

iWG Assessment

SWATeam Recommendation Ref #: ALUFS004

Date of iWG Assessment: 03/14/2018

Original SWATeam Recommendation:

A committee of ACES faculty, farm personnel, and iSEE members will develop a comprehensive and cooperative management plan for all non-research agricultural land on the UIUC South farms that promotes sustainable practices and implements current best management practices. The plan should account for crop rotations, soil management, nutrient application, and pest management. This strategy must consider the needs and wishes of the departments that rely on the productivity of this land for financial return. The plan should offer detailed recommendations, costs of implementation, and estimated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from adopted practices. The committee should include faculty with expertise in biogeochemistry as well as staff responsible for agricultural production.

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*): to the Dean of ACES (copying department heads of Crop Sciences and Animal Sciences)

iWG Recommendation:

The iWG recommends that the Dean of ACES charges a committee to develop a management plan (as described by the SWATeam) to promote sustainable practices on South Farm. Committee should include Farm Managers, faculty experts including ACES, PRI and water scholars, and students. The plan should include the assessment of the current status, evaluation of operational and financial impacts, and impediments to Best Management Practices.

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

iWG Member Name	iWG Member's Comments
Ximing Cai (iSEE)	Implementation of best management plans (BMPs) at the University South Farm is urgently needed (and probably already late) for improving campus sustainability. It will contribute directly to many iCAP objectives such as carbon emission control, water and storm water management and sustainable agriculture land use. We need such implementation as a campus facility/property for education and research and as a demonstration pilot for agricultural communities around the campus.
Morgan White (F&S)	F&S supports this recommendation.
Larry Uphoff (Student Affairs)	I approve this plan and feel it coincides with the Chancellor's State of the University Address. This will help put us on track to continue leading the world with new innovative practices and products.

Matthew Tomaszewski (Provost's Office)	I support this proposal to create a committee of key stakeholders to develop a plan for recommended practices, while clearly identifying costs of implementation. As noted, this committee must carefully consider the needs of the units that rely on the productivity of the land while also taking the lead in agricultural sustainability.
Scott Willenbrock (Provost Fellow)	I support this recommendation to reconsider our current management practices and to develop a plan to reduce the environmental impact of row cropping on campus land.
John Dallesasse (Academic Senate)	Showing leadership in agricultural sustainability would set a good example, and promote Illinois' position as a leading institution. Encouraging the Dean of ACES to look into the cost and feasibility of implementing this recommendation would be a good first step.
Nick Heyek (Student Sustainability Committee)	As a leader in agricultural research, the University of Illinois should adhere to best practices for sustainable land management. This is a logical first step in that direction.
Sean Reeder (OBFS)	I am in support of forming a group/committee to study Best Management Practices for farming operation. This group should consist of a mix of faculty and farm personnel/managers and report to ACES. Best Management Practices should champion sustainable practices when feasible and the University should strive to be a leader in this area. It was not clear to what extent these efforts may be ongoing in some manner within ACES now.
Rob Fritz (college-level facility manager)	I approve this plan to get the right stakeholders with expertise in the areas described to work towards the development of best management practices for University owned non-research agricultural land.
Matt Moy / Joseph Kreiling (Student Sustainability Leadership Council – SSLC)	I believe this plan supports our University's efforts to cultivate innovation and inspiration. We have a responsibility at Illinois to lead from the front, and I believe that implementing these practices will allow us to stay at the forefront.

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