**Education Sustainability Working Advisory Team Meeting**

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

11:30 am at Room 358, NSRC

*Members in attendance: Ann Witmer [AW] (Engineering)*; *Stacy Gloss [SG] (Applied Research Institute); David Guth [DG] (Illini Union); Fina Healy [FH] [student representative); Meredith Moore [MM] (iSEE); Ann Witmer [AW] (Engineering)*; *Gillen Wood [GW] (iSEE, chair)*

*Not attending: Carolyn Cai [CC] (student representative); Julie Cidell [JC] (Geography & GIS); Sharlene Denos [SD] (Physics); Alexa Smith [AS] (student representative);*

*Notetaker: Regina Cassidy [RC] (iSEE)*

1. iWG has been sent a copy of minutes from the last Education SWATeam meeting, which contains iWG comments and the Ed Committee’s responses to them. MM says these are sufficient response. We will also send MM the updated Objectives from today.
2. MM clarified the meanings of recommendation and strategy. *Recommendation* is what the group wants the iWG to do with the proposed objective(s); *strategy* is the particulars of a project meant to move toward the Objective.
3. High Priority: Add a proposed Objective to the 2020 iCAP: **Hire a student intern to produce a centralized web location for all sustainability education threads on campus (all possible majors, minors, certificates, internships, programs, etc.)**
4. High Priority: Add a proposed Objective to the 2020 iCAP: **Get the University to institute a sustainability Gen-Ed requirement.**
5. Illinois Student Government (ISG) is already working on this. FH confirmed with Bugra Sahin.
6. Who do we need to get the go-ahead from? FH is contacting Bugra Sahin, chair of the ISG Committee on Environmental Sustainability for further information.
7. Add a Stakeholders/Collaborators category to each proposed objective.
8. Discussion of proposed iCAP 2020 Objective 1
9. **Objective:** **Integrate a sustainability unit into each individual college’s 100-level freshman orientation class. Pilot this through Engineering and LAS, which already have undergraduate teacher training.**
10. AW could help with this.
11. **OR: Pilot a mandatory sustainability workshop training session mandatory for all students.**
12. Recommended by students at December Student Input Session
13. Eric Green has offered to write the curriculum
14. Students can train in the fall and teach in the Spring.
15. Further discussion: FH reports that students do not take these 0-credit introductory courses seriously, and a sustainability component would be unheeded and ineffective. She strongly advises against doing this. Students would respond better to a 1-hour mandatory sustainability training instead.
16. We will submit both suggestions and see which one is chosen.
17. Discussion of proposed iCAP 2020 Objective 2
18. **Objective: By 2022, hire a coordinator to administer a new graduate certificate in sustainability. Create curriculum with four tracks, e.g., Air & Water;Business Applications; Economics; Policy. There needs to be at least one common core course to unify the cohort.**
19. We need to add a sentence to clarify the goal.
20. Discussion of proposed iCAP Objective 3
21. **Objective: Offer an Environmental Leadership Program (undergraduate) – [Add: to prepare students to teach and lead workshops in sustainability.] This program will include a leadership boot camp, workshops, visiting speakers, experiential learning, field learning in Washington, D.C, and pre-professional opportunities.**
22. Since the YMCA is already doing this, we should partner with them. Gillen’s graduate student, Paul Gharzouzi, will contact Casey Ulmond or Jessica Tran, who are the YMCA point people, on this initiative.
23. Funding: Eric Green, Academic Program Instructor/Advisor;
Interim Student Sustainability Committee (SSC) Coordinator will be applying for an EPA grant to use for this program.
24. Discussion of proposed iCAP Objective 4
25. **Objective: Hire a coordinator to oversee undergraduate research in sustainability**.
26. Contact the Office of Undergraduate Research (Karen Rodriguez) for funding and help setting this up.
27. Discussion of proposed iCAP Objective 5
28. **Pilot a sustainability component to existing Career Fairs. Participating companies may opt to have an “Eco-Friendly” tag on their booth as a designation. Create and distribute a survey of student Career Fair attendees to find out their opinion on whether this worked well. In the future, this may spin off to an independent sustainability career fair.**
29. FH says SSC will fund the pilot.
30. Discussion of proposed iCAP Objective 6
31. Objective: **Hire a coordinator to administer an internship program with local businesses and cultural institutions interested in sustainability. Interns will serve as liaisons between community sustainability efforts and the University.**
32. This can run at different times than the ELP certification program, and they may be complementary programs.
33. SG will work on revising the wording of this.
34. Discussion of proposed iCAP Objective 7
35. Objective: **Initiate a Sustainable Scholars program or incorporate a sustainability pathway into existing James Scholar and Ignite Scholar Programs beginning freshmen year**
36. Fund through as yet unfound donor.
37. This committee needs to find a quick routing mechanism for suggestions that are not curriculum-related and therefore outside the scope of the Education SWATeam. [This arose in reference to a suggestion from the December Student Input Session for a sustainability bulletin board at the Illini Union.]

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. FH will get whatever info she can about the Sustainability Gen-Ed proposal and pass it along to GW (See 4B)
2. RC will send a version of these minutes to Gillen ASAP for reference in editing Objectives.
3. RC will send GW Bugra Sahin’s email address
4. SG will rewrite bullet point 11 (internship program) for Friday am and send to GW.
5. GW will rewrite these Objectives for the iWG and turn in to MM by Friday am.
6. Who will work on bullet points 7B and 9B, above?

Meeting Adjourned 12:35 pm.

Next meeting is TBD in January.