



The **UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA**
Environmental Concerns Committee

Minutes

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING 02/1/2018

Call To Order

A meeting of the Environmental Concerns Committee was held in Gould Hall on February 2nd, 2018. It began at 9:02 AM and was presided by Burr Millsap, Associate Vice President for Administration & Finance and this year's Committee Chair.

Attendees

Voting Members in Attendance: Suchi Bhattacharjee, Tom Burns, Sara Mata, Jeff Widener

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance: Sarah Ballew, Gary Gress, Dave Hambright, Brian Holderread, Burr Millsap, John Sarantakos, Kolt Vaughn, Gina Werdel, Jerami Wright

Agenda Items

- I. Presentation by John Sarantakos, Director of Printing, Mailing and Document Services

Background:

Printing Services was established in 1908 and currently operates as the largest university in-plant printing service in the nation. Annually, Printing, Mailing and Document Services realizes \$16 million in annual sales/budget and serves the Norman, Health Science Center and Tulsa campuses as well as other universities, state and non-profit agencies. Since 1990, they have received upwards of 240 awards, with many coming from the Oklahoma City American Advertising Awards (ADDY's). The group strives to be a full service provider, while emphasizing both value (cost competitiveness) as well as quality. Recently, they have implemented a "Got Quality" campaign aimed to empower production workers to ask questions regarding quality and elevate their production process.

Environmental Achievements:

- 1990 Printing, Mailing and Document Services transitioned to soy inks, which drastically lower volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- 2000 Printing, Mailing and Document Services eliminated chemicals from their pre-press production stage, becoming the first printing service in Oklahoma to do so.
- 2017 Printing, Mailing and Document Services is awarded the Environmental Concerns Committee's Environmental Stewardship Award in recognition for their use of inks without VOCs and for their paper and metal recycling.

Environmental Efforts:

- Campus Copying Program – efforts are made to right size the copying machines, eliminate desk-side printers, and charge the copying vendors to teach our campus community “not to print,” meaning to scan and email wherever possible. In 2008, the campus used approximately 175,000 reams of paper. In 2018, the campus is projected to reduce use down to approximately 100,000 reams of paper. In the previous 7 years, the cost savings associated with paper reduction has amounted to \$7 million dollars.
- Paper scraps and waste are recycled through the OU campus recycling program. The scrap and waste material is of high quality paper and is free of toner, which adds value to the materials being recycled. At the beginning of the year, a paper compactor was installed which reduces the number of trips which OU Recycling has to make and reduces the labor associated with recycling the materials.
- Printing, Mailing and Document Services has entered into an agreement with Kodak to recycle metal. In the last year, they were able to recycle 30,000 pounds of metal. This agreement also allowed them to lower their expenses associated with doing business with Kodak.
- Office lights have been retrofitted to LED and as power bays are needing to be replaced, LEDs are chosen for replacements.
- Central Mail serves as the method of transport for spent toner cartridges, taking the cartridges from campus to OU Recycling.
- Pallets are recycled.
- Cardboard boxes are reused and repurposed before they are recycled.
- Delivery vehicles are fueled by natural gas.

Open House: Printing, Mailing and Document Services will be hosting an Open House on February 27th and all invited.

Questions:

1. The mission statement takes up a large part of the back of our OU standardized business cards. Is it possible to have that removed so that the card can function as something to take notes on?

Response: Printing, Mailing and Document Services does not choose the design of the business card. Burr Millsap offered to email this comment to the appropriate contact.

2. Is your department able to update existing flyers or programming material? How are fees assessed?

Response: Yes. We have very capable designers. Fees are assessed at a design hourly rate.

3. Is it possible to transition your operations to use only 100% recycled content paper?

Response: It is possible, and we do offer 100% recycled content to our customers, but typically the customer chooses a paper which is not 100% recycled content paper because of the cost premium associated with that paper choice. Our paper does come from vendors which are Forest Stewardship Council certified, which is a group that sets standards for responsible forest management.

4. Who are some of your largest customers?

Response: Athletics, Prospective Students and OSU Fire Training

II. Earth Month

Earth Month will be held from World Water Day (March 22nd) through Earth Day (April 22nd). We are at approximately 50% of our needed donations. Please lobby your departments and deans to support our efforts. Food & Housing has committed to provide refreshments for events.

Tentative Programming:

- Sooners Without Borders Water Carry
- Panel on Environmental Challenges in Oklahoma
- Panel on the Corix Plains Institute
- Panel on Stewardship and the Environment
- Panel on Low Impact Development
- In negotiations with previous EPA Administrator, Gina McCarthy

III. Student Group Updates

- Green Week is scheduled from April 16th – April 20th. Fundraising for programming has just began. A more concrete outline of events will be provided at the next ECC meeting.
- Student Environmental Coalition aims to have a large representation of the sustainability student groups at the spring Responsibility and Sustainability Fair. They want it to be an opportunity to bring awareness to the existing student groups and to gain membership in those student groups.

IV. Environmental Stewardship Award

- We have 3 nominations which were received within the 3 days following the Provost Weekly Bulletin. We need to investigate as to whether or not we can include the nomination in the bulletin a second time or send a form of a second reminder.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM.