**10.2.2017**

**PWR SWATeam Minutes**

*National Soybean Research Center Room 358, 1pm*

**Attendees:**

Joy Scrogum

Gopal Pareek

Tim Stark

Ximing Cai

Morgan White

Warren Lavey

Rebecca Laurent

**Review of Past Initiatives and Updates**

**Nitrile Gloves and Polystyrene Recycling**

Some progress made on these last year

**Paper Purchasing Policy**

* Last year: reviewed several drafts of paper purchasing policy, worked with F&S stores
* Now: have a draft of the policy that will go to the administrative manual for adoption. Morgan emailed this to the SWATeam. Everyone should look this over in the next couple of weeks.
  + CAM committee will receive the draft and give feedback.
* After working with F&S on numbers, we now know that recycled paper is more cost efficient
  + 30% recycled paper currently sold for $3.03. Majority of campus now buying virgin paper for $3.10.
* Finding out whether or not the university is legally required to purchase recycled paper
  + Executive Order in 2009 involves all state agencies, including universities. If recycled paper works and is not cost prohibitive, they must do it.
  + As a campus, we’ve been spending more on virgin paper than we would need to for recycled paper. Argument that’s it’s cost prohibitive is wrong.

**SMART Way**

* Program of the federal EPA designed to increase fuel efficiency of transportation providers and customers. Help trucks or trains have better use of fuel and lower emissions.
* We became the first academic institution to be recognized as a SMART Way partner.
* Requirement of providing annual data. Still happening in housing? Lavey’s understanding is that they did submit data to the EPA in 2015.
* Campus dining is one of largest users of trucking services. Would be great if we could work with some of our suppliers to put filters on the vehicles or use more modern trucks.
  + Head of Energy SWATeam, Xinlei Wang, worked w/ MTD to test filters in the past. He’d be a good resource for us.

**EPEAT**

EPEAT integrates energy star, and incorporates more - social responsibility, durability, resources, etc.

* Never found it in CAM
* *Need to check with Brad to see policy for buying computers*
* Joy wrote it into ISTC policy and there is a reference in state policy, but she continually runs into people who have the authority to purchase products and don’t know what EPEAT is.
* ISTC and engineering IT shared services participate in state electronics challenge - one of guidelines of which is to purchase EPEAT. Outside of that, we don’t know who is participating.
  + Warren talked to vendors at an OBFS purchasing fair in June. They said they would be happy to run a report for us.
  + If we had this information, we could get a student to follow up with non-EPEAt purchasers.
    - Inform them of university policy and offer here to help them purchase conforming devices and save money in long-run.

**Landfill Options and Methane Capturing**

* Illini Union: has its own contract for hauling, goes to Danville. In conversation to start going through F&S
* We need to make sure future waste hauling contracts have methane capture before we sign
* Issues with Campus Carbon Calculator
  + Makes the assumption that if landfills have methane capture, there are zero emissions from waste. Local studies have proven that this isn’t true.
    - Still substantial methane emissions
  + Do we modify how we calculate emissions from waste? Discussion with iSEE
* Data
  + F&S is in charge of waste – centralized recycling and landfilling. Morgan can get data.
* Current contract with Brickyard Landfill in Danville
  + 1 year contract with renewal rights for next 3-4 years. To maintain emissions, we maintain that we use one with methane capture
  + Ratio of captured vs. emitted carbon is much better for Brickyard, but it is certainly not negative (like the Campus Carbon Calculator assumes)
* Danville is closer - reduced travel emissions, but we don’t count their emissions as ours.

**Recycling**

* Issues with staffing
  + Building Service Workers collect trash and recycling. Very understaffed due to cuts over last 15 years.
  + Need to change how garbage is laid out in all buildings so that there is more recycling than garbage cans. Changes operations of people who go and pick it up. Not ready to make that change because of staffing priorities.
* Need to map waste and recycling bins on campus
  + Currently have this for 8 buildings
* Concern with plastics recycling
  + Currently only accept plastic bottles
  + Have to get a new baler for other kinds of plastics. ‘
    - Have asked SSC to fund research to tell us what it would cost to put in new baler. They Won’t vote on this until spring break.

**Division of Intercollegiate Athletics (DIA) Climate Action Plan**

*Guest: Gopal Pareek*

Working to get membership with the Green Sports Alliance, which works with sports venues to make them more sustainable and helps to organize events at universities.

*Question: What ideas related to purchasing, waste, and recycling can the DIA implement? How can they help us meet our goals?*

**Waste**

* Different games currently going to different landfills
* Should work with this team to find the best landfill moving forward
* Fund composting

**Purchasing**

* Implement their own policies about epeat and green paper. Work with this team to find best landfill. Fund composting.
* In order to make recommendations, we need to know purchasing policies of DIA to go as upstream as possible.

**Recycling**

* Could DIA give us a list of stuff they sell - how much is glass, recyclable plastic, etc? Then we could figure out what bins are needed for each venue.
* In the past, F&S organized basketball and football Zero Waste games where people were stationed at each can to encourage people to recycle and compost. Measured how much got diverted. We could do that again or every time.
  + Was there was student group continuing this effort? Zero waste game student group was only working tailgate. Tailgates going to be much more variable than what you sell at games.
* DIA currently does not have recycled content goals
* Add bins with 4 or 5 options to help people figure out what goes where

DIA is a major marketing group. Could use them to spread the word.