

Education Sustainability Working Advisory Team (SWATeam) Meeting

February 24, 2020

11:30 am NSRC Room 338

Members in Attendance: Meredith Moore (iSEE), Gillen Wood (Chair), Ann Witmer (Faculty), Anna Riedl (Student), Dave Guth (Staff), Stacy Gloss (Staff), Mallory Mahen (Clerk)

Members not Attending: Julie Cidell (Faculty), Sharlene Denos (Staff), Carolyn Cai (Student), Fina Healy (Student), Alexa Smith (Student)

Meeting:

1. Discussion regarding possible creation of an Outreach SWATeam, separate from the Education team
 - a. Differentiation between education and outreach: education pertains to curriculum, outreach pertains to communication to the wider campus community
 - b. There are concerns that otherwise the Education team is overloaded
 - c. Adding an Outreach team would narrow the focus of each team
 - i. if the iWG approves this split, the new team could start in the Fall 2020 semester
 - d. Dave, Gillen, Stacy, and Ann support this split
 - e. If Outreach team is approved, then an Outreach iCAP chapter could be created
2. Delegation of synthesizing Education Objectives into recommendation format
 - a. (1) By FY22, integrate a Sustainability unit into each individual college's 100-level freshman orientation course: Anna and Ann
 - i. Two models: 100-level course through each college, or mandatory new-student workshop
 - ii. We are recommending to a specific unit/department to implement, we are not responsible for implementation
 - iii. Role of iWG is to do outreach for this but SWATeam can submit letter of
 - b. (2) Offer a new graduate certificate in sustainability- skip for now, revisit in Fall 2020
 - c. (3) Offer an Environmental Leadership Program (undergraduate) – including workshops, visiting speakers, experiential learning, field learning in Washington, D.C. and pre-professional opportunities. Week-long intensive(s) format. Potential partnership with campus YMCA: Gillen
 - i. Already in development
 - d. (4) Establish a new undergraduate research initiative in sustainability. Potential partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research. Provide a structure to ensure quality control: Julie, Sharlene, Carolyn
 - i. Model after Ignite Scholar Program
 - e. (5) 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 solicit feedback. In the future, this may spin off to an independent Sustainability Career Fair: Dave
 - i. Union Green Team will also help with recommendation

- ii. How do we vet sustainable companies?
 - iii. Possibly in the BIF?
- f. (6) Develop a sustainability internship program with local businesses, non-profits, local government, and cultural institutions in Central Illinois. Interns will be involved in community resilience efforts with direct link to sustainability development goals, gaining project-based, pre-professional experience: Stacy
 - i. And assign someone not in attendance, possibly someone from Union Green Team
- g. (7) Initiate a Sustainable Scholars program or incorporate a sustainability pathway into existing James Scholar and Ignite Scholar programs beginning freshman year. Coordinate with directors of these programs: Ann and Gillen
 - i. Research initiative
 - ii. Suggested this may be connected to the college of ACES
- h. (8) Develop comprehensive webpage for information on all sustainability education offerings, including all majors, minors, certificates, and other programs. Necessary resource for undergraduates seeking to navigate wide range and variety of cross-campus offerings. Include sustainability assessment in course catalog: Anna
- 3. Delegation of synthesizing Outreach objectives into recommendation format
 - a. Have Julie, Carolyn, and Sharlene look at these and decide which they would like to create recommendations for
- 4. Update on timeline:
 - a. Meredith updates that iWG is meeting to finalize wording/language on education objectives list, then in March the teams will all have a chance to look at the first draft
 - b. iCAP Celebration Forum on Thursday April 23rd 12-2pm in the Ikenberry Commons

Action Items:

1. Work on delegated recommendations in the next two weeks for next SWATeam meeting (week before spring break)
2. Fully flesh-out a few recommendations at next meeting to submit to iWG, keep other recommendations for Fall 2020

Meeting adjourned 12:15 pm