

CCSE General Co-Chairs Meeting Notes

Date: Friday, March 20, 2015

Time: 3:00-4:30pm

Location: Utilities Building, 1100 S Morgan St, Conference Room

Present: George Crabtree, Rob Dixon, Pablo Acevedo, Manchershaw Engineer, Lisa Sanzenbacher, David Hofman, Kevin Shalla, Stephen Schlickman, Ning Ai, Robert Roman, Kelly Ting, Joe Iosbaker

Absent: Cindy Klein-Banai, Katherine Yoshida, Roberta Mason-Gamer, Anthony McClellan

Discussion

1. Overall directions of committee work

UIC should strive to become the greenest university. To expand the work of the CCSE, we should consider involving more eco-reps and representatives of departments including individuals who provide data for STARS reporting and are not yet a CCSE member.

2. Marketing of committee work

The CCSE needs to promote its work throughout campus. Sanzenbacher will be in charge of producing a new (also the first) CCSE logo through her graphic design intern. Admissions office should also promote campus sustainability to potential and incoming students so we attract more sustainability-minded students to UIC.

3. Overall campus GHG emission reduction

Committee hopes to achieve 20% by 2020, but there are concerns that the goal might be impractical because over the last 10 years the energy consumption anti-correlated with carbon emissions. It is challenging to reduce GHG emission. Committee should think about proposing to the Chancellor on revisiting the emission reduction goal in Climate Action Plan and considering new approaches to reduce GHG reduction.

4. Energy and Utilities subcommittee

The subcommittee is working with UA energy experts to perform an analysis of carbon emission over 30 years. Subcommittee's approaches to reduce GHG include reduce source energy consumption, increase renewable sources purchasing, etc. Subcommittee hopes to create a database for all the campus energy efficiency projects to track campus wide efforts in energy saving, and also expand metering program to all major buildings.

5. Transportation subcommittee

The subcommittee aims to reduce GHG emission by reducing fuel use, personal car travel, increase active transportation like biking and use of Amtrak. The revised Amtrak policy for university travel aims to promote more awareness in Amtrak usage. Committee suggests that we should also promote use of inner city bus. UIC is reconfiguring campus shuttle route and red car services this summer using a focus group.

6. Events and Activities subcommittee

The subcommittee aims to involve all other CCSE subcommittee in co-sponsoring campus sustainability events and create a minimum of 1 event per year moving forward. This year in the upcoming Bike 2 Campus week, the subcommittee is working with the transportation subcommittee in organizing activities. Subcommittees should come together to think of creative ways to do more outreach events related to energy, etc.

7. Tree Care and Grounds subcommittee

The subcommittee aims to reduce stormwater runoff by increase construction of permeable pavement in parking lot since it is measurable. The committee will look into the parking lot at Racine and Harrison street that has a lot of pooled water. This year, part of the tree care plan is to remove all the mulch. IDOT has been providing trees to UIC and next year it will provide 200 more to help increase campus tree diversity.

8. Recycling and Waste Management subcommittee

The subcommittee aims to reach 50% recycling goal. It appears conservative in practice because UIC had reached 45% in FY 2014. Suggestions such as plastic water bottle ban on campus, categorizing recycling rate by campus housing, hospitals, etc., and increase the types of materials recycled on campus are made to the subcommittee.

9. Freezer program

Sanzebacher wants to initiate a freezer program to switch campus freezers to newer models for energy savings. Roman suggested to collaborate with Katherine Yoshida because she works with a lot of energy rebate program.

10. Tour: Deep Energy Retrofit dwellings of Marcus de la Fleur

The tour date is on March 26th, 3-6 pm. RSVP participants are about 10 people.

11. Meeting with Chancellor Amiridis

Ting will schedule a co-chairs meeting with Chancellor Amiridis in mid-May. In this meet-and-greet meeting, the committee hopes to inform the Chancellor about the overall committee work, where we frame our goals, and our vision for UIC.