

**RCE-GWS Working Group (WG) Meeting**
**Minutes** of meeting 9th June 2015, 8.30am – 9.30am at UWS Parramatta campus

**ATTENDENCE:** Margaret Somerville UWS, Brittany Hardiman UWS, Jen Dollin UWS, Helen Angelakis UWS, Elizabeth Hellenpach TAFE WSI, Damien Feneley DEC, Mike Bartlett SOPA, Eric Brocken HDRA/ATA, Greg Cheetham TAFE WSI

**APOLOGIES:** Debra Keenahan UWS

1. **NEW MEMBERS**

Nil applied. Interest from Royal Agricultural Society, Local Land Services GWS and Youth Food Movement GWS

1. **WORKING GROUP OVERVIEWS
Major issues:** documentation process, member participation external to meetings, time commitmentsand how to direct active involvement?

**2.1 International Youth Engagement –** WG has no official membership, other than member participation at meetings. The question is “how do we engage our youth internationally?” Major project is the Youth Eco Summit, which has international linkages throug RCE network.

**Motion** to merge IYE and SFS to one group ‘Schools Engagement’ working group with co-leadership shared between Mike and Damien. The new working group will have an international aspect/motivation as part of their key strategies.

* 1. **Schools for Sustainability –** WG has no official membership, other than member participation at meetings and the driver is how to communication effectively: video links and podcasts etc. Major project is Click. Connect. Collaborate which involved 7 local schools in the Hawkesbury region, with international linkages to schools in Japan and Sweden. NB merging of IYE and SFS to form new ‘Schools Engagement’ WG.

**ACTIONS:**

* Send overview of CCC to BH to use as a summary: DF
* Aboriginal Youth leadership program Brewongle to be included in this group: request details from ME: BH
* Unisteers; EEC projects to Damien and Mike : JD
* Asia Pacific presentation: EAT

<http://www.rce-network.org/portal/8th-asia-pacific-regional-conference>

* 1. **Post-Compulsory EfS –** WG has 5 members (TAFE WSi Nirimba, UWSCollege, Wyndham College, Terra Sancta College and CSR), with some lack of support within group. Major project has been completed, funded by RCE seed funding, producing 3 x video clips on the sites sustainable aspects. WG is now looking at participation in the OEH Sustainable Housing discussion.

**ACTION:** external meeting concerning future directions to be convened MS, JD, GC and HA

* 1. **Food Security and Agriculture –** WG has 3 members (HDRA/ATA via EarthCare, UWS PICSE and Hawkesbury Harvest). Major projects include developing a UWS student run farm for which seed funding has been secured, local food providoring and migrant farming at the UWS Riverfarm. A UWS SELP team had commenced a preliminary survey of food mapping in the Hawkesbury LGA.
	2. **Business Sustainability -** WG has 5 members (TAFE WSi, UWS, Hawkesbury Council, Penrith Council and OEH). Group is functioning virtually via email and meeting external to RCE forums. Major projects include developing an RCE seed fund application for SME training around food handling and market gardens.
	3. **Cultural Sustainability –** WG has 2 members (UWS and SEVA International). Major project consists of UWS students working on a number of projects with SEVA as part of their curriculum and learning. Each member has a range of projects related to the WG theme but not an RCE branded initiative.
	4. **Biodiversity** – this WG was formed at the beginning of the year with a caretaker leader with the view to initiate activity across GWS.

**Motion** to rename the WG River Health and Biodiversity and focus on coordination: a new leader to be canvassed.

1. **OTHER BUSINESS**
	1. **Dormant Members –** To be discussed at final meeting in December. For current and new members an outline of their commitment/expectations and benefits of the RCE needs to be defined.
	2. **Corporate Sponsors –** WG committee agrees on the idea of accepting sponsorship for RCE related projects. Access would be giving to corporate to use UNU RCE logo for project branding, as well as in marketing materials, reports and acknowledged on our website. It was suggested that before accepting sponsorship the WG committee must approve corporate involvement.

**ACTION:** JD to report on other RCE involvement with corporate sponsorship to WG committee

* 1. **Seed Funding –** The 2015 round is now open. Funding will allow RCE-GWS working groups to access seed funding for collaborative RCE projects. The grant is for a maximum of $5,000 to working groups with project involvement of 2 or more RCE members. Please see form included. These funds should be used a platform for larger external grant application.

**NEXT MEETING 8th SEPTEMBER 2015 – UWS CAMPBELLTOWN**

**Minutes approved by:**



**RCE GWS – SEED FUNDING PROPOSAL**

The RCE-GWS seed funding program is an initiative of the UWS Office of Sustainability that will allow RCE-GWS working groups to access seed funding for collaborative RCE projects. The grant is for a maximum of **$5,000** and can be for resources and/or materials. Only RCE-GWS working groups are eligible to apply and proposals must include more than one RCE-GWS partner.

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| PROJECT TITLE |  |
| Project Applicant  |  |
| Project Working Group |  |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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| --- |
| **Describe project objectives**How does the project engage with the University and/or community? How does the proposal align with the objectives of the RCE? |
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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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| **Describe specific project details**. How will the project objectives be delivered? |
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PROJECT FINANCES

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| Project funds requested |  |  |  |  |
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| Itemised list of all goods and services required, including an itemised budget and quoted if appropriate (*please attached supporting documentation)* |

PROJECT SCHEDULING

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anticipated start date:  |  | Anticipated completion date:  |  |

For enquires please contact Jen Dollin, j.dollin@uws.edu.au. Please email your completed forms and necessary documents to Brittany Hardiman, b.hardiman@uws.edu.au.

Please note you will be required to report back to the Office of Sustainability on your funded projects at the end of each funding year.