A. Major issues addressed by the committee during the 2015–16 year

1. Calvin has included sustainability and environmental stewardship in the new Strategic Plan and in order to track our progress, ESC recommended adopting the STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System) developed by AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) as the most comprehensive method for tracking our sustainability activities as part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan. STARS was implemented for the first time this past academic year and we set a goal of submitting our STARS data by early 2016. We are pleased to report Calvin reached a Silver Rating, which is significant for a first submission. It demonstrates that Calvin has made significant strides in sustainability but it leaves us with room to grow and reach stretch goals. Thanks to Professor Becky Haney (Economics) for spearheading the data collection for STARS and next year she will develop a manual for future data collection. STARS was a big part of the work the committee did this year. We are still considering whether or not the Calvin Sustainability Scorecard might still be useful for us to do long term tracking of some of our own metrics.

2. One of the responsibilities listed in the ESC mandate is to “serve as a structure for exchange of information and communication among decision making units that influence the environment.” Much of the committee effort is focused on providing a forum for people representing many parts of campus to communicate with each other about sustainability and stewardship activities on campus.

3. Goals set for Academic year 2015–2016:
   - Encourage President Le Roy to make a decision about ACUPCC.
     - President Michael LeRoy was the keynote speaker at the Fall 2015 CEAP Poster Session and pledged ongoing support for Calvin’s efforts in sustainability by implementing a charter who will develop a climate action plan and other aspects of a long term sustainability plan, including lifestyle, administration, curriculum /scholarship, and branding. President LeRoy plans to make a decision about the ACUPCC by 2017.
   - Support 1 large CERF project and 1 small CERF project
     - Reached payback for Hoogeboom lighting
     - SB Stairwell Project Proposal has been approved.
     - Large proposals will be brought forth next year: (1) Van Noord Lighting & (2) Spoelhof Center Basement
   - Provide support for STARS process
     - ESC was responsible for overseeing the process for collecting the data and submitting it for the STARS application; we successfully reached a Silver Rating this first year and our results will be included in the Princeton Review
   - Provide as-needed support to the Sustainability Major Project.
     - Several members of ESC are part of the Sustainability Major Project (under the Provost’s Office) and this work is ongoing.
   - Provide behavior change ideas for Physical Plant
     - ENGR 333 tried to find ways to save $600,000 through energy reduction/behavioral change; generally, found none particularly viable.
     - Sustainability Coordinators or other student initiative—working on project of reading meters in dorms weekly, posting results on website
     - Physical plant staff stated “Made me think of the buildings in a different way”—challenge now is promoting behavioral change
     - Big issue: Calvin is overlit
     - Temperature challenges—keeping everything one standard temp is most energy efficient
• Challenges with dining services/dining hall—outside co. and budget constraints
  • Moving Forward: Report valuable for Physical Plant/CERF for planning future projects – ex: dorm basement
  • Continue thinking about ways to build campus community around sustainability
    • Ongoing
  • Combine CERF and Kill-A-Watt in some way
    • Organizers for Kill-A-Watt met with CERF interns to brainstorm ways to connect these initiatives.

B. Actions brought before Faculty Senate
   None

C. Other actions, not involving Faculty Senate, that the committee initiated or implemented
   1. ESC encouraged attendance at the two CEAP Poster Sessions (held Dec. 10, 2015 and May 5, 2016).
   2. ESC tracked all implemented CERF projects for both energy and financial savings.
   3. ESC supported the Kill-a-watt competition in January and the Mad Farmer Food Festival in May organized by Residence Life.
   4. ESC had regular reports about the Calvin Community Garden, composting/recycling, Student Environmental Stewardship Coalition, Student Senate, and Physical Plant activities.

D. Issues that will continue to be before the committee next year
   1. Oversight of CERF will be a part of ESC activities as long as the current CERF administrative structure is in place.
   2. Follow-up on next steps from the Sustainability Charter at Calvin, including a decision by the President whether to sign the American Colleges and Universities President’s Climate Commitment.
   3. Implement an accountability strategy regarding Calvin’s ongoing data collection for STARS.
   4. ESC will continue engagement with the master planning process.