COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

Chemistry Sustainability Plan

Strategic Plan 2007- 2012 Objective 4.F.3

Lynn R. Sousa, Acting Chair November 15, 2007

- 1. Teleconference instead of travel, when possible
 - --Dr. Lang has used 3 teleconferences in her special course on The Chemistry of Artists Pigments so students can meet conservation scientist. The LSAMP Director and Chair have used conference calls to communicate with other universities in the LSAMP INDIANA consortium rather than travel.
- 2. Request a hybrid car when traveling. Faculty have requested hybrids when travelling; we will encourage more requests in the future.
- Carpool, whenever possible.
 We always carpool when travelling to local or area meetings.
- 4. Commute to and from campus by public transportation or by walking or biking, whenever safe and possible.
 - Three faculty walk to work; three to four ride their bike regularly. Others live out of town.
- 5. Request fluorescent bulbs to replace incandescent bulbs. We might be able to replace some of the demo lights and board lights in CP 188 with fluorescent, but I think most of the main lights are already fluorescent.
- 6. Request occupancy sensor lighting in classrooms and offices. We have sensor lighting in classrooms and hallways. We had requested this in offices, but did not get any reply from facilities. We will ask again. Our technician put auto-off devices on our computers in our computer labs.
- 7. Use electronic communication, not paper, as the primary means of communication. The office communicates almost entirely by email. Agendas, announcements, etc.
- 8. If paper communication is necessary, use both sides, if possible. This is the standard mode of coping.
- 9. Use electronic "hand-outs" for class and meetings, when possible. Many of our faculty are using electronic hand-outs, but others still need to be encouraged.
- 10. Avoid using electronic appliances in personal offices, unless required for good health (e.g., space heaters, microwaves, refrigerators, TVs, radios, fans, etc.). These are avoided.
- 11. When appropriate use labtops to teach and take notes, thus avoiding paper. They are used when appropriate.
- 12. Use recycle bins regularly and properly. They are used properly.
- 13. Express a preference for, or choose, recycled products, when ordering. This is the preferred action.

- 14. When appropriate in the curriculum, consider sustainability or other environmentally green topics. We have faculty who cover these topics in their courses.
- 15. When appropriate for faculty research or for mentored student research, consider sustainability or other environmentally green topics. We have 3 faculty with research expertise in environmentally green topics.
- 16. Be careful with the use of distilled water. Will need to be encouraged.

Our big challenge in the department of chemistry is to reduce copier use. We do not give multiple choice exams, since problem-solving exams are our mode of evaluation. However, we can be more judicious in the use of paper hand-outs for classes, and try to find more creative ways to achieve the same pedagogy. Our Equipment and Facilities Committee is discussing this and will come up with a recommendation to the faculty.