Zero Waste SWATeam Meeting

Date: 4/9/21

Time: 4PM CDT

Attendees: Tim Stark (co-chair & faculty), BK Sharma (co-chair & Faculty), Thurman Etchison (Staff), Leah Courtney (student), Cassidy Steel (student), Alexa Smith (clerk), Julija Sakutyte (clerk)

Agenda

* May Scheduling & Summary of rest of semester
	+ JS will be leaving position at the end of SP21.
	+ Alexa Smith will likely be the new SWATeam clerk.
	+ Meeting Schedule: 4/23 and 5/7
* C. Aylmer: Third Party Vendor Assessment Recommendation
	+ Not discussed.
* Roundtable discussion
	+ Elimination of thermal paper receipts
		- Tabled until next semester.
		- ***Potential Recommendation:*** Pursue sustainable receipt options to divert receipts from waste stream.
			* Change operations to eliminate paper receipts, where possible.
				+ Add infrastructure to accommodate e-receipts.
			* Where infrastructure concerns arise, seek recyclable/compostable/biodegradable/etc receipts.
	+ Education of waste management to students
		- Tabled until next semester.
		- LAS 101
		- ***Potential Recommendation:*** RA Training
			* Jenna will reach out to Sustainability LLC Director.
			* Thurman will reach out to housing director.
		- ***Potential recommendation:*** Education of administrators/purchasers.
			* P-card training.
	+ Single Use Plastics in Vending Machines
		- This specific idea tabled until next semester.
		- Do we still want to pursue this?
			* Response lukewarm, as there are many barriers to the implementation of aluminum products, as well as a free standing fountain (RFID-tagged + dispenser).
			* Plastic is profitable again in recycling market.
		- Discussion: Water is the #1 vending machine item; why?
			* ***Potential recommendation:*** Survey on drinking water behavior.
			* Changing opinions on water behavior habits.
				+ ***Potential Recommendation:*** Education campaign.