



# PURCHASING, WASTE & RECYCLING

This team is focused on how to best maintain and improve the University's purchasing, waste management, and recycling programs. The group will work to implement a Zero Waste movement (like that described in the iCAP), which will require a "whole system" approach to resource management that implicates purchasing, maximizes recycling, minimizes waste, reduces consumption, and ensures that products are made to be reused, repaired, or recycled back into the system. This system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by saving energy by reducing energy consumption associated with extracting, processing, and transporting raw materials and waste, and through energy savings by reducing and eventually eliminating the need for landfills.

## OBJECTIVES

**1. By FY17, environmental standards will be applied to purchases of office paper, cleaning products, computers, other electronics, and freight/package delivery services. At least 50% of purchases in these categories will meet standards by FY20, and 75% by FY25.**



Status:  
In progress

- Recommended that the University adopt policy on Using and Purchasing Paper, including maximizing recycled content by expecting a minimum 30% recycled content paper to be purchased by staff. Policy has not been adopted at the University level, but team is asking that policy request is reconsidered. Action at the campus level is being pursued.
- Next Steps: Issue formal recommendation to adopt 30% recycled paper policy at campus level. Continue discussion on green cleaning products and potential E-waste and battery recycling programs.

**3. Utilize landfills with methane capture.**



Status:  
Complete!

- Former SWATteam member Karin Hodgin Jones conducted study investigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from local landfills. The study identified the auxiliary campus buildings contracting independent hauling vendors, estimated waste volumes produced by these facilities, and presented a methodology that may be used to correct campus reporting on carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions associated with landfill use.
- Identified three auxiliary buildings not previously in Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP) reports: Biel-feldt Athletics Administration Building, Atkins Tennis Center, and Illini Union. Estimates for waste volume and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were provided for these buildings in Hodgin Jones's report.

Methane Recapture System Comparison		
Based on 2014 data reported to USEPA		
	Clinton Landfill	Brickyard Landfill
Methane Recapture System	LFG Flares	BES LFGTE Plant + LFG Flare
Methane Recaptured from BES LFGTE Plant	0.00 metric tons	3,414.50 metric tons
Methane Recaptured from LFG Flares	5,338.84 metric tons	774.90 metric tons
<b>Total CO2 emissions reported</b>	<b>98,341.80 metric tons</b>	<b>19,411.70 metric tons</b>

source: United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2015). BRICKYARD DISPOSAL LANDFILL reported data. Retrieved from <http://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgdp/service/html/2014?id=1007467&et=undefined>  
 Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2015). CLINTON LANDFILL reported data. Retrieved from <http://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgdp/service/html/2014?id=1007467&et=undefined>  
 Table 2 Methane Recapture Systems for Brickyard and Clinton Landfills

RIGHT: Table 2 from Improving Waste Volume and Carbon Emission Reporting for Auxiliary Buildings on UIUC Campus by Karin Hodgin Jones.

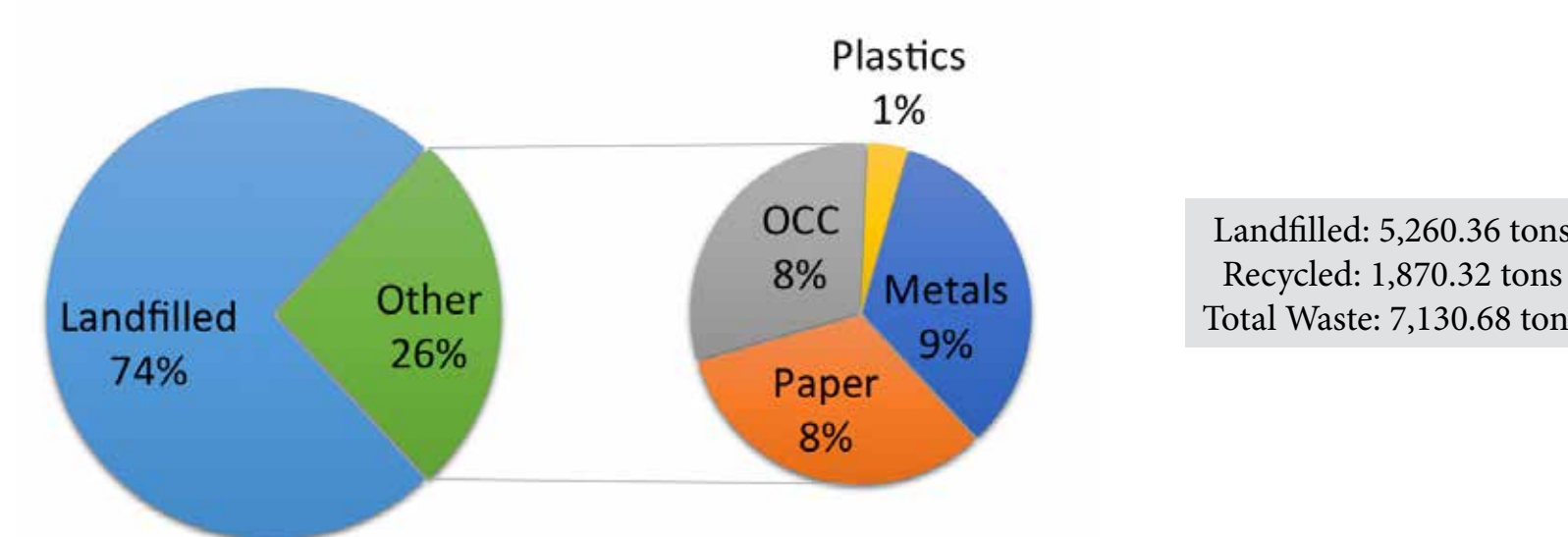
**2. Reduce municipal solid waste (MSW) going to landfills. Increase the diversion rate of MSW to 45% by FY20, 60% by FY25, and 80% by FY35, while also increasing the total diversion rate of campus waste to 90% by FY20 and 95% by FY 25.**



Status:  
In progress

- Standardized labeling for recycling bins and increased receptacles on the Quad. As of April 2015, 20 new recycling bins were added to the Quad.
- Waste audits were conducted showing an effective diversion rate of 26% based on FY16 solid waste and recycling data. A report is completed, including recommendations for an increase in the number of recycled plastics, along with estimated cost savings.
- Collection programs for special waste streams expanded, introduced, or currently under consideration (e.g. nitrile gloves from dining halls and labs, expanded polystyrene, and expansion of Dump & Run for campus move out).

Waste Data from FY16



**4. Appropriately staff Zero Waste efforts through the hiring of a full-time Zero Waste Coordinator.**

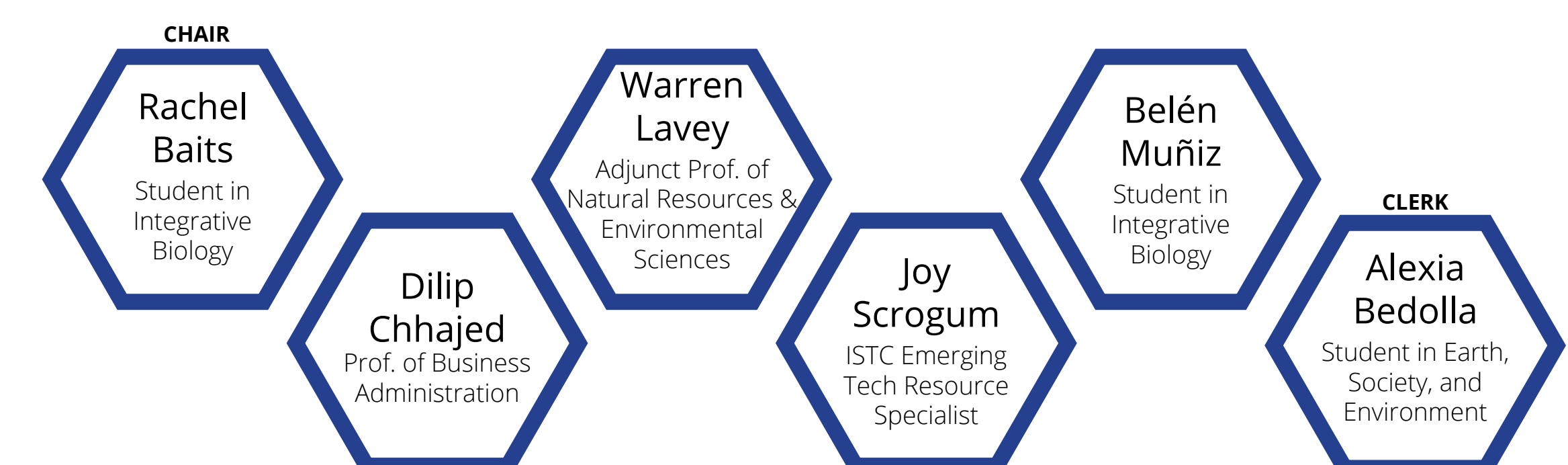


Status:  
In Progress

- Requested staff position in Office of Business and Financial Services (OBFS) and University Facilities & Services. Zero Waste has been integrated into a full-time position in OBFS, and funding was received from the Student Sustainability Committee to hire a part-time Zero Waste Coordinator at F&S. A hire is in progress.
- Next Steps: Request funding for full-time coordinator in F&S.



## TEAM MEMBERS



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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