

Date: December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

JCES Meeting Minutes

Location: Union 3120

Minutes Prepared by: Lisa Walker

Members Present: Andrew Ericson, Margot Higgins, Jordan, Brian Pompeii, Barrett Klein, Lisa Walker, Scott Brown, Hannah Dull, Erin Teegan, Lisa Pitot, Avery Britz-Brown, Todd Will, Sadie Kuhl, Caroline Ingwell, Hannah Duke, Adam Driscoll, Taylor Wilmoth, Daniel Sambu

Guests: Cassidy Link

1. Approval of Minutes

a. [11-1-24 Minutes](#)

b. *Motion to approve by Brian, second from Margot. Motion passed.*

2. New Business

a. UWL Strategic Planning + Sustainability Discussion

i. *Including sustainability in the strategic plan this time around!*

b. Spring Semester Plan

i. *Andrew will send out Spring's meeting dates*

ii. *Considering charges from the Chancellor about shrinking the JCES committee and other charges*

3. Old Business

a. Committee Charges

i. Institutional Carbon Commitment Discussion

1. *Cost, Feasibility, Institutional Comparison*

a. *Andrew compiled data on peer institutions and their varying commitments via Second Nature.*

- b. Loyola of Chicago recently announced they reached Net Zero Carbon Neutrality.*
- c. Renewable energy, offsets = paying money to reduce emissions elsewhere, generally understood as a disingenuous method to reach admissions reduction.*

2. Social Cost/Impact

- a. Energy use, infrastructure hazards, health costs with vector borne diseases, ecosystem services – like a loss of wetlands like the marsh, agriculture impact.*
- b. Offset discussion again about offset options like students traveling abroad to work in forests, etc.*

3. Impact on Students: mental health + recruitment/retention.

- a. Contacted another school for information and plans to contact Student Support Services.*
- b. Discussion about potentially doing a survey. Drafted questions. Possibly add a question about how many classes discuss sustainability.*
- c. Related to recruitment, added an environmental course requirement recently. Look to incorporate a research component in the future?*

4. Alignment with ongoing work with Indigenous Communities.

- a. Falls under a larger moral obligation.*
- b. Medicine gardens.*
- c. Asking NASA what their priorities would be.*

- d. Ensuring the perseverance and recovery of biodiversity areas, adding this language into the strategic plan.*
- e. Providing funding specifically for Indigenous students to participate in global conversations and workshops about sustainability.*

5. Next Step

- a. Proposal to write a letter to the Chancellor like the one supporting the coordinator position but about our recommendations regarding this plan.*

4. Announcements

5. Adjournment