

May 22, 2006

President C. Al Bowman Illinois State University  
Campus Box 1000, Normal, IL 61790-1000

Dear President Bowman,

I am pleased to present you with the Illinois State University Green Team 2006 Annual Report. This report provides you with a summary of the efforts initiated and completed by the Green Team during the past year.

As you know, the Environmental Task Force (ETF) established the charter for the Green Team in April 2000 to assess the extent of campus-wide environmental impact. Among the first steps any university can take toward campus greening is to reinforce and reinvigorate existing environmental programs. They are the foundation of all administrative environmental efforts and I am proud to say we have significantly influenced our recycling and energy conservation programs.

In our efforts toward creating a mission statement and reacquainting ourselves with our initial charge, the Green Team is moving Illinois State University forward as leaders in the environmental movement that is sweeping higher education. We have accomplished many of the initial recommendations from the ETF, including the development of a comprehensive website with links to several other environmental websites, and a focus on the basics of recycling and energy conservation.

I am very encouraged that we will continue to be the environmental stewards of campus and will be energized by the opportunities before us. With the help of the Illinois Green Government Council, and the other partnerships we have forged on campus, we will collectively and continually move toward environmental sustainability on campus.

It is my hope that you find this Green Team 2006 Annual Report to be a useful resource. Through the efforts of all campus constituencies, we will continue to be the higher education institution of choice.

Sincerely,

Chuck Scott,  
Chair, Green Team

cc: Provost John Presley  
Vice President Stephen Bragg  
Vice President Dianne Ashby  
Vice President Helen Mamarchev  
Academic Senate Chair Lane Crothers  
AP Council Chair Mindy Mangialardi  
CS Council Chair Martha Burk

Green Team members:  
Bob Aaron  
Tom Bierma  
Annie Laurie Cadmus  
Jay Groves  
Ron Kelley  
Tim Kelley  
Danielle Lindsey  
Chika Nnamani  
Chuck Scott

## **Solid Waste & Recycling:**

The two recycling programs established on the campus of Illinois State University in the early 1990s continue to operate separately, yet maintain regular communication and collaboration.

- The University collects over 1500 tons of recyclables annually. We started the recycling programs in the early 1990's by collecting aluminum cans, mixed paper, and cardboard in just eight of our campus buildings. We now collect 22 different commodities from virtually every campus facility.
- The University performs annual waste audits, focusing on specific targets of academic buildings, residence halls, and dining facilities. Accurate data indicates that the percentage of recyclable materials in our waste stream is lower and the amount of actual waste is increasing. Not that our volume of landfillable waste is increasing, rather the percentages of each are shifting in the right direction. Our volume of waste being landfilled is actually decreasing when compared to our solid waste base line from 1988.
- University Recycling has moved to its new facility on the Gregory Street Properties. This relocation has provided the program with more square footage, which has provided us the opportunity to increase commodities.
- A collaboration of efforts from Green Team, University Recycling, TechZone and the Town of Normal has provided us with the opportunity to recycle batteries, cell phones, toner cartridges and electronics in the Bone Student Center.
- We will improve recycling opportunities for off-campus students by placing a Town of Normal recycling drop box in a commuter lot on Willow Street. Placement of this drop box will occur once the drop box arrives. Funding for the container was secured through a matching grant offered by the McLean County Solid Waste Technical Committee.
- "Recycling" has been added to the ISU webpage A-Z index.

## **Energy Conservation:**

- Vend-Misers and Kill-A-Watt meters were purchased to determine the feasibility of shutting down compressors in the over 100 vending machines on campus without impacting the beverage temperatures, thus reducing energy consumption. Analysis is being conducted by students in the Department of Health Sciences to determine whether campus-wide implementation would benefit the University..
- The Green Team has been involved in several projects to aid in the reduction of electrical consumption. Some of the specific projects include campus-wide lighting retrofits, insulation of steam pipes, adding economizers to our boilers, and creating redundant loops within our chilled water system.
- ISU recently completed a Classroom Lighting Upgrade project funded jointly with the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation. The project upgraded over 7,000 light fixtures in 11 academic buildings resulting in a net reduction of 421 kW to the campus-wide electrical demand. This project will reduce the University electrical bill by approximately \$200,000 per year.
- An exciting project conducted by the Grounds unit is the installation of permeable concrete in the G-73 parking lot. Permeable concrete allows storm water to percolate through it before passing into the Town's storm water drainage system. Passing through the permeable concrete distills the water of all particulate matter, salts and oils. This is the first location in the state that has installed permeable concrete and we

are pleased with the results. We are currently in the planning stages to install the same type of system in the G-86 parking lot this summer.

### **Partnerships & Outreach:**

- The University has partnered with the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council. We have provided them with information about university-wide paper consumption reduction. One member of the Green Team participated in the Green Building Workshop in Chicago. Three members attended the Green Government Symposium in Springfield. During that meeting, ISU and the Green Team received the 2006 University Achievement Award, recognizing our efforts related to environmental sustainability.
- The Green Team has developed an Environmental Stewardship Award which will be provided annually to groups or individuals making a significant difference relating to the environmental impact of Illinois State University.
- The Green Team hosted educational exhibitions at the following events:
  - Festival ISU, Fall 2005
  - America Recycles Day, Fall 2005
  - Earth Day at ISU, Spring 2006
  - Illinois Sustainable Living and Wellness Expo, Spring 2006At these exhibits, we not only discussed Green Team initiatives, but also focused on student education in regards to their individual impacts on the Earth. By providing them with the opportunity to understand their personal “ecological footprint,” we can educate them on why it is important that the Green Team focuses on sustainability efforts.
- Illinois State University Green Team has been added to the University Leaders for a Sustainable Future international web search. ([www.ulsf.org](http://www.ulsf.org))
- The Green Team created a partnership with UHECC to promote healthy, safe, and environmentally conscious campus as identified in *Educating Illinois*.
- One of our most important recent accomplishments has been to partner with Dr. Tim Longfellow and Dr. Jeri Beggs of the Marketing Department. During the fall semester, Dr. Longfellow’s class conducted a survey to determine campus-wide behaviors and interest in recycling. Their electronic survey received a very positive return and was used by Dr. Beggs spring semester class to develop a marketing plan for the Green Team. We now have empirical data indicating the behaviors of various campus groups, and a plan for how to address their concerns, all with a focus upon environmental sustainability.
- The Green Team has written seven articles pertaining to recycling and the environment and printed them in the ISU Report.

### **Plans for the future:**

The Green Team has focused primarily on Recycling and Energy Consumption. Now is the time to revisit our initial charter, evaluate our mission, and establish our goals for the short and long terms.

- *The mission of Illinois State University Green Team is:*
  - *to support the tenets of environmental sustainability;*
  - *to support the environmental values of Illinois State University as articulated in Educating Illinois;*
  - *to educate the campus community of environmental issues;*
  - *and to make recommendations for improving the environmental impact of Illinois State University.*

**Goals for fiscal year 2007 include:**

- Conduct a sustainability audit of ISU to create an ISU environmental footprint for use as a campus-wide educational tool.
- Partner with Wellness to create (in November) the America Recycles Day and Wellness Fair event.
- Continue to participate in ongoing alternative energy and fuel research, such as wind energy and biodiesel fuel. ISU uses approximately 12,000 gallons of diesel fuel each year and generates approximately 6,000 gallons of used cooking oil annually. If we are able to economically convert the waste cooking oil into diesel fuel, it has the potential to offset both the cost and the environmental impact. This summer, students will be testing the conversion into biodiesel fuel. By fall, they plan to present their results on the technical and economic feasibility of an ongoing biodiesel production process on campus.
- Consider the economic feasibility of utilizing flexible fuel vehicles as part of the university fleet.
- Evaluate opportunities for purchasing environmentally friendly products and encourage the University to give preference to these products whenever cost, specifications, standards, and availability are comparable.
- Implement a campus-wide marketing plan.