SWATeam Recommendation

Name of SWATeam: ALUFS

SWATeam Chair: Brent Lewis Date Submitted to iSEE: 2/8/2017

Specific Actions/Policy Recommended (a few sentences):
Recommendation to support a plan for a South Campus Afforestation plot by Jay Hayek, Extension Specialist in Forestry / NRES. Project to convert 2+ acres at the corner of Race and Windsor to a forestry tract. Currently this land is maintained as turf grass. The new plantings would highlight native Illinois oak and hickory trees and be educational for the campus and surrounding population.

Rationale for Recommendation (a few sentences): This plan supports the larger context of sustainable landscapes by removing high maintenance turf for lower maintenance trees. Currently this plan is not funded and has not been submitted to any larger review process. As we see merit in this idea, we would hope our recommendation would assist in moving this idea along into becoming an actual project.

Connection to iCAP Goals (a few sentences): iCAP Chap. 7, Objective 5: Increase carbon sequestration in campus soils by determining the sequestration value of existing plantings and identifying locations for additional plantings, with a specific objective of converting at least 50 acres of U of I farmland to agroforestry by FY20. This project would convert existing turf to a stand of trees to assist in long term carbon sequestration in campus soils.

Perceived Challenges (a few sentences): Though start-up funding requirements appear to be minimal, it may still be a challenge.

Suggested unit/department to address implementation: NRES
Anticipated level of budget and/or policy impact (low, medium, high): Low - Initial budget of buying small trees and converting turf would be minimal. No policy impact is expected.

Individual comments are required from each SWATeam member (can be brief, if member fully agrees):

Team Member Name	Team Member's Comments
Thurman Etchison	It'll make a great use of the under-utilized space.
Adriana Noboa	This would solidify a small step in our seemingly massive 50-acre goal, and is a necessary component in tackling carbon sequestration on campus.
Joe Edwards	This project will benefit several goals from chapter 7 of the iCAP. First and foremost it will aid in maintaining our campus landscapes in a more sustainable matter. Furthermore, it will increase the potential for native plants and pollinators on campus. Over time these trees will store carbon in their biomass and the soils helping sequester it from the atmosphere and contributing to negative campus carbon emissions. The land this project is on currently is being underutilized both for functional and aesthetic aspects; this plan will significantly address those issues.
Jennifer Fraterrigo	Conversion of turf to woodland will enhance carbon storage in biomass and soils.
Brent Lewis	As an extension of the Illini Forestry tract along Race, this area would assist in our iCAP goal of increasing forestry on campus, as well as increasing our carbon sesquestration and

	storage. With the addition of botanical tags for the trees, this area could also assist in our educational mission for campus.
Bruce Branham	This project makes perfect sense for this site. The area is in turf that requires regular mowing and has no other current use. The site would provide educational opportunities while reducing maintenance and increasing campus carbon sequestration.

Comments from Consultation Group (if any; these can be anonymous):

Explanation and Background (can be supplied in an attachment):