Meeting Minutes

Meeting:	Principal's Advisory Council on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	Date and time:	February 7, 2024
Location:	Richardson Hall Room 315 (Teams link available)		
Attendees:	• Heather Aldersey • Oyedeji Ayonrinde • Juan Francisco Chavez Ramirez • Setareh Ghahari • Ishana Gopaul • Klodiana Kolomitro • Mika Henry • Victor Odele	• Melinda Knox • Warren Mabee • Brian O'Neill • Ellie Sadinsky • Stephanie Simpson • Nathan Splinter • Marcus Taylor • Amy Wu	
Regrets:	• Benjamin Bolden, Jenn Campbell, Sandra den Otter, Gavan Watson, John DiPaolo		

1. **Land Acknowledgement and Chair's Welcome**

2. **Approval of Minutes – January 2024 Meeting**

3. **Guest speakers: Queen's Backing Action on the Climate Crisis, Climate Literacy Course**
   - Pitch for an optional climate literacy course, online certificated micro credential. Aimed at linking information about climate to their studies and picking interest in sustainability courses.
   - Wants to cover topics of advocacy, adaptation, emergency response, climate justice movement, Queen's, and the climate crisis, collective vs. individual action, climate justice as social justice (with inclusion of SDGs).
   - Emphasis on accessibility and applicability of content across disciplines. Advised by a working group of ten faculty from across departments.
   - Long term plan: club members with portfolio focusing on course development and updates.
   - Seeking: Institutional backing by SDG Council, platform support (Rise 360 license), connections/support from faculty, and marketing and distribution.
   - Questions and concerns from Council:
     - Student roles change hands every year, how can there be long-term up-keep?
     - Can a single module meet interdisciplinary needs?
     - Knowledge gaps between students at starting point, how to capture most students possible?
     - Return to this at the next meeting for further discussion.

4. **Working Groups – Goal Presentations**

Research Impact:
Looking at pairing goals down.
SRP & Horizon Europe are in-progress to happen regardless, so potentially a shift of focus for this committee/document towards Scopus and SciVal. Is there a broader overarching goal that can encompass Horizon Europe? Highlight PhD research, more focus on trainees/graduate students.

Student Learning:
Undergraduate SDG certificate happening as a blended SDG & community engagement certificate – for us to think about: how do we want to frame thinking about SDGs within certificate?
Courses tagging – need to define inclusion and exclusion criteria.
Suggestion of focusing on courses with explicit implementation/action towards SDGs, not all courses that touch on SDG themes/topics (too broad).
Work done towards tagging previously with registrar's office, but feature is not public to students yet.
Do we need a certificate and a tagging system? Which is more of a priority/where is labour best-used?
Suggestion: Instead of tagging, department nomination for "greatest hits" of 3-5 excellent courses for integration of SDGs. Work done internally by departments themselves, not external tagging process.
Suggestion: Working with the CTL to create supports for instructors looking to integrate SDGs into courses – concerns about space/time for SDG conversations in current curricula.
Suggestion: Focus on faculty to increase sensitivity and knowledge about SDGs.

Research and Teaching Integration:
Want to help students link what they are doing (their own interests, experiential learning, summer research fellowships, etc.) to the SDGs.
Transferring experiential knowledge into SDG language.

Global Engagement:
Building on Global Engagement strategy as much as possible, integration of SDGs into what already exists.
New goal: Increase percentage of equity-deserving students who complete an international experience while at Queen's – link between SDGs and EDII.
Feedback: Embed SDGs language into goals.
How do we know how many reciprocal institutional partnerships Queen's has? How are reciprocal institutional partnerships operationalized and tracked?

Queen's In the Community:
Seeking to embed community engagement with upcoming SDG undergraduate certificate, use community engagement framework to advance SDGs.
Course tagging by community engagement already underway – use of framework to access if a course has a community engagement component. Can something similar be used for community engagement opportunities where they overlap with SDGs?
Compilation of five goals into fewer, broader overarching goals.

Organizational Culture:
Mandatory vs. not mandatory SDG training? – for students leaning towards non-mandatory, for staff/faculty leaning towards mandatory.
City-university partnerships for sustainability opportunity for organizational change-making.

Operational Framework Goals Draft Discussion:
Discussion of consolidated slides with comments from Heather, working towards a draft document to present to Principal Deane. Accountability – how to bring in the people/offices named as leads? How to do report-back in a way that captures the inter-disciplinary nature of our identified goals? Do we want to create and set-up structures to help and hold accountable work towards our implementation of framework?
Flagged by Heather – is it helpful to think of our goals as short-term and long-term? Currently presented in an inconsistent way, some groups found this more helpful than others.

Next Steps
Make edits to your group's goals based on discussion and feedback, creating a draft ready to present to Principal Deane in a week.