

Zero Waste iCAP Meeting 12/8/2022

Attendees: Nikki Palella, Shreya Mahajan, Daphne Hulse, Justin Holding, Joy Scrogum, Jenna Schaefer, Joe Bradley

Next Semester's Game Plan

- To promote productivity for next semester, we will create subcommittees within the group so that everyone on the team is contributing to a specific recommendation(s)
- We can then utilize the monthly iCAP meetings to update the team on progress and ask for insight

Associated Action Items: Consider some small and broad Zero Waste goals you want to pursue next year and reach out to contacts that will help you achieve that goal (Everyone)

Key Priorities Document + Individual Interests

- Avenues to pursue from the document include a plastic bag ban, tailgating recycling program, food recovery, sustainable purchasing guides, reducing waste at residence halls, recycling/composting, plastic bag recycling, etc
- Aaron FINDER created a draft document for sustainable purchasing guides which they are working to finalize very soon
- Justin is very interested in continuing with the athletics piece
 - Nikki will join him in DIA initiatives
- Joe is interested in food waste, sustainable farming and healthy food options
- Joy is interested in food waste and reducing plastics
- Daphne is interested in food waste, athletics, and reducing plastics
 - Mentions a reusable cup or water bottle initiative
- We could consider working with F&S Building Maintenance & Grounds to place more outdoor bins in the parking lots

Breakout Rooms

Athletics: Nikki & Justin

- Agreed that we will pursue a tailgating recycling recommendation
- We can try to work with F&S to distribute the blue bags
- Considering giving a recycling ground rules sheet + blue bag when vehicles check in to tailgate
- See article, <https://news.usc.edu/202634/usc-tailgating-recycling-zero-waste-team/>, which inspires the idea to distribute and collect waste on golf carts

- Carts would carry blue bags, bins, add an educational aspect if possible

Reducing Plastic: Shreya, Joy, Joe, Daphne, Jenna

- Nikki still interested in distributing reusable grocery/tote bags where folks can sign up to get one for free
 - Could include an event where people get to decorate the bags
 - An event where tote bags were handed out at the union occurred a couple of weeks ago
- Consider a tag system with tote bags to collect data on their usage
- There is a plastic bag recycling area in the Union– perhaps we can promote this or create connectivity between the alternative recycling centers on campus (ex: battery recycling, disposable mask recycling)

Associated Action Items: Meet with Shawn to discuss tailgating feasibilities, communicate to find out if F&S oversees the property outside the stadium where tailgating occurs, have another discussions with SAAC in January (Athletics)

TEE510 Project

- An environmental engineering grad student has a few projects they want to pursue, and is in the stages of determining what can be feasible
 - The Zero Waste team will provide insight on these potential projects
- Projects include a reward system to disposing of waste properly, a required sustainability video, and a litter pickup group
- The required video on sustainability will likely be the most impactful, especially if new students must watch it during welcome week
 - We would advise that the video include what and what not is recyclable on this campus and in Champaign county, as well as communicate how we collect trash on campus
- Assigning an ID or QR tag on blue bags at tailgating will allow staff to track who is actually recycling and how much
 - Depending on the volume of recyclable materials a tailgater brings in, they will be given X tickets to enter them into a raffle
- For the litter group, there are concerns with weather and it is advantageous to not meet too often as it may reduce engagement

Associated Action Items: Send out our feedback (Daphne)