minutes: April 8, 2008

Meeting held to discuss current and future collaborations of all groups who stem from the Nicholas School of the Environment.

Student groups:

- Need to improve communication
- Collaborate
- Communication and collaboration would increase productivity of student groups by combining forces

NSSC Update:

- Tim Profeta of the Nicholas Institute is collaborating with NSSC to conduct an Obama/Clinton environmental advisor debate.
- Graduation:
 - Need to help Nancy Kelly with composting at ceremony and reception

Introduction of NS Groups at Meeting:

NSSC:

- Role is to improve student- faculty working relationship
- Improve student life at the nic-school
- Alumni relations
- Prof. skills modules
- Improve student leadership and opportunity for leadership

Farmhand:

- Volunteer group, assists also with community gardens/ local farmers
- Goal: to increase knowledge of students and community about local farmers
- Create symbiotic rapport btwn. several groups

DUGI (Duke University Greening Initiative):

- Launching several initiatives to make Duke University more sustainable and “green”

Duke Fish- Fishery Society

- Marine & Fresh Fish
- Field Trip
 - Weekend as a CEM, explore the coast

- Sustainable seafood festival
- Speakers
- Seafood symposium- informational purchasing, eating

Coastal Society:

- Expanding activities to greater Durham
- Neuse River Triathlon
- Only a few chapters exist- perhaps looking to expand
- Networking w/ professionals

EIF:

- Student Fundraising for summer internships
- Collaborates also with Farmhand

SIDG:

- International Env. Conferences

Society of American Foresters:

NC Conservation Biology:

- NC State & UNC also have chapters
- Membership also includes Professors
- Service Events
- Fieldtrips
- Meetings

Campus Sustainability Committee:

WEGLA:

- Latin America focus
- Sustainability Speaker
- Sustainable Dev.
- Sustainable Furniture just one of the speakers promoted by group

Gray Devils:

- Group formed for the more mature members of the Nicholas School
- Socials and other activities

Duke Chapter- Association for Fire Ecology:

Green Builders:

Energy Club:

- Energy related field trip
- At times collaborates with Fuqua for internship discussion

Ideas to improve group collaboration and communication:

- Representative from each club could come to student council meetings
- List serve
- List groups of clubs needs to be established and presidents listed
- Online discussion group could be established
- Google calendar, link needs to be improved so that it is more accessible to masses
- Environmental Alliance

Goal:

- Networking
- Green drinks
- Once a semester networking activity
- Student Organizations web page could be more accessible, updated, detailed, etc.
- Need to have centrally located information bank of funding sources for Nicholas School
- Submit budget requests

How to prevent overlap of groups, ideas, etc.:

- Coordinate w/ other student groups
- Weekly digest w/ events listed
 - Group leaders would have to email NSSC in advance
- Google Calendar reminders
- Organize with Fuqua for website ideas
- Student leaders emails will be collected at this meeting
- Organization handbook is somewhat in existence but needs to be updated