

iCAP Zero Waste Meeting

January 26, 2024

Attendees: Daphne Hulse, Olivia Pazerunas, Thurman Etchison, Tim Knox, Joy Scrogum, Sakshi Vaya

## **I. Status of Action Items**

### **A. Housing Recycling**

- Recyclopedia: Information on proper recycling activities, could use to create marketing and informatics to implement campuswide.
  - [Miriam] Place QR code/flier in new student bags and throughout residence halls.
- Building Service Worker Training: Refresher presentation on recycling and sorting guidelines.

### **B. Education & Engagement Team Updates**

- Engagement: Brainstorming survey questions, discussion on bringing more volunteer engagement to recycling events.
- [Daphne]: Chairs of each team will begin to meet monthly to facilitate more collaboration.

C. Green Sports Alliance: We have paid for membership, Tim suggests looking into online workshops that are free and which are most beneficial.

### **D. Environmentally Preferable Procurement**

- AASHE: 2024 Sustainability Change Leadership Program, global cohort to build sustainability in campus environments. Daphne is working with this, and is focused on applying our EPP goals.

E. Coca-Cola Buy Back: Current strategies include Coke Freestyle machines (UIUC currently uses, but does not push with reusable bottles). OSU had very little success here, finding it cost prohibitive.

- Reverse Vending Machines (article in Box): Past funding by Coke was offered, but push-back was found at the F&S level. Joy thinks this is something worth looking into.
- [Daphne] We are unsure if these plastics and aluminums ever make it back to Coca-Cola.

- More articles located in Box

## II. General Zero-Waste Updates

- A. EPA Grant Opportunity: IRA Community Change Grants Program, community based non-profit. Partnering with city and waste stewards to create a project idea.
- B. Basketball Recycling Events: Men's Basketball (3/5) Women's Basketball (3/3)
  - Working to gain a solid volunteer base. Updates from Engagement TBA.
- C. SB1555: Packaging and Paper Products Stewardship Act
  - Illinois Statewide Recycling Needs Assessment Advisory Council established.

## III. Writing Recommendations

- A. Ongoing CHARGE objectives: drafting hydration station standards, designing a volunteer program for recycling events, developing sustainable policy for vendor contracts, waste reduction program for residence halls, recommendations for new bins, Green Cleaning Program.
  - [Miriam] Reach out to student organizations and Greek life that require service hours.
  - [Daphne] Grounds for the food waste reduction program exist so we could build on that. Increasing information about waste disposal in residence halls.
  - Most important goal for this semester: meet with stakeholders to prepare for recommendation writing. Potentially will be inquiring with the iCAP working group to propose recommendations before writing them.

**Action Items:** Inquire about a shorthand version of recyclopedias with marketing team/housing (Thurman). Send recycling presentation to BSW (Daphne). Investigate GSA online workshops (All). Send group recommendations on volunteer outreach strategies (Jenna). Reach out to GetInvolved and FSA for volunteers (Olivia).