

Conference call Notes 12/1/16

'Gordon, M.D., Ilyssa' <gordoni@ccf.org> ' Cleveland Clinic - proposed the agenda
'Weisinger, Kelly' <kelly.weisinger@emory.edu>; 'Office of Sustainability at Emory University
Star Scott' <starscot@uga.edu>; Green Labs coordinator at Univ of GA –background is with chemicals.
Phil Wirdzek philwirdzek@i2sl.org - I2SL organized the call
Amorette Getty' <amorette.getty@ucsb.edu - co-direct the LabRats
Wrons, Ralph J rjwrons@sandia.gov has a zero waste program at Sandia
Rivas, Marcus' <Rivas.Marcus@epa.gov -- not on the call
Kathryn Ann Ramirez Aguilar' <kathryn.ramirez@colorado.edu -- not on the call

Summary: We should pursue establishing a group within I2SL focused on the upstream aspects of landfill diversion. Presenting as one voice with similar issues, we can consolidate efforts to communicate with and work with manufacturers of lab supplies to address changes they could make that would be helpful to reduce the waste their products and packaging create for labs.

Please note the agenda below for the meeting scheduled for this Thursday, December 1, at 2:00 PM Eastern. The conference line is: 1-712-432-0370 and code 946629#.

Agenda

1. How can I2SL support lab efforts in landfill diversion? Would it be best to focus on upstream, on-site, or downstream efforts?
Avoid, Substitute, Right-size
4. How can I2SL facilitate interactions with lab supply companies (upstream), lab designers (on-site), and/or lab waste processors (downstream)?
2. What other types of programs has I2SL historically supported which might be similar or applicable to landfill diversion?
3. Should we have a standing committee with monthly check-in calls?
5. What other organizations/individuals/institutions should we engage in the conversation?
6. Next Steps

US zero waste business council defines it as diverting 90% from landfill

Learn the best practices, the barriers, the stumbling blocks that others have instituted or experienced.

Improve on closed loop supply chains

Should we have a committee?

Phil mentioned the Smart Labs initiative under the Better Buildings Challenge - I2SL working on a grant that these landfill diversion efforts may fall under.

Emory Univ. is a charter member of the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council

Ralph working on zero waste at Sandia - referring only to diverting from municipal landfill; excludes chemicals/hazardous/biohazardous waste from the denominator; does include both labs and office spaces. Does have a successful packaging foam diversion via on-site processing into logs since 2009.

Ralph suggested we could perhaps compile a one-pager on this initiative and what the priorities are and then send that out to the I2SL distribution and ask who else has this interest or has best practices to share with regard to the priorities.

Need to work upstream with the suppliers to modify their packaging, take-back their packaging, take back some of their recently changed out equipment.

Kelly -- LabCon is apparently doing good things in an environmentally sustainable sense, but they are actually only on the fringe.

Star suggested we come up with language that could be inserted in procurement contracts for lab equipment suppliers regarding the packaging materials

Something to discuss on a future call - Embodied energy (and associated GHG emission & water use in manufacturing) of lab supplies, equipment and packaging.