**iWG Assessment**

**SWATeam Recommendation Ref #:** Energy 004 – Energy Conservation Funding

**Date of iWG Assessment Started:** 2-25-21 **Assessment Completed: 4-6-21**

**iWG Recommendation:** Based on discussions with F&S Utilities & Energy Services and the Office of the Provost, we recognize that this recommendation meets strategic priorities and will reduce energy costs.  The iWG recommends that the College of ACES, Facilities & Services, and the Campus work together to prioritize funding for the ACES Energy Performance Contract, and initiate that effort as soon as possible.

**iWG Routing Direction (*department name, SWATeam, or Council*):** Sustainability Council

Individual comments from each iWG member:

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| iWG Member Name | iWG Member’s Comments |
| Ximing Cai  (iSEE) | I support this recommendation. This effort is consistent with iSEE’s goals on Energy, and will be important to meet iCAP 2020 energy objectives. The campus administration may work with colleges for the implementation of the recommendation underlying the new utility finance model. |
| Morgan White  (F&S) | This is an important sustainability initiative, and it should be a priority for strategic university investments to save energy costs as well as address some of the deferred maintenance backlog. |
| Sandy Yoo (System Office) | The UOCP/System Office supports efforts such as this, where opportunities exist and willing partners come together for the good of the University, as a whole. |
| Matthew Tomaszewski  (Provost Office) | Unavailable for comment. |
| Qu Kim (College Facilities) | I support the recommendation. Per the meeting with UES, careful planning and prioritization are necessary to be flexible and have the ability to address the smaller EPC projects when the available funding for a particular year is smaller than other years. |
| John Dallesasse  (Academic Senate) | I support this recommendation. |
| Marcus Jackson (Auxiliaries) | I support the recommendation as this will provide campus collaboration with the goal of saving on energy costs |
| Joey Kreiling (SSLC) | I support this recommendation -- addressing the backlog of deferred maintenance is crucial to campus energy use reduction and achieving iCAP energy goals. I also agree with Jonah that private firms should be considered as a legitimate possibility for the remaining deferred maintenance projects. |
| Jonah Messinger (SSC) | I support approving $10 million dollars in funding for this effort, but I would note that this level of funding is woefully low relative to the need and the opportunity for energy and money savings. I recommend that UIUC develop a request for proposals and/or request for information for a privately financed initiative to pursue energy efficiency, rooftop solar PV and solar thermal, etc. To be clear, this is not a loan, but rather a privately financed project that will be paid back via the energy and cost savings over time, which are guaranteed via the sub-contractor ESCO contracts. This completely de-risks the university and could yield funding that is an order of magnitude above $10 million. |
| Creen Ahmad (ISG) | We fully support this recommendation as combining efforts of EPCs, Energy Conservation Funding, and building envelopes, is a great stride to achieve carbon neutrality. We fully support this effort and hope to see larger funds for energy conservation projects on campus. We also believe that the large amounts saved can be used to reinvest into EPC’s to make this a larger campus effort. |

**Original SWATeam Recommendation:**

We recommend $10M per year (scalable) of funding for the next 5 years to implement critical projects that work in concert with energy performance contracts (EPC) and/or energy focused capital projects. EPC contracts are fulfilled by specialized, accredited firms known as energy service companies. The university uses EPCs to manage complex projects targeting facilities with high energy use, such as laboratories, maximizing energy efficiency and addressing sizable volumes of deferred maintenance issues along the way. The campus backlog on deferred maintenance is approaching $1 billion.

**iWG Assessment of budget and policy impacts (*check one*):**

moderate budget and/or policy impact OR X major budget and/or policy implications

**iWG Routing Need (*check one*):**

\_\_\_\_\_ more detailed study OR \_\_\_\_ transmit recommendation OR X forward to Sustainability Council