

# iCAP Working Group

April 2024 Meeting

**Date:** April 19, 2024

**Time:** 9am-10am CST

**Location:** [Teams](#)

**Attendees:** Jennifer Fraterrigo, Stacey DeLorenzo, Jack Liong, Sandy Yoo, Hunter Farnham, Carl Bernacchi, Claire Sullivan, Paul Foote, Andy Stumpf, Brad Klein, Jim Brennan

## Agenda:

- Energy recommendation under development, “Energy Efficiency and Conservation Funding for Infrastructure and Mechanical System Modernization”
  - Need for deferred maintenance to modernize infrastructure and improve energy efficiency
  - Maintenance is becoming more expensive
  - Power plant needs two-way communication to make distribution panel more efficient
    - Important as more renewable energy sources come online, important to avoid blackouts or brownouts during peak times
  - Feedback
    - Brad: RLF funds are part of energy and utility services, provost controls budget. Facilities portion is fairly small in comparison to faculty and staff budget. Tuition dollars go to central fund, goes back out to colleges and departments based on where students are enrolled. Budget tax goes to F&S and maintenance. We get a lot of pushback whenever we want to increase that tax. Currently in process of doing budget reviews.
      - State funding is around 20% of overall budget, also goes into central pot and is distributed. State capital renewal dollars, investments into infrastructure, are very slow and unreliable. Most of it in big projects.
    - Sandy: from systems side, EPC contracts are way to execute these types of utilities projects. We can utilize a handful of contracts we have already in place so if a project is scoped and ready it can be implemented.
      - Paul: when RLF gets money for a project, energy savings go back into fund. We anticipate this injection into the fund would increase fund by \$2.5-3 million, based on conversation with Tony Spurlock.

- Jim: ongoing facilities assessment, how does this link to prioritization of projects like this?
      - Brad: previously had database of deferred maintenance needs, was out of date. New facility condition assessment will give updated deferred maintenance backlog list and identify the most urgent priorities.
    - Jen: are there opportunities to access federal funding opportunities from Inflation Reduction Act?
      - Brad: list that F&S prepared and discussed with provost of eligible projects for tax credits. Risk because there is no guarantee, but we have to perform work before applying for grants
      - Jim: Illinois Advancement is another source of funding, typically funds new buildings. we need named fund for these kinds of investments, to make them more attractive for donors
        - Sandy: committee at systems level was trying to see how deferred maintenance can be funded, looked at model of AFS R&R fund, pooled funding and annually each unit submits project for funding. We are waiting for report to come out to see if that model can be followed.
      - Paul: auxiliary buildings, savings are realized right away, in state-funded buildings, have to wait for re-assessment. Will add an assessment to the recommendation with more detail.
- iCAP Challenges & Opportunities
  - Strengthening sustainability standards
  - Increasing Communication and Coordination on Higher-Level Decision-Making
  - Leveraging Leadership Team to Identify Concrete, Actionable Goals for iCAP Teams
  - Increased funding and top-down directives - how do we accomplish?
- Follow up
  - Sandy Yoo to share report on potential funding model once it is finalized