

September iWG Meeting

9/22/21

8:30 – 10 AM

Attendees: Ximing Cai, Morgan White, Sandy Yoo, Brian Bundren, Qu Kim, John Dallesasse, Marcus Jackson, Owen Jennings, Alexandra Gergova, Caitlin Bloomer, Derek Fultz, Meredith Moore

1. Welcome and introductions
 - a. Welcome to new member, Derek Fultz, College Facilities Director at LAS
2. iCAP 2020 objectives and iWG priorities
 - a. Ximing highlighted several key priority objectives: Space (Energy), EV Task Force (Transportation), Commuter Program (incentives for not driving), iCAP as an item in Campus Strategy Plan
 - b. Brian said that we are looking at ways to use our space more efficiently and stay on track to ensure our goal to net zero growth is met
 - i. Campus has been transitioning to a new budget model ([IVCB](#)) which transfers the cost of the space to the occupying unit; this allows units to analyze their space occupancy closely and give up space if not needed
 - ii. Looking at hybrid work arrangements and how can we leverage that to free up office space; allow units to operate more efficiently in their footprint so we do not need to expand our boundaries
 - c. Sandy asked about the status of telecommuting policies and what factors are they using to establish that policy?
 - d. Qu said that if you provide EV charging stations at State Farm Center for example, this could encourage commuters to leave their car to charge instead of driving through campus
 - i. Solar panels could also be added on top of structure.
 - ii. Morgan said she will bring up these points to the task force when it gets started later this fall.
 - e. There is a tradeoff with the EV fast chargers: people would not leave their car and then they may drive through campus, which we are trying to avoid.
 - i. Student who live in downtown Champaign do not even have an option at this time due to the lack of charging stations.
 - ii. Many electric vehicles do not need to be charged throughout the day.
 - iii. Charging stations should be on the perimeter of campus since our goal is to avoid cars in the center of campus.
 - iv. Marcus said that it would have to clear what infrastructure is supported and by whom.
 - f. Caitlin asked about Zip Car and if the program still functions on campus.
 - i. [Zip Car](#) coordinates with the Parking Department or the cities of Urbana/Champaign to locate parking spots
 - g. Morgan brought up Campus Landscape Master Plan as a priority.
 - i. Finally at the point of starting the process, coordinated through the campus and supports Board of Trustees and Illinois System Office

- ii. [Resilient Landscape Strategy](#) pertains more to outdoor spaces, service levels, what resources are needed, etc.
 - iii. Need to be clear about who is responsible for outdoor maintenance (streets, outdoor land)
 - iv. Land and Water iCAP Team recommendation to use best management practices on South Farms ([ALUFS004](#))– committee has been started and met once ([Sustainable Land Management Committee](#))
 - h. Owen said that students are very excited to see a plan for organic waste and expanding a composting system on campus.
 - i. Three-stream waste receptacles are being added to buildings across campus – new capital projects need to include this infrastructure.
 - i. First bin of this style funded by the Student Sustainability Committee.
 - ii. SSC also funded the shadow boxes at the Union.
 - iii. More funding is allocated to these bins to get them added to other across campus.
 - j. Regarding the sustainability gen-ed, John said that there needs to be a complete reevaluation of how gen-eds operate
 - i. There is a lot of momentum behind adding sustainability gen-ed but it has to be “zero sum” – if we add a requirement, other requirements have to be given up
 - k. There is student interest in sustainability graduate certificate and a green career fair
 - l. 8.4 objective ([local sustainability issues](#)) will need extra support from iWG so we will revisit this later on
 - m. Developing an [Environmental Justice Plan](#) (8.3 objective) is another priority; hired Stacy Gloss to spearhead these efforts
 - n. Email Morgan/Ximing/Meredith at any time if you would like to see a priority project.
- 3. Sustainability Council/Sub-council updates – Ximing and Morgan
 - a. Sub-council will meet in October to discuss:
 - i. [Energy006](#) - will discuss forming a Green Labs Committee
 - ii. [Energy007](#) - Comprehensive Energy Plan
 - iii. [Energy004](#) – Provost will likely make the decision at the Sustainability Council meeting
 - iv. [LW002](#) – will discuss how to appropriately fund green infrastructure
 - b. Sustainability Council will meet in November to discuss the items that came out of the Sub-Council meeting and discuss an overview of the iCAP in general and how to make progress to get more points for AASHE STARS
- 4. ZW004 and LW002 Update – Morgan
 - a. iWG discussed both recommendations last year
 - b. [ZW004](#) – Reusable Dining Containers; Dining has already purchased and started a reusable dining container program. The recommendation/assessment was updated to instead be transmitted to the Beckman Institute.
 - i. iWG agreed and assessment is now circulated for comments.
 - c. [LW002](#) – This will be discussed at the Sustainability Sub-Council and then transmitted to the Council. The assessment was updated to reflect that the University needs to first clarify how green infrastructure should be funded.

- i. iWG agreed and assessment is now circulated for comments.
- 5. Campus Sustainability Month – Meredith
 - a. iCAP Team Assessments due October 8, 2021 – iWG will review compiled assessments before October meeting
 - b. Many events throughout the month including the monthly TED Talk: Eco-Edition Series (10/19), trash cleanup (10/15), and monthly Waste Reduction Challenge – [check iSEE Sustainability Calendar](#) for a list of all events
 - c. Would like to see iWG participation and support at these events
 - d. Campus Sustainability Celebration is Wednesday, 10/20 from 1 – 4 PM at NCSA
 - i. All are welcome – pass along the invitation to colleagues and peers
 - ii. Invitation for sustainability/environmental organizations or groups to create a poster or table at the event – let Meredith know if interested
- 6. Updates
 - a. SSC – Workshop series on Wednesday 9/29 at 4 PM
 - i. iWG invited to email SSC about projects that could use student support
 - b. SSLC – Sustainability Summit throughout the month of October with a variety of events scheduled including Green Quad Day (10/7, 10 – 4 PM) and Sustainable Research Symposium (10/26, 5 – 8 PM Campus Instructional Facility 4029).
- 7. Next meeting will be on **October 25 (10-11:30 AM)**
 - a. **November 19 (10:30 – 12)**