

iCAP Working Group Meeting

5/23/2022

- **Attendees:** Jennifer Fraterrigo, Morgan White, Brian Bundren, Sandra Yoo, Danica Ford, Qu Kim, Alexandra Gergova, Caitlin Bloomer, Derrick Fultz, Marcus Jackson, Meredith Moore, Alec McKay (F&S Intern)

1. Revisit ZW008 Recommendation

- **Morgan White:** There is confusion regarding the recommendation; F&S Leadership were unsure as to what an Adopt a Campus Pathway program would do. Leaders were concerned that having a campus group adopt a pathway could cause duplicate efforts by placing the burden of cleaning the pathway on the adopting group, when this is what our staff already does.
- **Meredith Moore:** This could serve as a student engagement piece for RSO's where groups can decorate pathways with sidewalk chalk or other plantings with approval from F&S, not an actual maintenance of the pathway. This could be added as a component of the Greener Campus Programs.
- **Caitlin Bloomer:** Are there any kind of punitive measures for groups who adopt a pathway/highway if the road becomes unkempt or is this a positive reinforcement measure?
 - **Sandy Yoo:** I think a punitive program would be harder to implement and would require heavier surveillance. This program does touch on accountability, pride, and investment in certain areas that groups adopt. I would prefer an award system, but this program can simply touch on education or messaging.
- **Morgan White:** F&S can provide groups with bags/gloves/trash pickers, so adopting could be more of a commitment to clean an area once a semester and send results/pictures to F&S or risk losing their adoption of a path.
- **Sandy Yoo:** Maybe we can publish progress on social media as a manner of awareness, education, and enforcement of the program.
- **Morgan White:** Trash pickup is straightforward but doing it a few times each year doesn't do a whole lot, so we need to understand what the real goal is.
- **Dereck Fultz:** What is the harm of doing the Adopt a Pathway, even if it is not highly effective at generating additional trash removal if the groups participating feel that they are doing a social good? We are talking about an incentive program that does not mandate action but encourages people to do something, would it be better to incentivize a better action that has a larger impact?
- **Jennifer Fraterrigo:** There may be certain areas that are high-litter spots that student groups can make an impact in while also raising awareness of littering. F&S may then be able to benefit from the adoption program.
- **Dereck Fultz:** It could be imagined that the morning after a big celebration, student groups could go out and help clean up particularly busy, cluttered areas.
- Student representatives are not sure that the program will yield consistent engagement.
- **Meredith Moore:** This sounds more like a "Adopt a campus space" rather than an adopt a pathway which is a good idea that might ensure accountability to keep spaces clean. Could also lead to student groups leading the campus cleanup with support from iSEE and F&S.
- **Caitlin Bloomer:** The Sustainability Grammys might be a good place to award active members of this program.
- **Derrick Fultz:** It may be most efficient to have a group of student volunteers who are always ready to help do cleaning operations or other projects as the need arises.

- **Alexandra Gergova:** It would be possible to use Student Government social media platforms to recruit student members for this sort of program.
- 2. Continue discussion on what to include in the scope of Comprehensive Energy Planning Document**
- *Morgan presented a PowerPoint on the scope of the Comprehensive Energy Plan*
 - UIUC conducted an analysis of utility production and distribution that focused simply on the supply of energy to campus and concluded that the best way to reach net-zero carbon for energy on campus was to buy offsets.
 - The F&S energy management plan details what they plan to work on over the next 5 years given their existing funding.
- 3. ABE469 – Student group worked on developing a scope for the Clean Energy Plan**
- a. *Morgan presented a presentation developed by ABE469 students on their senior project.*
 - i. A capstone course of students worked as “clients” for Morgan and conducted interviews with several actors relating to sustainability and energy production on campus.
 - ii. Based on their interviews, the students recommend that the university increase emphasis on energy conservation by avoiding construction of new buildings as much as possible, expanding retro-commissioning, following strict sustainability/energy efficiency standards, and conducting large mechanical operations.
 - iii. Students recommend policy changes including the promotion of more energy efficient building construction, institutional changes that value long-term sustainability, and incentive programs at the department level to reduce energy consumption.
 - iv. Alternative energy methods presented by the group:
 1. Nuclear is presented as “A realistic, long-term solution”
 2. Solar farms and solar storage
 3. Conversion from steam to a Hot Water Heating System
 4. Geothermal
 5. Air source heat pumps
 - b. **Jennifer Fraterrigo:** ISGS (Illinois State Geological Survey) is very interested in experimental geothermal sites and federal rebates do offer geothermal rebates, coordinating with the ISGS may be beneficial for geothermal implementation.
 - c. **Sandra Yoo:** What happens now that the document is produced?
 - d. **Morgan White:** We need to determine what the scope should be and what question do we want to have answered. Members should look through the attached reports and think on this question.
 - e. **Sandra Yoo:** It would be beneficial to know what inputs and costs are related to each potential project. Are there things we can hire an outside group to assess as a next step?
 - f. **Morgan White:** The core question is what we want to hire someone to do: should they evaluate all technologies and develop a plan to achieve carbon neutrality, or should we look for other technologies or groups we are not collaborating with that we should be. Some are advocating for carbon capture, there are several pieces to consider.
 - g. **Jennifer Fraterrigo:** In the interest of time, let’s stop and revisit at a future meeting.
 - i. We have approval to conduct a similar analysis of the whole campus, and to hire a consultant, but we do not yet have the funding because admins are not sure what we are specifically looking for as a deliverable.