



Proposal to the General University Policy Committee

TITLE OF PROPOSED CENTER OR INSTITUTE:

Center for a Sustainable Environment (CSE)

DESCRIPTION OF THE CHARTER:

- Detail the charter or mission of the proposed center/institute.
 - The Center mission has two interdependent directives which are: (1) To provide national and international leadership on sustainability by providing support for interdisciplinary education, research, and engagement, and (2) To develop and implement strategies for a sustainable campus environment.
- Discuss the center/institute's alignment with the strategic direction of the campus/college/school/department.
 - Campus has an explicit goal of sustainability; this Center will work to integrate, facilitate, and foster efforts of faculty, students, and staff in this area.
- Describe the center/institute's Public Engagement activities as they relate to the charter or mission, if any.
 - The University of Illinois has campus-wide strengths in sustainability. These strengths are exhibited through disciplinary expertise, interdisciplinary collaborations, influential external partners, practical demonstrations, local-global connections, and a spirit of enthusiasm that recognizes connections between sustainability, environment, and human well-being. The CSE will take advantage of these strengths by positioning itself in roles of facilitating, coordinating, and organizing campus resources to capture and amplify the campus-wide strengths on sustainability.

JUSTIFICATION:

- How does the formation of this center/institute fulfill needs not already met by other entities on campus/college/school/department?
 - Although we have many active individuals, teams, and campus organizations that are involved in sustainable environment efforts, we don't have an overarching framework in which these highly productive efforts can achieve interdisciplinary synergies. Linking these programs

should accelerate and highlight our sustainability programs on campus. It will also provide a place to receive funding from individual donors and organizations for scholarships and programs of all kinds. We have already secured an Endowed Professorship which will support the director for the CSE. There are many other fund-raising dimensions to this effort.

- How will the center/institute help position the campus/college/school/department in a current or emerging field of inquiry?
 - Concern with long-term sustainability of our society has particularly increased because of climate change, population pressures, energy insecurity, and declining natural resources. Illinois boasts many scholars in disciplines that address these challenges. The CSE will assist the OVCR in development of leading-edge multidisciplinary research approaches to these and other sustainability-related issues.

PROPOSED STRUCTURE:

- Describe the direct reporting line(s) of the proposed center/institute. How will the center/institute be situated in the organization's hierarchy?
 - The CSE will be a campus-wide center. The Office of Sustainability will be merged into the CSE, once it is established. The Center will report to the Chancellor's Office, and its director will be responsible for coordination of Center activities in areas of education and research with those of the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs and Research respectively.
 - The CSE will be advised by a Steering Committee in the development and implementation of activities of the Center. The Steering Committee will be an interdisciplinary group of faculty, staff and students, who will represent various stakeholders on the campus. The Office of Sustainability has put together an interim Steering Committee to lead planning for the Center. The current membership of the Steering Committee is given at the end of this document. Members of the Steering Committee will be appointed by the Chancellor and will serve a three-year term. They will be eligible for reappointment at the end of their three year term.
 - The campus Sustainability Council will provide strategic guidance to the CSE and ensure that its activities are synergistic with other campus efforts in the area of sustainability. The current membership of the Sustainability Council consists of the Chancellor (chair), Provost, VCR, VCIA, VCSA, director, Prairie Research Institute, director, F&S, one dean (Ruth Watkins), one faculty member (Barbara Minsker), two student representatives (Marika Nell and Kevin Wolz), and director of the Office of Sustainability. Once the CSE is established, the director of CSE will replace the director of the Office of Sustainability on the Sustainability Council, as the Office of Sustainability will be merged into the CSE. The dean and the faculty member serve a three-year term each and are appointed by the Chancellor. The student representatives serve a one-year

term and are also appointed by the Chancellor. All members with fixed terms are eligible for reappointment at the end of their term.

- Describe the proposed organizational structure and how the structure will permit the center/institute to meet its stated objectives.
 - The director will be assisted by two academic professionals. One will support the teaching/research related activities of the Center, and the other will manage facility-related on-campus sustainability programs as well as outreach activities.
- Describe the staffing needs of the center/institute and plans for the leadership of the center/institute.

The staff of the Center will consist of a director (50% FTE), two academic professionals and support staff. The director will be a tenured full professor.

ACADEMIC IMPLICATIONS:

- List affiliated faculty and staff.
 - See attached.
- Will tenure-stream faculty hold appointments in the unit? If so, describe the structure of the appointments.
 - Director (50% FTE) will be a tenured full professor.
- Describe any plans for the center/institute to offer courses or academic programs.
 - The CSE will provide support to departments and educational programs in curriculum development or enhancement particularly related to sustainability education. There is no intention to offer for-credit courses, although workshops, seminar series, and other educational activities may be initiated and supported.

BUDGET AND FUNDING STRATEGY:

- What is the proposed time period for existence of the center/institute?
 - At least 10 years
- Detail an initial budget.
 - The proposed budget for the Center is \$495,000. The campus contribution is \$450,000 annually and the remaining amount of \$45,000 per year will come from the endowment from the Baum Family Fund. A part of the endowment income, \$20,000, will be used to support an endowed professorship, named the CSE Professorship. The remaining income will be used to support programs/projects of the Center. A large portion of the total budget will be used for personnel (\$310,720). Two of the academic profession positions, one for teaching and research and the other for facilities and outreach, will be directly supporting programmatic work of the Center; they will not have any administrative duties. Operation costs, including travel, are budgeted at \$41,780. The remaining amount, \$142,500, will be used to support projects and activities of the center.
- Describe the funding strategy, including any internal or external support, and if applicable, plans for replacing internal fund support with external funds.

- Support from Campus is initially a major source of funding. In addition, the Center will have a \$1 million endowment provided by the Baum Family Fund. A concerted effort will begin with the formation of the CSE to raise external funds from private sources including individuals, families, and foundations. The Baum Family Fund has indicated an interest in providing an additional funding of \$1.5 million if the Center is launched successfully and is effectively pursuing its broad objectives. The Campus has reached out to other potential donors to secure their support. The goal is to raise enough endowment funds to ensure that the Center is completely self-supporting within five years from the start date.

OUTCOMES:

- Describe the criteria and outcomes that will be used to demonstrate the quality and effectiveness of the center/institute.
 - Criteria
 - Number of students in courses with sustainability content
 - External funding for sustainability efforts.
 - Recognition of the Campus as a leader in sustainability through awards and press coverage, regionally and nationally
 - Outcomes
 - More classes with sustainability/environment taught throughout the curriculum
 - Increased external funding to support research, teaching, and outreach efforts in the area of sustainability
 - More large interdisciplinary projects across campus
 - Much increased visibility across the state, region, nation and globe for all sustainability programs on campus.

CLEARANCES:

A letter of support from the unit to which the proposed center/institute will directly report must be included.

Proposal Sponsor:

Date:

Contact Information:

List of Faculty Who Could be Affiliated with the CSE

Faculty		Department
John	Abelson	Materials Science & Engineering
Lisa	Ainsworth	Crop Science
Brian	Anderson	Illinois Natural History Survey
Amy	Ando	ACE
Tom	Bassett	Geography
Catherine	Blake	School of Library & Information Sciences
German	Bollero	Crop Science
Jeff	Brawn	NRES
Julie	Cidell	Geography
Joel	Cutcher-Gershenfeld	School of Labor & Employment Relations
Brian	Deal	Urban & Regional Planning
Bryan	Endres	ACE
Courtney	Flint	NRES
Jennifer	Fraterrigo	NRES
Eric	Freyfogle	Law
Don	Fullerton	Department of Finance
Gale	Fulton	Landscape Arch
Wesley	Jarrell	NRES
Jay	Kesan	Law
Madhu	Khanna	Agricultural & Consumer Economics
David	Kovacic	Landscape Arch
Praveen	Kumar	Civil & Environmental Engineering
Andrew	Leakey	Plant Biology & IGB
Bruce	Litchfield	College of Engineering
Steve	Marshak	Geology
Robert	McKim	Religion
Neal	Merchen	Animal Science
Barbara	Minsker	Civil & Environmental Engineering
Stephan	Platt	Mechanical Science & Engineering
Kishore	Rajagopalan	Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Jesse	Ribot	Beckman Inst & Geography
Luis	Rodriguez	NRES
William	Stewart	AHS
William	Sullivan	Landscape Arch
Madhu	Viswanathan	Business
Michelle	Wander	NRES
Scott	Willenbrock	Physics
Gillen	Wood	English
Don	Wuebbles	Atmospheric Science

Center for a Sustainable Environment

Annual Budget (estimate)

Personnel:		
Director (50%)	75,000	
Endowed Professorship	20,000	
Assistant to Director	58,000	
Office Support Specialist	37,720	
Academic Professional - teaching & research	60,000	
Academic Professional - facilities & outreach	<u>60,000</u>	
Personnel total		310,720
Sustainability Programs/Projects	<u>109,500</u>	
Program/project total		109,500
Seminars:	<u>24,000</u>	
Seminar total		24,000
Association Memberships:		
AASHE Membership	2,000	
ACUPCC Membership	4,000	
NCSE Membership	2,000	
STARS Membership	<u>1,000</u>	
Membership total		9,000
Conference Travel	10,000	
Website Development/Maintenance	5,000	
Supplies	5,000	
Equipment (photocopier, computers, etc)	7,000	
Telephones	2,280	
Computer support	7,500	
Publications	<u>5,000</u>	
Travel, operations total		<u>41,780</u>
<u>TOTAL:</u>		<u><u>495,000</u></u>

Sources of Funding

Campus	450,000
Income from Baum Family Fund Endowment	<u>45,000</u>
TOTAL:	<u><u>495,000</u></u>

Members of the Steering Committee

Last Name	First Name	Department
Ando	Amy	Ag. & Consumer Econ
Brawn	Jeff	Nat Res and Env Science
Deal	Brian	Urban & Reg Planning
Dempsey	Jack	Facilities & Services
Elnashai	Amr	Civil & Env Engineering
Jarrell	Wesley	Donor rep
Liu	Tamara	student
Lucero	Lisa	Anthropology
Marshak	Steve	School of Earth Society and Env
Nell	Marika	student
Ricci	Marcus	student
Rowell	Arden	College of Law, Donor rep
Shilts	William	Prairie Research Institute
Viswanathan	Madhu	Business
Werth	Charles	Civil & Env Engineering
Khanna	Pradeep	Associate Chancellor