

Land and Water iCAP Meeting 9/16 at 9:00AM

Attendees: Mickey Castigador, Maria Chu, Therese Egner, Brent Lewis, Betsy Liggett, Jonathon Mosely, Kavya Mula, Nikki Palella, Carmen Ugarte

Introductions:

- Carmen: Faculty member in NRES and soil scientist. Returning member.
- Therese: Senior in sustainable design.
- Kavya: Senior in Finance & Information Systems. Engagement team last year.
- Betsy: F&S and Environmental Compliance. 3rd year on the team.
- Jonathon: Director of Animal Science Farms & Research Centers. South farms management.
- Brent: University Landscape Architect. 7th year on the team.
- Mickey: Landscape Architecture student.
- Maria: Associate Professor in Soil and Water Resources Engineering.
- Nikki: Senior in ESES. Land & Water Clerk.

Portal Projects Needing Updates:

- Green roof on Foreign Language building - Appears to be stalled
- LAR Native Plants - Finished
- Let It Flow - Finished up last Fall, need to check with Tim Mies.
- Uni High Butterfly Garden - Assumed to be finished
- Cover Crops on South Farms - Noticed we are lacking on the portal with updates, we will need to close the project at some point this year
 - It is not confirmed if ABE does cover crops
- Benefits of a Large-Scale Prairie Experiment - We don't have sufficient information on this project

Associated Action Items: Get updates from Crop Sciences and ABE on the cover crop project (Jonathon will gather all this info), update portal on the projects that are completed (Nikki), touch base with Tim Mies on Let it Flow (Carmen), reach out to Alex Harmon-Threatt to figure out the status of the Prairie Experiment.

Review of Key Priorities Document:

- Vet Med parking lot updates and discussion
 - Water flows off this lot into the dairy farm, hitting manure pile, pushing it toward tributary to Embarras river
 - We plan to fix the entry of the Veterinary Medicine building as it is not sustainable for the above reasons and is not aesthetically pleasing

- Brent supports a recommendation regarding this which may include the installation of bioswales, trees, etc in addition to addressing the runoff to the south
 - This proposed project is not part of the Campus Landscape Master Plan
- We need to go beyond the MS4 stormwater permit and actually retain and filter water in that location (and all of our parking lots)

Increased acreage of organic land management:

- This may be unrealistic considering the acreage to manage at UIUC
- Jonathon adds that this will be very difficult to achieve with our current operations
 - Some farms use IPM and some don't
- As an alternative, we could make recommendations of improvement based on fertility, carbon sequestration, recreation, and safety
- Pursue recommendations that support the documentation of soil health and acreage
- Developing standards and maintenance is the priority

Associated Action Items: Follow up with Morgan on stormwater expectations in regard to our parking lot plans; Ask Morgan or Jen for more information on the 'Monitor Soil Health' priority area; Pursue recommendations that support documentation; Dive into the Campus Landscape Master Plan (Brent) during the October Meeting.

Campus Sustainability Celebration Slides

- Past project options
 - Uni High Butterfly Garden
- Present
 - Campus Landscape Master Plan
- Future
 - Vet Med - Obtain graphics from a student group which participated in EPA rainworks challenge competition
 - Mickey wants to see more green spaces on campus (stormwater, aesthetic)

Pollinator Friendly Campus Discussion

- Nikki wants common milkweed plantings on campus
 - Considering a supplementary plan to place milkweed in areas far away from pesticide/mosquito spraying
- We've noticed that there are places we can plant more bee balm, as we are lacking it on the north side of campus
 - Brent wants to plant more butterfly weed across campus
 - How can we create connectivity amongst these pollinator patches?

Associated action items: Nikki will start developing a recommendation for this project; Reaching out to student groups (Red Bison, From the Ground Up, etc) that may be interested in planting + monitoring voluntarily.