

**Sustainable Electronics Campus Consortium**  
**Initial Meeting Minutes**  
**October 2, 2013**  
**Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, Champaign, IL**

**Meeting Attendees:** John Abelson (Professor, Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering), Bart Bartels (ISTC employee), Jennifer Bechtel (Program Director, Innovation and Sustainability LLCs), Brian Bell (Program Director, Digital Equality Initiative), Jonathan Bressler (Student), William Bullock (Professor), Sriraam Chandrasekaran (Post-doctoral researcher, ISTC), T. J. Draper (Student), Nancy Holm (Assistant Director, ISTC), Morgan Johnston (Sustainability Coordinator, Facilities and Services), Stephanie Lage (Assistant Director, Center for Sustainable Environment), Seth Rients (Visiting Waste Research Specialist, ISTC), Joy Scrogum (SEI Co-Coordinator), B.K. Sharma (Senior Research Engineer, ISTC), Matt Sherburne (Lecturer, Materials Science and Engineering), Kirsten Hope Walker (Environmental Education Specialist, ISTC), and Jeff Weaver (Senior Associate Director, OBFS)

**Not in Attendance:** Brian Lilly (Adjunct Associate Professor), Marika Nell (SSC Chair), and Debra Thurston (Professor, Dept. of Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering).

1. Joy Scrogum started the meeting by welcoming all of those in attendance. Attendees introduced themselves and explained where they work, what they work on, and why they were interested in participating in this consortium.
2. Joy described the Sustainable Electronics Initiative (SEI) and the rationale for forming this consortium. Participant interests, based on the responses to RSVP forms, were summarized. An overview [PowerPoint presentation](#) described what ISTC (through the Sustainable Electronics Initiative) and other entities are doing on campus with regards to electronics involving education, research, and operations, and provided suggested activities, connections, and goals for the group to consider.
3. During group discussion, John Abelson and Jennifer Bechtel mentioned the overwhelming nature of the activities in all the areas discussed and suggested meeting in smaller focus groups around a theme, similar to the “Green Drinks” model. Morgan Johnston suggested that presentations at those smaller meetings could be brief, with the remaining hour open for networking and discussion among attendees.
4. John Abelson discussed possibly having four groups: “Education;” “Adopting Best Practices;” “Solving State Problems (e.g. issues related to policy, recycling throughout the state, etc.);” and “Research on Thorny Problems” [e.g. how to recycle leaded glass from cathode ray tubes (CRTs)]. These are similar to the conceptual divisions of research, education, and operations used in Joy’s overview presentation.

5. Brian Bell discussed his association with Will Walker at Central Management Services (CMS) and work on state policy related to computer donations, including struggles and barriers of providing reused computers to communities in Mexico. It was suggested that Brian could bring Will along for the next meeting to discuss state policy issues. This could be fodder for a subgroup meeting related to operations and policy.
6. Jonathan Bressler suggested forming future meetings around issues of scale, noting that concerns faced by students, such as himself, who are interested in starting small pilot e-waste collection projects are different than those faced by the University as a whole, or the State.
7. T.J. Draper discussed his role as a business student and his interests in ink cartridge recycling.
8. John Abelson expressed interest in participating in a subgroup related to educational aspects of sustainable electronics.
9. It was pointed out that raising awareness of all the disparate programs and ideas across campus is a valuable part of meetings like this one. While consensus was reached that smaller groups focused at least initially around the ideas of research, education, and operations makes sense logistically, participants also expressed a desire for broader, whole consortium meetings to take place less frequently, so that individuals focused on various aspects of sustainable electronics on campus could hear what everyone else is working on, share ideas, and benefit from each other's knowledge and insights. Morgan Johnston suggested the larger group could meet once a semester.
10. Jeff Weaver pointed out that although this meeting was focused around the Urbana campus, employees of the University of Illinois broadly, such as himself, could be involved in various activities, or want to learn how to recreate some programs on their own campuses. He suggested that future meetings could be available for people on other U of I campuses to participate in remotely. This option could be made possible via conference call or GoToWebinar.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m. with the agreement of further discussions to come. Joy will set up Doodle invites to find the best time to meet again.