**Landscape Stewardship Committee (LSC)**

**02/20/18**

**Direction and Focus for the Group**

* To determine potential directions and areas of focus for the LSC, Sarah Hansen combined the ideas offered at our first meeting with ideas gleaned from a meeting with Lynne Schaefer, VP of Finance and Administration and Lenn Caron, AVP of Facilities Management.
* From UMBC’s Strategic Plan:
  + “Expand the amount, type and utilization of informal space on and off campus that is available to students to study together, collaborate on creative work, recreate, socialize, or interact with faculty and staff. These spaces should create opportunities for informal peer-to-peer communication and relationships that increase sense of community, retention, and graduation rates.”
  + ***Our role:*** *We can inform creation of these spaces as projects arise from a landscape stewardship perspective*
* From the Facilities Master Plan:
  + “Sustainability” and “Campus Setting” are two of four major goal areas
  + Particularly relevant goals/objectives include:
    - Implement initiatives that improve energy efficiency, enhance water and air quality, and engage natural systems.
    - Create a campus that has dynamic learning environments to foster interaction.
    - Be good stewards of the earth and its natural resources: Energy conservation, buildings, recycling and waste reduction, and environmental awareness, but nothing explicit about supporting wildlife.
  + ***Our role:*** *Provide input on new projects and possibly suggest projects in line with these goals.*
* From the Climate Action Plan:
  + Storm water retention
  + Building sustainable landscape features into new projects, including the Event Center and those underway at the ILSB.
  + ***Our role:*** *Provide input on projects.*

**Ideas Moving Forward**

* Visibility of green features on campus will be key to instilling pride in those efforts among the UMBC community and increasing the support behind any future suggested projects.
* Possible projects to start today:
  + Event Center signage re: Herbert Run Greenway
    - This item is on hold for now, as a wayfinding system is part of the ILSB project. Event Center signage will follow whatever system is established for ILSB.
  + CERA visibility: Improving and sharing website, collecting and publicizing CERA usage for research and teaching
  + Developing and operating Green Tours of campus – partner with Admissions
  + Advocating for landscaping for wildlife: NWF Wildlife Habitat Certification
    - Members of the team working on the pollinator garden will research this certification
  + Create a list of unsightly “concrete areas” that over time may be able to be converted to green space
  + Research safety film to protect birds from flying into building windows
  + Encourage the Retriever to reinstate its “Green Space” column.

Feel free to send questions my way.

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