

iWG Assessment

SWATeam Recommendation Ref #: Edu003 - Sustainability Career Fair

Date of iWG Assessment Started: 4/27/2020

Assessment Transmitted: 6/3/2020

iWG Recommendation: The iWG recommends that the Career Center coordinate with existing career fairs (e.g., College of Engineering, College of ACES, and College of Business) to pilot an eco-tagging system (Year/Phase 1). After the first year, the Career Center should evaluate the possibility of coordinating a sustainability-oriented career fair. iSEE and the Education SWATeam can serve as resources for this effort.

iWG Routing Direction (*department name, SWATeam, or Council*): The Career Center

Individual comments from each iWG member:

iWG Member Name	iWG Member's Comments
Ximing Cai (iSEE)	I support this recommendation. Sustainability related jobs have been increasing significantly in recent year. It is the time to extend traditional career fairs to include the sustainability-oriented career fair.
Morgan White (F&S)	F&S wholeheartedly supports this recommendation, and we are very interested in participating as an interested 'company' to promote our sustainability career paths on campus.
Alma Sealine (Representing Auxiliaries)	I support this recommendation.
Matthew Tomaszewski (Provost Office)	I support this recommendation.
John Dallesasse (Academic Senate)	I support this recommendation.
Sandy Yoo (System Office)	I support this recommendation.
S. Renee Wiley (Representing College Facilities)	I support this recommendation.
Joe Edwards/Sarah Gediman (Student Sustainability Committee)	SSC supports this recommendation, we would like to see criteria for employers getting a sustainability badge, ex. a flier at their tables with sustainability specific information, or specific internships/jobs with a sustainability component to avoid companies with sustainability as a 'company value' instead of more focused opportunities
Joey Kreiling/Jonah Messinger, Student Sustainability Leadership Council	We support this recommendation, and we are very excited to see an expansion of sustainability-related job opportunities available at future Career Fairs.
Creen Ahmad, Illinois Student Government Environmental Sustainability Committee	We fully support this recommendation as it directly caters to the high demand for sustainability-oriented careers. It also targets the difficulty that sustainability is an interdisciplinary study that should be accessible to students regardless of college affiliation.

Original SWATeam Recommendation:

The Sustainability Career Fair working group has the following tiered recommendations, which would grow the general program over three years, with event implementation beginning in the Spring of FY21:

- **Year 1:** The Career Center would coordinate with various University colleges' career fairs in Spring of FY21 to create an integrated Sustainability identity within existing career fairs. Initially, this would primarily target Environmental Sciences and Sustainability majors and minors, but eventually would include a broader base of colleges as we build awareness. In order to quantify the need for developing a Sustainability career fair, we recommend creating assessments in the Fall of FY21. These would determine the job market demand for Sustainability professionals along with establishing desired credentials for job applicants. A second assessment would target students with a Sustainability career focus to better understand their career goals and desired career path (government policy work at the local and State, and Federal level, applied science and coordination work within government, Not-For-Profits, corporations, start-ups, or higher education).
- **Year 2:** The Career Center would continue promoting and coordinating a consistent Sustainability identity within individual colleges' career fairs while adding a modest career fair of interested companies and partners in conjunction with the Fall 2021 ISEE Congress. We recommend starting one paid internship through the Career Center, partnering with ISEE, the LAS Life + Career Design Lab and ACES Career Services to help organize and promote the event. Other student volunteers would assist with planning and day-of event management.
- **Year 3:** Grow the Sustainability Career Fair program to include the Year 1 and Year 2 events, and adding a larger stand-alone, comprehensive Campus-wide Sustainability Career Fair in February 2023, involving multiple University colleges (ACES, LAS, Grainger, Gies, FAA, etc.).

iWG Assessment of budget and policy impacts (*check one*):

moderate budget and/or policy impact OR major budget and/or policy implications

iWG Routing Need (*check one*):

more detailed study OR transmit recommendation OR forward to Sustainability Council