

Student Farm Initiative

Meeting Minutes – August 20th, 2014

5-6:30pm, 118 ASI

Attendees: Lara, Mack, Hayly, Emily, Nate, Leslie

A small but mighty team joined together this evening to discuss progress made over the summer for the student farm initiative, which included networking with faculty, site visits to the Dickinson College farm and campus, and connecting with other campus farms during the Sustainable Agricultural Education Association conference in Raleigh, NC, in early August.

We made decisions today regarding:

1. Weekly meetings: currently decided on Thursdays, 6:30-8pm (bring dinner if you like), in Willard (central for many students). 8/28 will be the first trial for this meeting time.
 - o Location is TBD: who do we contact to book a room for the semester?
2. Kick-off potluck: @ the Co.Space housing cooperative, on Thurs, 9/11, 7-9pm. RSVP and sign up for what food you will bring on the [potluck signup form online](#).
3. Weekly meetings will be a time for task groups to share updates across the different teams on what they've been working on from the week before, i.e. landscape architect task group will present renderings of how the farm might look in the future, or create a plan view of the farm based on input from the main group. This is also a time to bring any issues to the whole group, for troubleshooting. People not actively working on a project are also needed and invited, to share feedback and input with everyone. Meetings can also serve as work time for the task teams, since we all get busy outside of meetings with other projects. Task teams can decide how to communicate among themselves, such as setting up a live Google document, creating a blog, or sharing documents via email.
4. The goal is to complete a series of deliverables for the farm proposal that Leslie can present in DECEMBER or JANUARY to start securing resources. So, this is the semester we'll be doing overall site design, curricula planning, business and management plans, etc. The more material we have to present to the administration in charge of approving the project, the stronger the proposal will be. After approval, we will fill in more details of the plans in future semesters.
5. We discussed posting a list of deliverables on the blog that can be updated to reflect our progress with each successive meeting. This is a chance for students to commit to projects. Check out the Get Involved! page on the blog for ongoing updates.
6. Individuals tonight signed up for preliminary tasks that need to be done, such as representing the Student Farm Initiative next week during student involvement fairs in the HUB and elsewhere on campus. The task list also includes announcing the project at the beginning of classes and spreading the word throughout your department that interested students should get on the email list-serve to stay connected. We will keep a running list of contacts in a Google document as well, so have paper handy if someone wants to give you an email contact, and plan to add them to our list.

7. Blogging ideas and stories about this and other campus farm projects highly encouraged! We want to share many voices on the blog expressing why students want this farm to exist and thrive sustainably for a long time.
8. If you want to do a bigger project for the initiative, be sure to ask your advisor or professor how you can get credit for your work, either as an internship or independent study. (Plant Sciences students→Tarrah knows some of you are interested in the project, and this could be a good fit for your internship credits.)
9. Blogging meeting minutes will be a rotating privilege. 😊
10. The ice cream was delicious! See you next time!