



## iCAP Energy Team

### January Meeting Agenda

1/30/2023 4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

#### *Microsoft Teams*

- Introduction
  - Attendees
    - Tyler Swanson
    - Martha Kubach
    - Andrew Stumpf
    - Paul Foote
    - Damon McFall
    - Tim Mies
    - Aman Mehta
    - Shannon Anderson
    - Robert Roman
- IWG Meeting Recap
  - Morgan White was a bit confused about the charge of the committee, whether it should be a standing committee planning multiple conferences, or a simple one-time conference.
  - Aman suggests we have a series of conferences and not just one to continue providing information
  - Paul agrees, the conference cannot be a one time meeting, it will need introductory conversations, focusing topics, brainstorming, discussions on where we are and where we need to be.
  - Let's edit and then resubmit to iCAP Working Group since we will be
- Discussion: New Building Energy Efficiency Mandate Recommendation
  - Choosing proper language (net-zero, LEED Platinum, net positive) would be difficult and can make mandates very difficult.

- Damon notes that the Sydney Lu MEB only includes one paragraph about sustainability, cost is a large challenge to these higher standards, but we can encourage this with language.
- With new buildings being largely donor funded, how can we prioritize sustainability
- Tyler asks if we can set this mandate specifically to building space over the net-zero growth limit.
- Tim asks how DIA facilities apply in space calculations
  - Rob Roman notes that a lot of south campus growth is related to research park, and it is difficult to get their attention. VC of research has involvement in that, but not sure of her involvement.
  - Tim notes that while not related to his question, it is a legitimate question to ask.
  - Paul says that the Kirby corridor has been expanded, and that money talks when it comes to those large, athletics donor funded projects. Provost's office is supposed to manage space, with new buildings taking the space of demolished buildings. But if donors are making proposals, it is hard to say no.
- A new term being used for energy efficiency is carbon neutrality, many older buildings already have the carbon they are responsible for in their life cycle. Live plants on buildings are being considered as an environmental design for improving efficiency.
- Discussion: Green Energy Research Committee Recommendation
  - Aman: Can we overlap on the green energy research committee and the conference planning committee?
    - Martha agrees that this could be a possibility.
    - Shannon thinks it could be a lot of work to put on the same group of people, but if the work overlaps, then what is the purpose of having two committees.
    - Aman notes there is a green lab committee that will work together to share knowledge and engage with individuals across campus.

- Paul notes that the green labs committee recommendation is in the process of having a charge letter drafted to establish what the committee will be doing.
- Tyler suggests revitalizing Energy at Illinois to be a more robust program that can incorporate more individuals.
- Current Energy at Illinois webpage is very outdated and appears to be defunct. We need to determine whether it is still active and what more it could be doing.
- It could be valuable to determine how green labs can overlap with the energy research scholars.
- Shannon wants to know how the Green Labs committee would differ from the current Green Labs certification
  - Aman notes that any lab or office space can be certified as green, while green labs can be congregating labs to work on research projects
- Tyler suggests that we withdraw current recommendation on energy research conference and meet with current energy scholars to determine the feasibility recharging the energy scholars team with conference planning
- Shannon notes that there should be a member of the energy research team to report to energy iCAP team, there needs to be connection.
- Paul notes that there should be a connection with the energy scholars team and campus energy use
- Shannon would be willing to help with a geospatial analysis to determine space usage on campus.
- Paul notes that ECE was originally funded by donations that was supposed to include solar (\$100 million) but that money ended up going almost entirely toward the building with much less solar than initially planned. The facility did manage to become net-zero certified very recently.
- Discussion: Rooftop Solar for Campus
  - Should we revisit rooftop solar?



- Tim: years of efforts have yielded hesitancy from ARC, the cost, and those impacts that have slowed development, I would support solar on parking lots, but rooftop solar is hard to get support for.
  - Damon: Had a conversation that concluded rooftop solar costing so much and yielding relatively little that it is not worth it.
  - Paul: we generally think about rooftop solar in the context of homes; however, at the university scale the ROI just is not there.
  - Tim: thought I heard the possibility of parking garages by SFC, should solar on parking garages be specified?
    - Paul: ECE parking garage was not strong enough to support solar, the alternative plans were too difficult/costly to install.
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- New business
  - Adjournment