**Engagement Sustainability Working Advisory Team**

Date: 11/20/2020

Location: Zoom

Time: 4-5 pm

*Attendees: Ann Witmer (co-chair), Robert McKim (co-chair), Alexa Smith (clerk), Jie Hu (Faculty), Sammy Yoo(staff), Meredith Moore (Sustainability Programs Coordinator), Morgan White (iWG), Ximing Cai (iWG), Hiba Ahmed (student), Kate Gardiner (staff), Eric Green (staff)*

*Absentees: Fina Healy (student), Keilin Tarum Jahnke, Miranda Johnson (student), Dave Guth (staff)*

Agenda:

1. Sustainability education discussion with Eric Green (Education SWATeam)
   1. Sustainability General Education/First Year requirement
   2. Ensure all professionally focused degree programs provide students with an understanding of the consequences of climate change and the goal of living sustainably, as these matters pertain to the profession in question
2. Discussion of other universities that have been successful in sustainability engagement
   1. iSEE study of key leaders and strategies
   2. iSEE course devoted to this investigation
3. Discussion of current working recommendations
   1. Using Sustainability Training (<https://mediaspace.illinois.edu/media/1_poty17ok>) as a way to get feedback from students, staff, and faculty about their views on sustainability on our campus and to promote engagement
      1. Updates from Robert: <https://uofi.box.com/s/rvvwgphullychjuuh2igm0cusr3jzqd0>
   2. New ways to support student environmental organizations
   3. Creating sustainability-focused GivePulse channel
   4. Routine and regular (quarterly) Massmail by campus leaders at all levels in support of sustainability initiatives
   5. Sustainability book of the month

Meeting Notes:

* Curent Education SWATeam Obectives
  + Goal: Every student graduating from the university should have an understanding of iCAP goals
  + College 100-level course with sustainability module:
    - Pilot initiative for ENG 101 is being discussed with Gretchen Forman
    - Gretchen seemed hesitant about this idea because there is already so much crammed into these introductory courses that is mandated by the university
    - In intro courses, there are a lot of boxes that need to be checked, and adding sustainability to that list might degrade its importance
    - Information in these courses should be relevant to each individual major
    - Lots of proposals for other programming in these introductory courses is already being proposed, meaning that this additional requirement may not be reasonable
  + FYCARE/ACE IT equivalent
    - Lots of employment would be necessary (50-70 employed undergraduate students), which may be generally low-cost but may also require higher-cost supervisory roles
    - FYCARE and other “mandatory programs” are actually not mandatory for the university. In other words, there are no consequences for noncompliance.
  + General Education requirement
    - Representative is coming to discuss at the December Education team meeting
    - Committee of Environmental Sustainability and ISG are currently working on passing a resolution
  + What can Engagement do to support?
    - Supporting their recommendation when it is submitted to iWG
* Engagement Team Direction:
  + Progress: sustainability training course
    - 1,100 people have watched the video all the way through
    - 100 people taking the survey
    - Terminology of the word “training” has been offputting
  + Moving forward: discovering the root of the lack of sustainability culture on campus
    - Look into other successful universities
    - Making sustainability a part of our “university strategy”
  + Specific recommendations:
    - 1) Ann: Creating a roadmap of current sustainability-focused projects that are going on and connections we can utilize to make future recommendations more effective
      * Understanding what it takes for students to care
      * Consider top down v. bottom up “culture building” approach
      * Finding a way to interconnect different sustainability subgroups on campus
      * Culminating sustainability information by department and distributing it in a transparent way
      * Potentially utilizing the current justice movement as headway
      * Currently, most sustainability initiatives come from the same sources (i.e. College of Engineering, etc.)
    - 2) Robert: Creating a sustainability 100 for individual colleges or one-size fits all model
      * Sustainable Urban Design: already lots of discussion on climate change and green energy (instead of 101, perhaps incorporate it into higher level courses)
      * Not necessarily more environmental majors; create a space for environmentally-minded people in every major
      * Consideration of SEE minor already in place (students from business, LAS, engineering, etc.

Action Items:

* Fill out poll to choose recommendation sub-team: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVhNEWvmDw9s1gGCuq9uPWax3nRyFWyC38CoClgeq0b8HtQA/viewform?usp=sf_link>
* Fill out when2meet for December meeting (full team): <https://www.when2meet.com/?10306818-dsqz5>
* Fill out when2meet for sub-team:
  + Ann’s sub-team (Team 1): <https://www.when2meet.com/?10399650-iRNX5>
  + Robert’s sub-team (Team 2): <https://www.when2meet.com/?10399655-uYM5O>