EnviroAlums

Steering Committee Meeting

June 25th, 2016: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m Eastern.

Present: Andrew deCoriolis, Walt Galloway, Paul Safyan, Abe Kruger, Molly D, Susan Bernat **Absent**: Andrew Barnett, Anders Furguson, Meredith Dowling, John Petersen, Tim Ballard, Kristen Brazunas, Hanni Muerdter, Peter Nicholson

Updates

1. Fellowships

a. EnviroAlums gave two fellowships for the summer of 2016. Great job selection committee!

2 Career event

a. The career event that EnviroAlums hosted in April was a big success. We plan to do similar events in the future. Summary of the event at the bottom. We'll add a write up to the website.

New business:

- 1. Newsletter—someone needs to draft it
 - a. Peter volunteered to draft a first EnviroAlums newsletter that will be sent out to all members. The subcommittee will create a draft newsletter and send it to the SC for approval before sending it. Susan will help edit the newsletter.
 - b. Paul can help build our database of members but can't help write the content.
 - c. Additional volunteers are needed to help write a newsletter. Our goal is to do two newsletter per year.

2. Divestment update—next steps

The second divestment proposal was rejected. Apparently Oberlin does not have any investments in the 200 companies included in the proposal. Next steps are to:

- a. Confirm with Anders that we do not have investments in funds that are invested in the two hundred companies included in the divestment proposal.
- b. If we have no funds invested in fossil fuel we may ask for a statement from the college that moving forward no investment will be made in those 200 companies.
- c. Ask for greater public access to investment information. How can we tell what the college invests in?
- d. Walt will follow up with Andres to find out more about what college is doing.

3. Facebook pages

EnvirroAlums has a <u>Facebook page</u>. Please join it! There is also an "<u>ENVS at Oberlin</u>" Facebook page for current students.

4. Membership form

Peter and Andrew are working on updating the membership page. It should be done by August. We'll use this to make a larger membership drive.

5. Regular meeting time

We discussed having a regular, and annual, Steering Committee meeting dates. This will

hopefully make it easier for people to participate. Fewer people have been joining SC meetings and so we are going to reduce the number of meetings from four per year to two per year.

During our last call we agreed to have two regularly scheduled Steering Committee meetings per year and conduct the rest of our business over email or with subcommittees as needed.

The next call will be September 24, 2016 at 9am Pacific / Noon Eastern The spring call will be held March 25, 2017 at 9am Pacific / Noon Eastern

Feedback on careers event

Also, on a separate but related note, here are my thoughts on the Environmental Careers event. It was so great for me as a junior to attend this event, as I am trying to figure out what kind of career would work for me as a person. It was helpful to hear career advice from Mr. Nicholson, as well as what recent alums are doing. The networking workshop was also extremely useful, and the panels were also amazing. Overall, it was a positive experience for me. It could potentially be a two-day event, in order to spread out the talks and also allow more time for students to talk individually with the alumni and speakers. Also it would be better if more students were there, which as I organized the AJLC open house the day after and it was under-attended, I know can be difficult to get people to come to an event. Another way to work with this could be spreading out the individual careers talks/events throughout a week in order to gain more traction or ability for lots of people to come. I also plan on filling out a form that I received from Jane a few days ago with some more details, but these are my overall thoughts. It was a super useful and worthwhile event for me to attend, and I appreciate all the hard work that went into planning it!