

November 20, 2025

SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL 2025-2026

Charles L. Isbell, Jr., Chancellor, *Council Chair*

Madhu Khanna, Director, Institute for Sustainability, Energy, & Environment (iSEE),
Council Vice-Chair

Rashid Bashir, Dean, Grainger College of Engineering

Germán Bollero, Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences

Brian Bundren, Assistant Provost for Capital Planning

Ellen Cha, Chair, Student Sustainability Committee

John Coleman, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Provost

Gabriella DalSanto, President, Illinois Student Council (ISC)

Aimee Heeter, Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

Emily Knox, Interim Dean, School of Information Sciences

Angela Lyons, Senate Chair

Susan Martinis, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation

Lowa Mwilambwe, Associate Vice Chancellor for Auxiliary Operations, Health & Wellbeing

Venetria Patton, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Natalie Reed, President, Student Sustainability Leadership Council (SSLC)

Josh Whitman, Director of Athletics

Dale Wright, Interim Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement Designate

Danita Brown Young, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Jennifer Fraterrigo, Associate Director for Campus Sustainability iSEE, iWG Chair *ex-officio*

Elizabeth Murphy, Managing Director, iSEE *Ex-Officio*

Morgan White, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Sustainability, F&S, iWG Chair *ex-officio*

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to continue the charge of the Sustainability Council for the next year and appreciate that this group represents the highest level of evaluation of sustainability policies and initiatives for the campus. I am writing to ask you to serve on the Council, which supports the campus in meeting the targets set in the Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP). This group will help create an updated five-year plan for the iCAP in 2026, in consultation with key stakeholders and as we carry out campus strategic planning. I will chair my first Sustainability Council meeting on December 3, 2025, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. and would very much look forward to your participation.

As many of you know, the campus has embraced sustainability action following the results of the Visioning Future Excellence process and the creation of the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment (iSEE). In signing the Second Nature Resilience Commitment in February 2016, the university pledged to identify and explore areas where campus operations are

vulnerable to changes in climate. Combined with the 2008 American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (now known as the Second Nature Carbon Commitment), the Urbana-Champaign campus is a charter signatory of Second Nature's full Climate Commitment.

To renew the iCAP, the Council will play an important role in evaluating measures that have major impacts on campus budget or policy. A high-level review of these recommendations will be presented at the upcoming Council meeting, and I will greatly appreciate your feedback. You can expect to hear about proposals for the iCAP 2026 that contain 41 SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-based) objectives organized into eight key themes: Energy, Transportation, Land & Water, Zero Waste, Sustainable Buildings, Education, and Engagement.

In devoting attention and resources to implementing these commitments, we reaffirm our pledge to become carbon neutral as soon as possible and to support the continued excellence of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign long into the future. This campus will continue to serve as a model of sustainability for all universities in the nation.

Thank you in advance for your expertise and assistance in bringing this vision to reality. To confirm your willingness to serve on the Council, please email Elizabeth Murphy, Managing Director, iSEE, at eamurphy@illinois.edu.

Sincerely,



Charles L. Isbell Jr.
Chancellor