Faculty Forum Notes:

During the faculty forum, the attendees made the following suggestions:

- Priority should be placed on integrating sustainability into faculty research over academic courses. A potential partnership with the Research Office could be fostered to assist with funding.
- The Office of Environmental Sustainability should clearly articulate the connection between current research and sustainability. Example of Health and Wellness study.
- Create a large interdepartmental seminar, taught by multiple faculty representing different disciplines.
- Offer small grants to faculty to be used towards sustainability in the classroom. One example is to offer funds to use towards sustainable field trips.
- Bridge regional resources with campus (ex. Radix Center).
- Give faculty recognition for serving as sustainability liaisons for their departments. They are juggling many obligations, so a formal service would allow them to prioritize sustainability.
- Research question data base would be effective.
- Offer campus sustainability data (including energy use, recycling) so that a classes can do research projects. It will also promote place-based learning.
- Integrate garden into many disciplines. Potential uses for the gardens include heritage gardens, research gardens, community gardens and permaculture gardens.

If you have any additional suggestions, please fill out the faculty survey if you have not already done so.

Preliminary results from the survey indicated that:

- The THINKGREEN list serv message and invite from F&B were the most effective means of communication.
- Most attendees were subscribed to THINKGREEN
- The events that engaged the most people are: Earth and Wellness Day, the Sustainability Roundtables and Sustainability Week.
- The initiatives that received the most interest are:
  1. establishing a small grants program
  2. service learning opportunities/interdisciplinary speaker series (tied)
  3. professional development on integrating sustainability into the curriculum

We also received some great ideas on how to recognize people, communicate with the campus and get people to come to events. We’ll start hashing some of these ideas out this summer and get back to everyone via the THINKGREEN list serv.