

# SWATeam Recommendation

Name of iCAP Team: Land and Water

iCAP Team chair(s): Ashlynn Stillwell and Momcilo Markus Date submitted to iWG: 4/2/2021

Recommendation title: Green Building Certification Program

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*For internal use only:* Date reviewed by iCAP Working Group:

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## **Specific actions/policy recommendation:**

The Land and Water iCAP Team recommends the creation of a Certified Greener Building Program to add to the portfolio of Greener Campus Programs under iSEE.

## **Suggested unit/department to address implementation:** iSEE

**Rationale for recommendation:** The existing [Greener Campus Programs](#) target nearly every facet of campus life from University employees to student experiences. A Greener Building Certification would provide an opportunity for collaboration between building liaisons and the people and groups that utilize campus buildings. A set of requirements and voluntary actions must be developed to achieve the certification. Based on the success of the existing Certified Greener Campus programs, students, faculty, and staff alike are very likely to take advantage of the certification opportunity and embed these actions as part of building operations. These actions will also promote life-long sustainable habits. A Greener Building Certification would establish a sustainability standard and increase our culture of sustainability on campus.

**Connection to iCAP goals:** This recommendation connects to several iCAP objectives, including 4.1: Reduce Potable Water Consumption, because water reduction can be a requirement included in the Greener Building Certification. It will also help increase a culture of sustainability on campus, targeting solid waste reduction and an increase in recycling diversion rates.

**Perceived challenges:** This will be another program to manage under the Certified Greener Campus Programs, so will require additional coordination from iSEE. It will also require facility liaisons and building managers to engage with the occupants of the buildings and to be familiar with building logistics.

**Anticipated timeline of implementation:** The first step is to establish a Green Building Certification guide, building off of the existing Certified Office, Chapter, and Event opportunities. The guide will be developed by iSEE in collaboration with F&S and several facility liaisons who are already engaged with sustainability efforts of the NRES285 course. The [Living Building Challenge by the International Living Future Institute](#) could also be used to help establish a foundation for Green Building certifications. The guide could be developed, reviewed by the NRES285 facility liaisons, and finalized by the end of the fall semester 2021. The program could then be launched by the 2022 spring semester.

**Anticipated budget (identify if cost is up-front or continuous):** Costs associated with this recommendation would be low, as Greener Campus Programs are well established. A Certified Greener Campus Intern would continue to be paid, with minor costs also associated with printing certifications and engagement strategies.

**Individual comments are required from each SWATeam member (one or two sentences):**

Team Member Name	Team Member's Comments
Ashlynn Stilwell	I support this recommendation.
Momcilo Markus	I support this recommendation.
Art Schmidt	I support this recommendation as it will provide clear direction and goals specific to increasing the sustainability of campus buildings.
Betsy Liggett	I am in favor of this recommendation. There are several resources locally and nationwide that may help with successful program development. One is the Illinois Green Business Association in Urbana IL who may possibly work with California on a national business certification program
Reid Christianson	I support this recommendation.
Eliana Brown	Unavailable for comment.
Brent Lewis	I support this recommendation in promoting more sustainable facilities. This type of program will pay us back multifold in the future.

Jamie Ellis	I support this recommendation.
Aviv Zelniker	I support this recommendation.
Victoria Reidenbach	I support this recommendation. I strongly agree that implementing the Green Building Certification would increase collaboration between several sectors and promote sustainable living on campus.
Marcus Benoff	Unavailable for comment.

Further explanation and background (can be supplied in an attachment):