

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment
1101 W. Peabody, Suite 350
Urbana, IL 61801



August 27, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

As you may know, in 2008 our campus committed to become carbon neutral as soon as possible, and no later than 2050, as part of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment. In 2014, the Chancellor approved a new procedure (attached) to provide a framework for developing and evaluating new sustainability policies and initiatives for our campus, and to drive us towards carbon neutrality. The Sustainability Working Advisory Teams (SWATeams) represent a vital part of this process, as they harness the collective intellectual power and expertise of our faculty, staff, and students to gather information, synthesize data, and formulate recommendations for how our campus should advance its sustainability goals. With this letter, I ask that you serve on the SWATeam listed below for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Your team is expected to meet at a frequency you select, but no less frequently than once per month. Your team should select a chair to preside over your meetings; it is anticipated that most SWATeams will select a faculty member as chair, but this is not required. The Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment (iSEE) will provide logistical support for your activities. A Campus Sustainability Intern from iSEE has been appointed to help coordinate your meetings and prepare minutes and reports, which will be made publicly available on the iSEE website. An iSEE staff liaison, listed below, will also attend your meetings. iSEE's Associate Director for Campus Sustainability, Ben McCall, will provide guidance to your team as needed. Your team is also expected to constitute a Consultation Group for input; this group will consist of faculty, staff, students, and community members with expertise in all areas encompassed by your topic. Your team should select the Consultation Group members, based on consultations with iSEE staff and/or self-nominations from prospective participants, and you should consult with members of your Consultation Group in formal meetings and/or informally as you deem appropriate. Your team should also hold a public meeting at least once per semester to harness the collective power of the knowledge and enthusiasm of the broader community. However, recommendations and other work products will be finalized by your team itself, after synthesizing input from your Consultation Group and the community.

Your team has four specific charges:

- 1) Your first task is to prepare an evaluation of the campus's progress toward meeting the objectives of the 2015 Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP) in your area. In order to assist your evaluation, your iSEE staff liaison will provide all data that we have available; if there is other data you need they will work with you to try to obtain it as quickly as possible. Your evaluation is due to the iCAP Working Group (iWG) by September 30.
- 2) You should develop and recommend specific actions or initiatives the campus should take to meet iCAP objectives, and as appropriate assist iSEE and iWG with identifying units, groups, and individuals who might be well positioned to undertake those projects. Your team's formal recommendations for actions or initiatives may be submitted at any time to the iWG using their template. We are in the process of preparing a document providing further guidelines for SWATeam recommendations, which should be available soon.
- 3) You should recommend information-gathering or feasibility studies that need to be performed in order to evaluate or enable sustainability objectives, and identify teams of faculty, staff, and students to undertake or guide those studies, in consultation with F&S as appropriate. Your formal recommendations for studies may also be submitted at any time to the iWG using their template.

- 4) Your team will play an active part in conducting a study to determine what steps our campus would need to take to accelerate our sustainability efforts and achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. This study will include an examination of the costs and benefits of those steps, considering both the short- and long-term impacts on our campus finances, environmental impact, and reputation. More details about this study will be provided during the fall semester.

As you are no doubt aware, our campus is placing a renewed emphasis on the topic of sustainability, following the results of the Visioning Future Excellence process and the creation of iSEE. In 2008, our campus signed on to the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment, and in implementing this new procedure we reaffirm our commitment to become carbon neutral as soon as possible while also serving as a model of sustainability for all universities in the nation. Thank you in advance for your efforts in helping to bring this vision to reality.

Sincerely,



Evan DeLucia
G. William Arends Professor of Integrative Biology
Baum Family Director, Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment.

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Energy Conservation and Building Standards

Ralph Hammann, Professor of Architecture
Marian Huhman, Assistant Professor of Communication
Fred Hahn, Associate Director of Engineering Services, Facilities & Services
Karl Helmink, Associate Director of Utilities and Energy, Facilities & Services
Monica Chhatwani, Student Member
Dhara Patel, Student Member
[Nishant Makhijani, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Claudia Szczepaniak, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Energy Generation, Purchasing, and Distribution

Angus Rockett, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering
Scott Willenbrock, Professor of Physics
Mike Larson, Director of Utility Production, Facilities & Services
Tim Mies, Deputy Director of Operations, Energy Farm, Energy Biosciences Institute
Jack Morrissey, Student Member
Allison Steffens, Student Member
[Morgan Johnston, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Ben Reeber, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Transportation

Bumsoo Lee, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning
Yanfeng Ouyang, Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Richard Langlois, Senior eLearning Professional, CITL
Peter Varney, Director of Transportation and Automotive Services, Facilities & Services
Claire Donival, Student Member
Zhaodong Wang, Student Member
[Morgan Johnston, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Ben Cigelnik, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Agriculture, Land Use, Food, and Sequestration

Bruce Branham, Professor of Crop Sciences
Jennifer Fraterrigo, Assistant Professor of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
Brent Lewis, Campus Landscape Architect, Facilities & Services
Carol Strohbeck, Dining Services
Joseph Edwards, Student Member
Maggie Thomas, Student Member
[Stephanie Lage, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Rob Klein, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Water and Stormwater

Rabin Bhattarai, Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Lance Schideman, Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Keith Erickson, Associate Director of Utilities and Energy Services, Facilities & Services
Kishore Rajagopalan, Associate Director for Applied Research, Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Scott Douglas, Student Member
Amy Liu, Student Member
[Stephanie Lage, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Carley Meeks, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]

Sustainability Working Advisory Team on Purchasing, Waste, and Recycling

Dilip Chhajed, Professor of Business Administration
Warren Lavey, Adjunct Professor of Earth, Society, and Environment
Bart Bartels, Technical Assistance Engineer, Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Marcy Wright, Strategic Procurement, OBFS
Karin Jones, Student Member
Liz Shancer, Student Member
[Nishant Makhijani, iSEE Staff Liaison]
[Divneet Dhillon, iSEE Campus Sustainability Intern]