



Funding Award and Acceptance Letter

April 24, 2013

Project Leader: Zachary Grant

Project Team: Yiyun (Ariel) Jin, Jeane Natalia Lie, Nga Hong Le, Jessica Chang

Project: Transplant and Vermi-Composting Multiuse Greenhouse

Re: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee – Award Recommendation

Dear Zachary Grant:

On behalf of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), we would like to thank you for considering the funds raised by the Sustainable Campus Environment Fee to implement a project that improves the sustainability of our campus.

SSC is pleased to inform you that we are recommending to the Center for a Sustainable Environment that the Transplant and Vermi-Composting Multiuse Greenhouse project receive **\$65,222 in grant funding** for the project as outlined in the application with the exception that the material used for the foundation is gravel instead of concrete.

In order to remain eligible for this award, you must agree to the following conditions:

1. All funds must be spent by May 31, 2014.
2. A final report of all work completed should be provided by June 30, 2014.
3. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester until the project is completed.
4. Each project is required to fulfill some kind of outreach component which may require a poster submittal, videos, photos, etc. The project applicant will work with SSC to determine the best form of outreach.
5. Any substantial modifications to project scope, budget, or timeline must first be approved by SSC.
6. All projects will be expected to follow campus policies and procedures as well as any applicable State and Federal laws.
7. SSC reserves the right to revoke funding if the project does not comply with the terms and conditions outlined in this letter.

If you agree to the terms and conditions for the funding, please sign on the designated line at the bottom of this letter. If you have any questions regarding these requirements please contact the SSC Program Advisor, McKenzie Beverage, at mbeverag@illinois.edu. You will be notified when the Center for a Sustainable Environment officially approves this project. Again, thank you for your interest in improving the sustainability of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We look forward to working with you in the future.

SSC Signatories

Marika Nell
Chair, Student Sustainability Committee

Teresa Tousignant
Treasurer, Student Sustainability Committee

Awardee Signatory

Zachary Grant, Sustainable Student Farm Manager
Department of Crop Sciences

Center for a Sustainable Environment Signatory

Pradeep Khanna, Associate Chancellor
Acting Director, Center for a Sustainable Environment



Project Information

Project: Transplant and Vermi-Composting Multiuse Greenhouse

Funding Source: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

Funding Amount: \$65,222

Award Code: 1-303692-802050-802503-802VER

Receiving Campus Unit: Department of Crop Sciences

Unit Financial Contact: Anna Tammen

E-mail: amtammen@illinois.edu **Phone:** 217-333-3422

Primary Contact Person: Zachary Grant

E-mail: zgrant2@illinois.edu **Phone:** 815-735-6763

Applicant Project Description: The Sustainable Student Farm supplies locally grown organic food for the university dining halls. Currently the Sustainable Student Farm also needs a greenhouse to grow transplants (vegetable starts) that eventually become food for the dining halls. On the other hand, the university housing has the need to reduce the amount of pre-consumer food waste generated in the dining halls going into the regular trash. To tackle the problems that both the Student Farm and university dining halls are facing, project I-Compost serves as a pilot project that aims at closing the loop between the Student Farm and the dining halls. The project collects food waste from the university dining halls, decomposes the food waste into organic fertilizer on the Student Farm in a self-contained vermicomposting unit, and uses the fertilizer to grow transplants for the Student Farm. The greenhouse that we intend to construct for the vermicomposting unit also serves as a site for the Student Farm to grow its own transplants. The project brings the waste food from the dining hall back to the soil of the Student Farm. Therefore, I-Compost will not only be a food waste reduction strategy for the dining halls, but also a source of organic fertilizer for the Sustainable Student Farm. The project will effectively reduce carbon footprints in our university and create a greener and more sustainable living community.