

iWG Assessment

SWATeam Recommendation Ref #: ECons003

Date of iWG Assessment: 05/31/2016

Original SWATeam Recommendation:

We recommend continuing to fund critical projects that are key to energy conservation efforts at UIUC. Given the budgetary constraints of the University of Illinois, the team has developed a prioritized list to guide decision makers about funding priorities.

iWG Assessment of budget and policy impacts (*check one*):

moderate budget and/or policy impact OR major budget and/or policy implications

iWG Routing Need (*check one*):

more detailed study OR transmit recommendation OR forward to Sustainability Council

iWG Routing Direction (*department name, SWATeam, or Council*):_Council, with informational transmittal to Provost_

iWG Recommendation:

Strategic investment in energy conservation, including recommissioning and preventive maintenance, offers the campus a unique opportunity to achieve long-term savings in utility costs while also advancing the objectives of the Illinois Climate Action Plan. In contrast, failure to invest in conservation, while it may appear to offer short-term financial savings, will only lead to higher future utility costs; this is analogous to “eating the seed corn.” Campus efforts have already led to \$8M/year savings.

This SWATeam recommendation describes a number of key issues and needs that we recommend be addressed. Due to the major impact of this recommendation, the iCAP Working Group plans to transmit this to the Sustainability Council. However, due to the timely nature of budget discussions, we recommend that iSEE meet with the Provost to share this recommendation.

Individual comments are required from each iWG member (can be brief, if member fully agrees):

iWG Member Name	iWG Member's Comments
Ben McCall (iSEE)	I fully support this recommendation, and encourage the Director of iSEE to request a meeting with the Provost and his staff as soon as possible to discuss this issue. Maintaining (if not strengthening) our very successful conservation programs is absolutely critical both to our financial health and also to achieving our iCAP objectives.
Morgan Johnston (F&S)	F&S strongly encourages the campus to preserve investments in energy conservation efforts which have high rates of return. We look forward to working with campus to find solutions to address this important funding need. This is not a good time to quit saving money.
Lowa Mwilambwe (Student Affairs)	I support the iWG recommendation.
Matthew Tomaszewski (Provost's Office)	[Matthew supported the recommendation during the iWG meeting, but was unavailable to offer additional comments due to travel.]

Nancy O'Brien (Academic Senate)	I support this recommendation to emphasize the importance of continued support for energy conservation on campus, and believe that both the Sustainability Council and the Provost's office need to be involved in the discussions.
Jessica Tang (Student Sustainability Leadership Council)	I agree.
Vacant (OBFS)	
Rob Fritz (college-level facility manager)	I agree with this recommendation.

Attach any comments from subject matter experts (with names and roles).