



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 save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduction of energy consumption associated with extracting, processing, and transporting raw materials and waste, and through reduction and eventual elimination of the need for landfills.

OBJECTIVES

6.1. 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

- **COMPLETE:** Reviewed draft policy and training video on recycled-content paper purchases. Worked with F&S Stores to provide discounts on recycled-content paper.
- **IN PROGRESS:** Integrating a university policy on paper purchasing into the Campus Administrative Manual to require a minimum of 30% recycled content.

Next Steps:

- Continue discussion on green cleaning products and potential E-waste and battery recycling programs.
- Apply EPEAT purchasing standards for electronics and educate the campus community about the benefits of choosing EPEAT-registered products. Apply SmartWay standards for transportation services.

6.3. 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 (CO₂) 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 CO₂ emissions were provided for these buildings in Hodgin Jones's report.

Next Steps:

- Make recommendation to campus buildings to continue or begin contract with vendors that haul to Brickyard Landfill, a disposal center in Danville, IL, whose methane capture strategy produces less CO₂ than other landfill options.
- More thorough reporting on real and seasonally adjusted estimates of waste volumes from auxiliary buildings is needed to better estimate CO₂ emissions for the next iCAP revision.

6.2. 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

- **COMPLETE:** Standardized labeling for recycling bins and increased receptacles on the Quad. As of April 2015, 20 new recycling bins were added to the Quad.
- **COMPLETE:** Integrated battery recycling into the Certified Green Office Program.
- **COMPLETE:** Waste audits were conducted showing an effective diversion rate of 27% based on FY17 solid waste and recycled data.
- **IN PROGRESS:** Collection programs for special waste streams have been introduced and expanded (e.g. nitrile gloves from dining halls and labs, polystyrene, and Dump and Run for campus move out). Others are currently under consideration.
- **IN PROGRESS:** The Illini Gadget Garage is working with the campus community to promote repair of electronics and small appliances, helping to extend the useful life of products and keeping them out of the waste stream.

Next Steps:

- Create a map of all waste and recycling bins on campus.
- Engage Illinois staff as active promoters of campus recycling.

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

Status:
Complete!

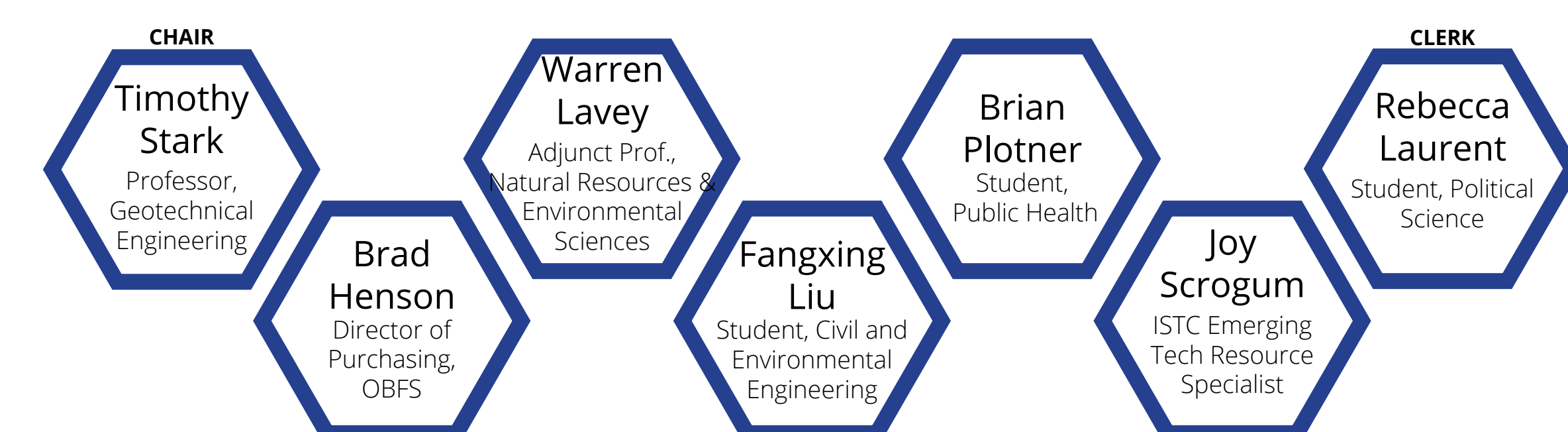
- Zero Waste Coordinator positions have been established full time in the Office of Business and Financial Services (OBFS) and part time for F&S.

Next Steps:

- Request funding for a full-time coordinator in F&S.



TEAM MEMBERS



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