This meeting was a regular meeting with regular business and a presentation on green energy. I figure that our meetings are always open to the public so I took the liberty of specifically inviting several student leaders to join us.

**Regular Committee Business**

Preston reported actions/issues from ACUPCC: 1. currently 474 institutions, 2. the energy conservation bonding program continues to develop, contact through Andrea Putman (aputman@secondnature.org), 3. institutions that complete the GHG inventory before the deadline are invited to share their results with entire network. (Our committee did not have great enthusiasm for this.)

Endre recommends a public announcement of the Presidents Climate Commitment and suggests a Council or Faculty meeting.

Preston presented results of our campus fleet fuel use. (Copy attached). Some numbers may need to be reviewed but the total of 15,000 gallons per year is probably reliable to +/- 20%. Work continues on the GHG inventory.

Scott presented our plans for the waste minimization campaign. Arrangements have been made to measure recyclables on a regular basis. This information will be posted in Cowan and emailed. We are participating in the national Waste Minimization campaign sponsored by Recyclemania. [http://www.recyclemaniacs.org/Index.htm](http://www.recyclemaniacs.org/Index.htm) Jan 27-April 5. Nationwide there are 382 universities and colleges, and five other schools in Kentucky. Earlier we had suggested two building competitions (Yerkes vs Nevin, Olin vs Young). In light of the complexity of logistics we decided to forgo this for the first year. The waste minimization effort will demand significant effort from several people, but primarily for Cheryl Coulter. We are still looking for volunteers to help with the logistics.

We discussed publicity for the recycling contest and our other efforts. There have been two web page articles. The Cento and the Student Congress stall newsletter are other opportunities. Several people pointed out, that as our committee’s work proceeds it will become more important to communicate widely.

**Green Energy Presentation**

Chris Whelon, marketing manager, E.ON Energy, Bill DiOrio, account representative, Kentucky Utilities, and David Brown Kinloch, president, Lock 7 Hydro Power described for us the opportunities for green energy. Two students have graciously offered their notes. Mr. Whelon prepared two handouts for distribution. Copies of those are attached.

**Katelyn Conroy took the following notes** for distribution to her Student Government mailing list.
Chris Whelan, E.On Energy

--To promote renewable energy; people have to get involved
--Demand Audits
--Works on the Supply Side Economic Model

Renewable Portfolio Standards: Requires state to generate REC’s (renewable energy credits), Kentucky doesn’t have an RPS and there isn’t a federal one (currently done separately by state)

Kentucky: Voluntary Market
Q: how do we grow renewable energy? (Costs more than coal energy)
A: Selling Carbon Credits: to make a difference, pay a difference to subsidize green energy (green won’t grow until we help subsidize)

KY Law
New power plant = tax credit
Renewable energy credit = no tax credit

900 kw/h = energy used monthly by the average homeowner (goal: reduce consumption)

David Brown Kinloch
Soft Energy—Renewable Energy Development and Consulting (President)

Mother Ann Lee Hydro Plant—named for socially progressive woman focused on equality

--Hydro Plant creates no problems with migratory fish
--Kentucky typically has a lot of rainfall, navigable shorelines, many existing dams

1 unit: 1.2 megawatts (12,000 homes) CURRENT ENERGY GENERATED
Other unit: shaft problems

Company is committed to doing projects in KY
--only hydro plant on the Kentucky River
--state legislature supportive of renewable energy

One plant won’t cover Centre’s energy, but will raise awareness/bring more renewable energy to the state of KY

Mother Ann Lee is a Low Impact Hydro: (similar to LEED certification) very strict criteria (one of only 28 American plants with seal of approval)

Every kw/h = about a pound of coal = 2 lbs CO(2)

9 million pounds of coal that don’t have to be burned…

How much energy does Centre use?
2007—35 million kw/h / 35,000 megawatt hours

Hyro’s capability: 9 million
Centre’s output: 35 million

Possibility: Buy enough credits to “fund” a turbine
3,000 megawatt hours per year...for one turbine

$32.50 per student per year to support one turbine

Hydro Lock currently producing more energy credits than LGE can take (selling credits for cheaper...defeats purpose)
--REC’s always correspond with energy currently available on the grid

Kerri Howard also took notes and distributed the following description to her mailing list.

GREEN POWER: Monday, we met with the nice people from E-ON, the company that keeps our lights on, and the folks that have recently renovated the Mother Ann Lee Hydro plant at Shaker Landing, on the KY River (that's just up the road from us). The plant is Premium Green certified-- it is one of only 28 "low-impact" hydro plants in the nation, and the only one in KY.

Technically, some of our power already comes from this hydro plant, since they're already plugged into E-ON's grid. HOWEVER, as Chris Wheelan (the Centre alum and marketing director from E-ON) explained, just because we're buying our power from E-ON doesn't mean we're supporting this hydro plant (which needs more $$$ to continue renovations and get the third turbine running). In Kentucky, our power is cheap, thanks to Princess Coal and her Tax Subsidies and whatnot. Green power is a bit more expensive than Bad Power anyway, and this problem is thus compounded in the Bluegrass. So what are we to do? BUY RECs! Since power from renewable sources is going into the grid anyway, and all mixed in with electricity from coal, there's not really a way to just buy hydro power. BUT there is a way to "buy the difference" in the cost of hydro power and coal power-- this is where RECs come in.

RECs (Renewable Energy Certificates) come in 1,000 kilowatt hour bundles, at about $13 each (for us). This means if you buy one REC, you're subsidizing the difference between the cost of 1,000 kwhrs of green energy and a 1,000 kwhrs of coal energy. This means that the nice people at the hydro plant can actually make some money, compete in the energy market, and expand their production of green energy-- which means not only getting the Mother Ann dam up to full running capacity, but even building more turbines on Kentucky's plethora of ALREADY-EXISTING (read: no new environmental damage) dams, thus putting more green energy into the grid.

Isn't that neat?

So here's where we come in. As you may have picked up on, this will cost money. And this is what we're thinking of using that "green fund" we've been talking about for-- students would
vote to pay a bit more on tuition ($20-30 each, no biggie) to cover the cost of buying RECs. How many RECs would we buy? That depends on how many students want. The neat thing is we can advertise it however we want-- we could buy enough to cover the energy usage of Pearl Hall, for example, and could tout that extra greenness for the building.

What we have to do is make sure students know all about this. SGA congress will vote on it, and then it will go to a student referendum-- online, works the same way as when folks vote for representatives. As soon as the students pass it, Centre gets to flaunt its sexy new RECs.

OH, and the other thing about the RECs-- these are Green-E certified, meaning they're the best kind. If you buy an REC, it corresponds to green power that was actually on the grid in the last year (so you know you won't just be buying certificates that don't actually correspond to anything).

So spread the word!!!! Tell your friends how cool it's going to be when we do our part to spark the green energy revolution in little Ol' KY.