

SWATeam Recommendation

Name of SWATeam: ALUFS

SWATeam Chair: Brent Lewis

Date Submitted to iSEE: 2/8/2017

Specific Actions/Policy Recommended (a few sentences):

Recommendation to support a new tree survey on the main campus. This project would fund the purchase of GPS equipment and purchase the time of an arborist and assistants to do a full survey of all trees on the main campus property. This survey would then be inserted into the larger campus GIS plans for use and analysis by F&S and others. With an estimated cost of \$50,000, we recommend that the campus fund this project, possibly using revenue received from the sale of carbon credits. As an alternative delivery method to doing the work partially in house, an outside vendor could be contracted to do the survey and prepare and maintain a useable web-based database of our tree inventory and condition. Funding allocation for this alternative method would be similar, but net a slightly different set of useable benefits.

Rationale for Recommendation (a few sentences): Without proper data, it would be difficult to analyze the existing plantings on campus for their carbon sequestration. This plan supports the larger context of sustainable landscapes by removing high maintenance turf for lower maintenance trees. Currently this plan is not funded and has not been submitted to any larger review process. We would hope our recommendation would assist in moving this idea along into an actual project.

Connection to iCAP Goals (a few sentences): iCAP Chap. 7, Objective 5: Increase carbon sequestration in campus soils by determining the sequestration value of existing plantings. This paragraph further recommends the completion of a tree survey. This project would assist the campus in determining the sequestration value of existing plantings on campus. The current tree database began in the late 1990's and has not been updated well. In addition, with the increase in buildings and additions on campus, added to the loss of approximately 500 trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer, our existing tree inventory is not useful for small to large scale analysis. Therefore, the tree survey is needed prior to moving forward on this goal.

Perceived Challenges (a few sentences): Funding is the only current challenge impeding this project. We recommend that Campus fund this project, potentially using proceeds from the sale of our carbon credits.

Suggested unit/department to address implementation: Facilities and Services, Grounds Department and Facilities and Facility Information Resources (FIR)

Anticipated level of budget and/or policy impact (low, medium, high): Approximate budget \$50,000. No policy impact is expected.

Individual comments are required from each SWATeam member (can be brief, if member fully agrees):

Team Member Name	Team Member's Comments
Jennifer Fraterrigo	Our goal should be to develop a geo-database using spatial coordinates and including species data. Storing data like this would allow for carbon stock estimation.
Brent Lewis	This survey will assist the campus in numerous ways; assisting Grounds Dept. with inventory & maintenance, assisting capital projects with accurate existing conditions information, campus, assisting a committee to assess our carbon storage/sequestration,

	assisting a committee to map out our tree canopy cover, and assisting the yearly Tree Campus USA qualifications which require student led projects.
Adriana Noboa	The tree survey would provide an essential plan and baseline for all future plantings on campus. With a more clear understanding of our data, it'll be possible to identify and rectify any regions in which the university could be working more efficiently.
Thurman Etchison	Completing a tree survey and maintaining it going forward is vital to achieving our goals. The ICAP is a great map but until we know where we are, it is impossible to know how to get to our destination. This survey could also be used as an educational resource for others if we can make the data public.
Joe Edwards	This is necessary information to continue actively managing these valuable resources on this campus for the long term. These trees are not immediately replaceable and in order to have realistic plans for their health and accountability for when they are damaged. This survey is also necessary for maintaining current information and staying up to date on the quality of our campus trees.
Bruce Branham	I believe it is important to get the campus tree information into a database format that can be easily modified to reflect new plantings/removals and used to periodically assess carbon stocks. Getting this data into a useful form may be valuable as a research project now or in the future.

Comments from Consultation Group (if any; these can be anonymous):

Explanation and Background (can be supplied in an attachment):