Sustainability Working Group
Agenda, September 24, 2012

• Introductions

• Brief History of last year & Launch of 2012-13

• Campus Sustainability Day – October 24 (Program Schedule in Progress)
  o Student Life & SCISCD (Karyn, Ian, & Jerry)

• Sustainability Incubator Initiative
  o Abstract (see p 2) – open to all, but especially Faculty Fellows, SCISCD Undergraduate Fellows, etc
  o $12,500 for Faculty & Student Projects in 2012-13
  o Guidelines ASAP - in development by Initiative Working Group

• UWRF Sustainability Across the Curriculum
  o 3rd Annual Sustainability Across the Curriculum Spring Workshop
    ▪ $30,000 available for paying this year’s successful course redesigns and new courses ushered through curriculum approval process & for this year’s workshop
  o Sustainability Learning Outcomes Project (see p 2)

• Sustainability Series on Innovation & Excellence – October 3 (see p 2)
  o http://events.uwrf.edu//EventDetails.aspx?data=hHr80o3M7j4wDqEKF15cB8%2f%2f%2fUTPDaWCq7Gk wDD3x1L3FnQirTMf4iHfT%2f6asx
  o Luncheon Program: Katie Koets @ -3545 to pre-register.
  o Faculty &/or Other SWG Reps to co-present

• Sustainability Working Group
  o Meeting Frequency & Time Slots (Brenda)
  o Subcommittees

• Other 2013 Objectives
UWRF Sustainability Learning Outcomes Project Abstract

Draft 8/1/12

PURPOSE: The purpose of the UWRF Sustainability Learning Outcomes Project (SLOP) is to design a comprehensive set of generic, trans-disciplinary education outcomes and objectives that can be used to fully infuse and functionally integrate sustainability-based values, principles and practices across the curricular, co-curricular, research, and pedagogical initiatives of the campus, as well as throughout facility design, operations, administration, and budget/finance systems.

CONTEXT: Learning outcomes are the very heart of the educational endeavor. They individually and collectively represent the desired range of personal, professional, and civic attitudes and behaviors ultimately manifested in the lives of our students and stakeholders.

Of course, if these learning outcomes are not grounded in sustainability-based values, principles, and practices that are restorative to the human experience in the natural world, much less within the human species, then we have failed to recognize the well documented and fundamental challenge we face, that of avoiding ‘unsustainability’.

UWRF Sustainability Learning Outcomes provide the richest foundation for high impact educational experiences, both virtual and real. A sustainable campus and community approach to learning outcomes provides the single richest multi-disciplinary and discipline specific platform for immersing our students and stakeholders in a place-based, living-learning laboratory environment grounded in holistic system thinking approaches to citizenship, from local to global.

Through curricular, co-curricular, research, service learning, and internship opportunities, UWRF students, faculty and external partners apply the entrepreneurial spirit and science of sustainable community development to the ecologic, social, and economic benefits of the campus, the City of River Falls, the St. Croix region, and all stakeholders, from local to global.

With sustainability as a foundational element, the SLOP framework is one more way that UW-River Falls is walking the talk to truly reach all Pathway to Distinction strategic planning goals: Distinctive Academic Excellence, Global Education and Engagement, & Innovation and Partnerships.

FRAMEWORK: The SLOP framework is driven by academic freedom and constructive knowledge discovery focused on the “essential questions” that drive specific student objectives. Academic freedom, non-prescriptive learning outcomes, and the open nature of identifying the essential questions are reflected in the following framework (see accompanying PPT slide tables).