

iCAP Working Group Agenda

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017

Present: Ximing Cai, Morgan Johnston, Robert Fritz, Scott Willenbrock, Matthew Tomaszewski, Gary Kling, Robyn Deterding, Joseph Edwards, and Majid Shafiee-Jood.

0. Ximing started the meeting with introductions and quickly went through the agenda.

1. Re-review Econs004, Green Labs Coordinator

A summary of what we discussed in the previous meetings on Green Labs Coordinator Recommendation was provided.

Only iWG and SWATeams have read the recommendation.

We need someone from the VCR office side to be in this conversation. It is embarrassing that we don't have green lab program.

Some questions were also brought up:

- (Morgan:) What should be the role of iWG if they do not hire a full-time coordinator?
- (Ximing:) Who should design the job responsibilities? Is it SWATeam, iWG, or a person who oversees the position?
- (Matthew:) What is the ideal position? There should be a full-time position and that person should work with lab safety staff/people.
- Funding for this position? This position cannot be funded through student sustainability funding since they don't fund staff or permanent position. How about VCR office? Then, we should reach out to Melanie again. She would tell if the position would fit the VCR office.

Conclusion: We should first talk with Evan and explain what we would like to bring to the VCR office. In the meantime, we should contact Melanie again to see whether VCR office supports it. The recommendation should also include that iWG is recommending a full-time position too.

Who will meet with Evan on this recommendation? Rob, Matthew, Scott, Ximing and Morgan.

2. Discuss iCAP objectives status

Updates on the status of the objectives in the six broad themes within the iCAP (ECBS, eGen, Transportation, Water and Stormwater, PWR, ALUFS) and other iCAP objectives (carbon offset, funding, education, outreach, research) were provided (by Morgan) and discussed.

Water and Stormwater: While the Water SWATeam does have a plan and procedure ready for “water audit”, but for some reasons we got disconnected from them and this objective didn’t move forward.

ALUFS: The SWATeam is currently developing a management plan that would address the two pending objectives (Joes).

The iCAP objective update was handed to Sustainability Committee.

The agenda discussed in Sustainability Council meeting is provided by iSEE.

3. Discuss campus sustainability 3-year plan

The three following items are the main campus sustainability issues from iSEE perspective in the 3-year sustainability plan draft (please see page 3 for the text suggested to be added):

- Increase Faculty Engagement

Many faculties are not aware of the campus sustainability projects. These projects and facilities can be used as educational background or test bed for teaching and research.

Three major points were proposed/discussed by Ximing to increase faculty involvement in campus sustainability efforts and projects.

Currently, a document is being prepared (by Ximing and Majid) which includes some suggestions based on the experiences in other universities.

Town hall meetings can be organized during sustainability week(?) to increase faculty involvement.

- Coordinate research focused iCAP objectives

Research-focused iCAP objectives have not been moving forward. So, Morgan suggests that Ximing asks some faculties to get involved and move them forward.

- Improve the campus sustainability procedures

It is difficult to have the faculties on the SWATeams. But we should get them more engaged. One part of improving procedures is to have a Dean appoint the faculty to take a responsibility in the SWATeams.

4. Discuss campus sustainability procedures

The discussion on improving campus sustainability continued. The main issue is the Sustainability Council does not (or cannot) approve many of the iWG recommendations mainly because of funding and financial issues.

Sustainability Council doesn’t meet regularly. Evan should call for the meeting, but he calls for a meeting when there is a solid recommendation.

Ximing and Morgan suggested to add the following text to 3-year Sustainability Plan

Add to “Key Strategies”

- Increase faculty and staff engagement via
 - promoting more active involvement of faculty and staff in student-led projects
 - developing research-oriented campus sustainability projects
 - coordinating research focused iCAP objectives
 - helping connect faculty and staff through multiple channels, e.g. town hall meeting, appointing SWATeam faculty members by Deans or University administration
- Improve the campus sustainability procedures – bring more recommendations into reality – via
 - Strengthening the communication of the iCAP objectives and recommendations to responsible units
 - Enhancing the participation and processes of SWATeams

Add to “Strategic challenge we face”

- Engaging campus-wide involvement of faculty and staff
- Seeking funding support beyond that from Student Sustainability Committee

Add to “Measuring Success”

- Develop a number of major research projects involving campus sustainability
- Use campus sustainability projects for both undergraduate and graduate education
- Obtain internal or external funding for campus sustainability