

**Meeting Summary:** This meeting provided the chance to hear what scientists are experiencing and what their thoughts are about greening grants and connecting efficiency to the federal research funding process. In general, it was agreed that the present federal granting process is lacking significant requests/requirements that would lead to more efficient use of resources (energy, water, materials) and federal grant dollars (through actions such as equipment sharing, IT resource sharing, efficient use of lab space, and selecting equipment and processes that are energy/water/material efficient). This is a topic of importance because of the increasingly difficult competitive environment that university scientist are facing for federal funding and because of the significant environmental footprint of research.

There was differing opinion as to whether encouragement alone from the federal government would have impact on this issue. It may need to be a requirement before it can have impact and even then it may still not have as much impact as hoped because grant applications have gotten so long that extra sections tend to just get glossed over. Still opportunities for scientists or universities to voluntarily provide information for efficiency may work as a starting point. If requirements or voluntary actions were implemented into the granting process, there was debate by the group as to where the administrative burden should be placed (with scientists, university research administrators, or offices of sustainability). Discussion also focused on how to get federal employees with responsibility for or influence over policy development, guidance, and/or administration of federal grants engaged in the conversation on this topic.

One conclusion that all could agree on is that this is an important issue and that work should continue to address the issue. The group identified the need for more input from university research administrators and also the need for more discussion on how to ensure that smaller, less funded institutions are not put at a disadvantage. An opportunity to also work with AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) on this topic came up and will be explored.