

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Campus Sustainability Fund Evaluation

Conducted Summer 2014

Sam Timpe



Sustainability: It's in our nature.



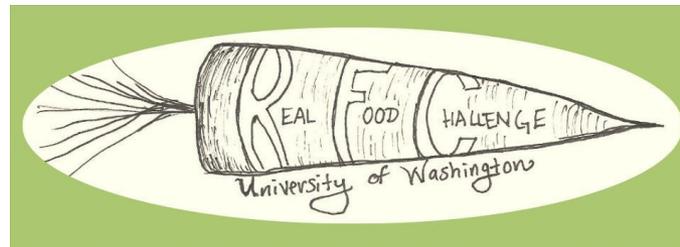
Purpose and Goals

- With the CSF entering their 5th year, it was time for a formal evaluation.
- Goals were to identify successes and areas of improvement for the CSF in both environmental and social aspects.
- Give CSF a framework for future evaluations.



The Process

- Conducted surveys and interviews.
- Looked to address:
 - Environmental Impact
 - Development of Student and Staff Leadership
 - Campus Communication
 - Behavior Change
 - Impacts to Finance and Facilities.
- Report is coming soon!



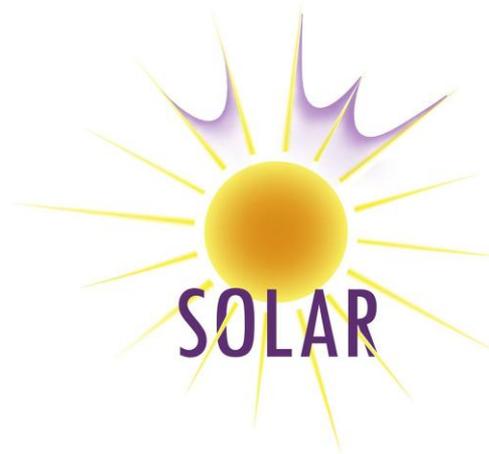
Surveys and Interviews

- Survey sample size: 30
 - Students (17) and UW Staff (9) were majority.
- Interview sample size: 22
 - CSF committee (9) was majority.
- Some overlap between survey and interview participation.



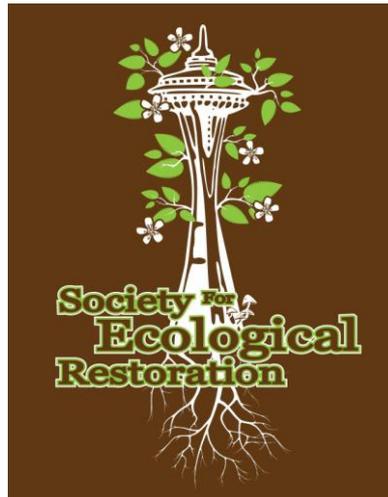
Limits of Study

- Low survey sample size.
- Vast survey audience.
- Not a random sample.
- Not many faculty or student interviews.



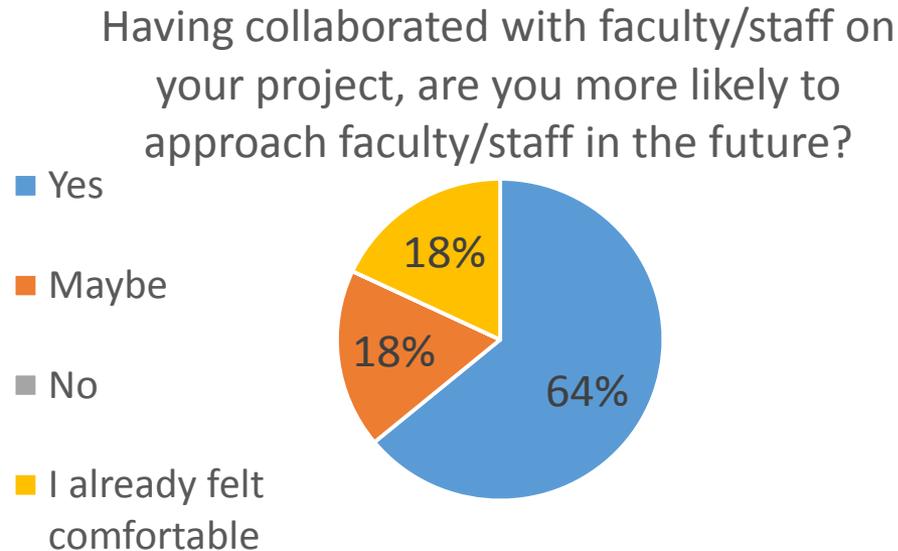
Environmental Impact

- Very positive responses to all survey questions.
- Many stressed that environmental impact is a significant, yet not defining piece of CSF. The social implications are often equally, if not more valuable.



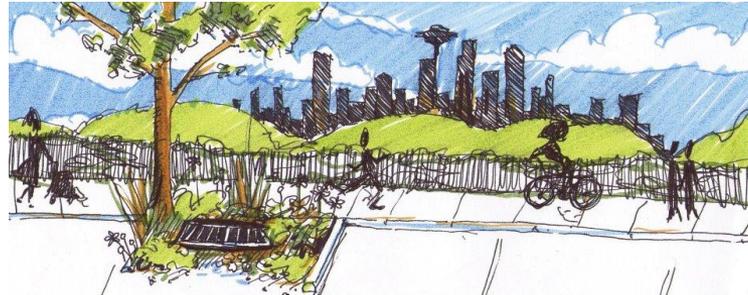
Student Development

- About 90% of students surveyed felt that they took on some kind of leadership position.
- Many career development skills gained.



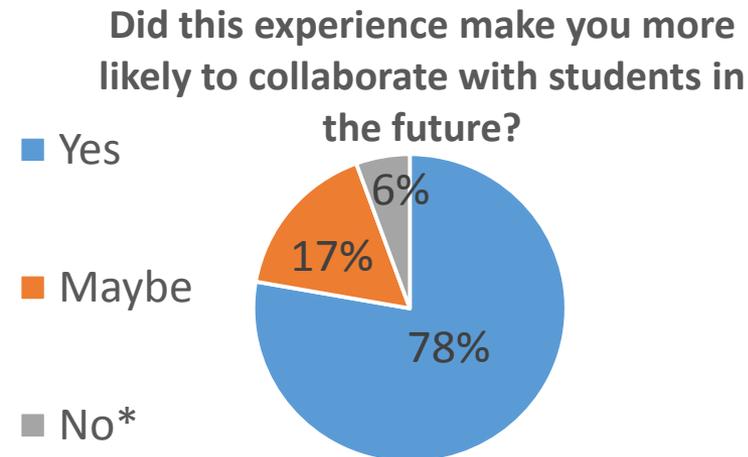
Other Successes

- Students learn the bureaucracy of UW.
- Real, job-like experience.
- Process of seeing a project through to fruition.
- Helps grad students branch out and escape from their sometimes focused learning.



Staff/Faculty Behavior Change

- All staff/faculty I talked to expressed interest in working with students.
- Time is huge challenge for faculty and staff.
- Staff in high positions often have to be persuaded to try something new.



Campus Outreach

- Delegate outreach opportunities to committee.
- Groups should also do outreach for their particular project, and always use CSF logo in the process.
- CSF logo is becoming more recognizable as more projects can be seen around campus. Specifics, maybe less so.



Finance and Facilities

- Concern with workload projects created for staff and ongoing maintenance needs.
- They did however feel supported by supervisors and colleagues when working with the CSF.
- Keep making an effort to engage them.



Size of Fund/Funding

- 57% of survey respondents said they want the CSF fund to increase, while 43% wanted it to stay relatively the same.
- Continue working on bringing in outside funding. Not looking to make a huge change.
- “Would be great to see the fund increase, but not at a greater expense to students.”



Other Recommendations

- Create job description for committee.
- Require committee members to attend some CSF project meetings.
- Look into re-vamping the committee hiring process.



Other Recommendations cont.

- Look into partnering with the Carlson center and sponsoring some service learning.
- Continue to outreach to underclassmen, other departments on campus, and grad students.
- Make sure projects say 'thank you' to everyone volunteering their time to help out.



Future CSF evaluations

- Yearly short surveys for all that have been involved.
- Every 3-5 years have someone do something similar to what I've done.
- Brief survey of campus at large.



Conclusion

- CSF is progressing very well for a group entering just its 5th year on campus.
- We're very lucky to be at UW where sustainability groups like this receive so much support and even exist!
- CSF committee, coordinator, and outreach coordinator have been great and really do a fantastic job making sure money is spent wisely.

Thank you!

- None of this work couldn't have been done without the help of my faculty advisor Megan Horst, CSF coordinator and outreach coordinator Graham Golbuff and An Huynh, the F2 internship fund, and to all the Staff, Faculty, Students, and CSF committee members that participated in the survey and/or interview. It has been a great Summer, thank you all so much!