**Zero Waste Sustainability Working Advisory Team**

Date: Friday, October 22

Location: <https://illinois.zoom.us/j/83375942479?pwd=OUl5U25IVGtNT01hYXhwc2Mxb2JJdz09>

Time: 2-3 pm

*Attendees: Tim Stark (faculty), Alexa Smith (student), Avery Maloto (staff), Aaron Finder (staff), Clara Bosak-Schroeder (faculty), Sarah Shoaff (student)*

*Absentees: Mike Olinger (staff), Sydney Trimble (student), Jenna Schaefer (student), Yuanhui Zhang (faculty), Shawn Patterson (staff), Tim Knox (staff)*

Agenda:

1. Recommendations Introduction (15-20 minutes)
	1. Zero Waste Team recently-submitted recommendations & proposals from last semester
		1. <https://uofi.app.box.com/integrations/googledss/openGoogleEditor?fileId=872636408144&trackingId=3#slide=id.p>
	2. Recommendation Ideation (15 minutes each slide)
		1. <https://jamboard.google.com/d/1pyy7VPSNl26ejTiTuqdBrvTjuHxSduc0yFkMByB2w88/edit?usp=sharing>
			1. 5 minute individual brainstorm
			2. 10 minute group conversation for each slide
2. Reminders (2-3 minutes)
	1. ISEE Congress on Circular Food Systems
		1. <https://sustainability.illinois.edu/outreach/isee-congress/isee-congress-fall-2021/>
	2. SSC Student Research Symposium
		1. 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, at the Campus Instructional Facility

Meeting Notes:

* Recently Submitted Recommendations
	+ Reusable Dining Containers Program
		- University Dining has deployed 20,000 units at various dining halls on campus (before recommendation was formally submitted)
		- Tracking on the success of this program has been severely limited
		- IWG recommends that Beckman implement the option for reusable containers, as was done at Bevier Hall and University Dining
		- Meeting minutes from summer reusable dining container meeting: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project-update/zero-waste-swateam-reusables-dining-meeting-notes-726>
	+ Office Depot Greener Office Program
		- Has been deemed successful by iWG
		- Program has been implemented by iSEE, but has not appeared as an option on iBUY
		- Troubleshooting in progress
	+ NERC Membership
		- Has been submitted and discussed by iWG
		- Discussion on which tier the University could reasonably commit to at this time
		- Eventually we would like to join the Government Demand Champion Program, but the cost and commitment might be unrealistic at this time
		- Still in discussion
* Recommendation Proposals from Last Semester
	+ Sustainable Receipt Options
		- AF comments that we would need the support of different departments, but this would be logistically possible from the Purchasing side
	+ RA Training
		- Curriculum could be developed by the Zero Waste iCAP Team and the Engagement Team could aid in “advertising” this information
		- Educating students on ZW practices as they are integrating into the university community
	+ P-Card Training
		- P-cards are used for purchases less than $5,000
		- P-card mandatory training already exists, but a sustainability component is not incorporated
		- *Potential Next step: Establish the criteria for this training in order to propose it as a recommendation*
	+ Drinking Water Behavior
		- Could be another collaboration with the Engagement iCAP Team to help distribute this information
		- *Potential Pathways: taste-test competition, create and disseminate video series, report money savings for utilizing reusable options rather than single-use*
* Recommendation Ideation
	+ Areas of concern:
		- Compost/Food Waste
		- Construction Sites
		- Plastic bags/Fast food bags
		- Plastic packaging for office supplies
		- Single Use Coffee Cups/Beverages/Water Bottles
		- Lack of knowledge on recycling
		- Cigarette butts/vape/nicotine pods
	+ Potential Solutions:
		- **CBS: We need to make sure that our recommendations are rooted in data!**
			* Help us to understand WHY people are engaged in these behaviors
			* Surveys
			* ST Suggestion boxes could increase participation
		- **Locations to target:**
			* ST mentions that location-wise, we could target dorms and dining halls
			* Construction site waste
				+ CBS: Lots of cigarette butts were found at these sites during the trash clean up last April
				+ Combining smoke-free and waste-free campaign
			* Recycling in apartment buildings
				+ Recycling bins are not currently provided in campus apartments, but garbage bins are

ST: We wouldn't really be able to force apartment companies to add recycling, only make the suggestion

* + - * + Recycling standards differ between on campus and in apartments, which may cause some confusion for students

Ensuring that students understand the distinction between these two

* + - **Demographics to target:**
			* Targeting freshman demographics will give more pay off over time
			* Also full time staff whom are here longer than students
			* For food waste/compost, targeting faculty, staff and grads whom are less likely to eat in dining halls
		- **Drinking water behavior change campaign**
			* Comparing contaminants in filtered water stations on campus with those of bottled water
			* *Potential next step: researching into number of vending machines on campus (272) as compared to the number of water filling stations*
			* Contractual concerns: AF mentions that we are bound to Coca-Cola through contracts, but that shouldn’t stop us from pursuing plastic bans in the long-term
				+ Currently aluminum alternatives are not feasible due to their lack of scalability/availability on the market
			* Resources provided by CBS regarding initiatives of other universities:
				+ <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainability/2019/08/university-eliminates-single-use-plastic-water-and-soda-bottles-in-operations-on-campus/>
				+ <https://www.augsburg.edu/green/2018/02/15/efforts-by-other-institutions-to-reduce-bottled-water/>
				+ <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1196481>
		- **Enhancing Recycling Signage**
			* Increasing transparency between UIUC Waste Management and student body
			* More signs near the recycling bins that don’t have shadowboxes
			* More signs in areas where contamination is an issue
			* Especially related to which types of plastics are able to be recycled!

Action Items:

* Fill out when2meet for our next meeting (hopefully to establish a recurring meeting time): <https://www.when2meet.com/?13272442-UGQvN>
* Fill out Recommendations Wish List based on our discussion today: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Dn5rJlhENrQZiHFmnW1WQ2hBT58JyHCMpVAmevVgtpE/viewform?edit_requested=true>