



Micro Grant Application (Under \$500)

STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Criteria

A. General Rules

1. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit requests for funding up to \$500. All projects require stakeholder support in order to have funds awarded.
2. Funding can only go to university-affiliated projects on university property submitted from students.
3. All SSC projects must make a substantial impact on students. This may be a direct impact or an indirect impact through education and engagement. All SSC funding is 100% from student green fees, so the projects funded by the students must benefit them.
4. SSC encourages innovation and new technologies - creative projects are encouraged to apply.
5. Unless a type of expense is specifically listed below as having restrictions, SSC can generally fund it. The items referenced below should not be taken as comprehensive.
6. SSC generally won't fund reimbursement requests.

B. Things SSC Can Fund, On A Case-By-Case Basis

1. SSC can fund feasibility studies and design work; however, it must work toward ultimately addressing a sustainability need on campus.
2. SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
3. SSC can fund repairs and improvements to existing building systems as long as it works toward the goal of improving campus sustainability; however, a preference is shown to projects utilizing new or innovative ideas.

C. Things SSC Will Not Fund:

1. SSC will not fund projects with a primary end goal of generating revenue for non-University entities.
2. SSC will not fund personal lodging, food, beverage, and other travel expenses.
3. SSC will not fund tuition or other forms of personal financial assistance for students beyond standard student employee wages.
4. SSC will not fund micro grant proposals that solely request staff, faculty, or student stipends.
5. SSC will not fund capital projects using micro grant funding.
6. SSC will not fund staff or faculty projects using micro grant funding.

Your SSC funding application should include this application and a detailed itemized budget.

Please submit this completed application and any relevant supporting documentation to Sustainability-Committee@illinois.edu. The Working Group Chairs will be in contact with you regarding any questions about the application. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee at sustainability-committee@illinois.edu.

General Information

Project Name: **The Clean Energy Transition Guest Lecture Series**
Total Amount Requested from SSC (\leq \$500): \$500

Project Topic Areas: ~~Land & Water~~ **Education** **Energy**
~~Transportation~~ ~~Food & Waste~~

Contact Information

Applicant Name: **Jonah Messinger**
Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization): **Student Sustainability Leadership Council (affiliated with the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment)**
Email Address: jonahfm2@illinois.edu

Check one:

This project is solely my own **OR**

This project is proposed on behalf of (name of student org., campus dept., etc.):

(Optional)

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor: **Micah Kenfield**

Advisor's Email Address: kenfield@illinois.edu

Advisor's Phone Number: [217-244-9342](tel:217-244-9342) or [832-385-7908](tel:832-385-7908)

Project Information

Please review the proposal materials and online content carefully. It is highly recommended you visit a working group meeting to talk through your proposal before you submit it.

1) Provide a brief background of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes.

The goal of the, “The Clean Energy Transition Guest Lecture Series” is to facilitate unique educational opportunities for University of Illinois students, staff, and faculty interested in the future of renewable energy and the energy transition. Each month SSLC will host a speaker involved in propelling the energy transition, be it through technology startups, policy advocacy, venture capital, accelerators, reporting, research, economics, policy, industry, etc. The plan is for the attendance of these guest lectures to grow with time as we are able to host more notable speakers. SSLC hopes that these guest lecture events will be educational and open the doors for unique opportunities to connect with leaders in renewable energy. The Student Sustainability Leadership Council will sponsor the lecture series and consider co-sponsoring specific speakers with relevant organizations, departments, and other entities.

2) How will this project improve sustainability at UIUC?

As an educational event, the guest lecture series will help its attendees understand the nuances of having a successful career in renewable energy. Furthermore, it will engage and inspire its attendees to get involved and to pursue careers in renewable energy and cleantech. This could also foster leadership in advocacy for the adoption for more renewable energy on campus.

3) Where will the project be located? Do you need special permissions to enact the project at this site? If so, please explain and attach a letter of support to your application.

The first couple of guest lectures will likely be held in a smaller lecture hall on campus, which should be very easy to acquire. As the lecture series grows in attendance and is able to attract more prominent speakers SSLC hopes to hold guest lecture events in larger venues. Acquiring a larger venue is not necessary at this point as we will request such a venue upon scheduling such a speaker.

4) Other than the project team, who will have a stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments indirectly or directly affiliated to this project. This includes any funding entities (immediate, future, ongoing, etc.) and any entities that will be benefiting from this project

SSLC’s guest lecture series will hopefully have many supporting institutions. Our primary sponsor (non-financial) is the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment as SSLC is housed in ISEE. ISEE will also manage the funds for the guest lecture series. Furthermore, SSLC will be pursuing funding from The College of Engineering, College of Business, Colleges of ACES, College of LAS, Office of the Provost, and more. Once the guest lecture series has successfully completed a pilot lecture we will seek longterm funding from the previously listed institutions.

5) How will you ensure the sustained existence/maintenance of this project (including reporting requirements) once you are no longer involved? If the project will conclude while you are involved, what will happen to the materials purchased for the project and how will you return the project site to its original condition?

I will be a Sophomore this year and ideally I hope to continue this guest lecture series throughout the rest of my undergraduate career. If the lecture series gains traction and is successful this year, then I will continue the lecture series in following years. Assuming the lecture series is a success, I would arrange for the future leadership of SSLC to continue the lecture series after I have graduated. It is possible the lecture series would evolve to focus on other related topics within sustainability. Since the project is a lecture series the majority if not all of the funds will be used in a temporary fashion. In other words, money will be spent on temporary services for the speaker (not personal) like lodging, food, transportation, and in some cases honorarium speaker fees. A foreseeable exception would be if we were to purchase shirts, hats, or other similar items to promote or fundraise for a specific event. To be clear funding from the SSC micro-grant would not be used on these items, however, it is a foreseeable possibility that future funding from other sources could be spent on such promotional/ fundraising items.

6) Please indicate how this project will involve or impact students. What role will students play in the project?

This project will be run by SSLC, which a student council. Furthermore, SSLC will market this lecture series to students through various departments, colleges, RSOs, and other organizations. At the end of every guest lecture there will be a question and answer period in which students will have the opportunity to engage with the guest speakers. Lastly, SSLC is considering including a post-lecture roundtable with the guest speaker and a select group of students leaders who have demonstrated passion and been active in a project or initiative relevant to the guest speaker's expertise. This opportunity would allow for these student leaders to have a more intimate discussion with the guest speaker. The guest lecture will hopefully inspire those who are not yet invested in the energy transition and be a unique opportunity for those already involved to meet and learn from leaders, innovators, and pioneers on the front lines of the energy transition.

7) Have you applied for funding with SSC previously? If so, for what project?

I have not personally applied for SSC funding before. However, as Vice President of Illinois Solar Decathlon I have been involved in SSC funding before.

Scope, Schedule, and Budget Verification

What is the plan for project implementation? Describe the key steps of the project including the start date, target completion date, target date for submitting a final report, and any significant tasks or milestones. Please be as detailed as possible.

Each guest lecture will take place on the **third/fourth** Friday of every month in the late afternoon. Exceptions may be made in accordance with speakers' schedules. The anticipated start date will be the third or fourth Friday of September, 2018. The lecture series will conclude at the end of the year and may be continued at the beginning of next year.

List all budget items for which funding is being requested. Include cost and total amount for each item requested. Please be as detailed as possible. You are welcome to submit a separate budgeting document.

The following table is an estimation of costs associated with the lecture series.

Speaker Cost Breakdown				
Location	Chicago Area	Chicago Area	Not Chicago Area	Not Chicago Area
Notoriety	High	Low to Medium	High	Low to Medium
Lodging	\$100 - \$200	\$100 - \$200	\$100 - \$200	\$100 - \$200
Food	\$180 - \$220	\$30 - \$90	\$180 - \$220	\$30 - \$90
Transportation	\$60 - \$80	\$60 - \$80	\$150 - \$500	\$150 - \$500
Venue and Reception	\$0 - \$2,500	\$0 - \$100	\$0 - \$2,500	\$0 - \$100
Honorarium Speaker Fee	Up to \$xx,000	\$0 - \$150	Up to \$xx,000	\$0 - \$250
Total Cost	~ \$1,700 + \$xx,000	~ \$400	~ \$1,900 + \$xx,000	~ \$700

If the project is implemented, will there be any ongoing funding required? What is the strategy for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs? (Note: SSC provides funding on a case by case basis and should not be considered as an ongoing source of funding)

Due to the nature of a monthly guest lecture, there will be ongoing funding required. SSLC is hoping to use this SSC micro-grant to start the lecture series. We will be relying on previously mentioned institutions for long-term monthly funding. This funding will be easier to secure once a pilot lecture has been completed, which SSC funding will be used for.

Please include any other sources of funding that have been obtained or applied for, and please attach any relevant letters of support.

ISEE has expressed interest in institutional funding but would like a proof of concept in the form of a pilot lecture. For this reason funding from SSC is so important to launch the lecture series. Additionally we have reached out to Facilities and Services and upon the pilot lectures completion we will be more aggressively pursuing funding from departments and colleges on campus.

What is the plan for publicizing the project on campus? In addition to SSC, where will information about this project get reported?

SSLC has identified several methods of promoting our guest lecture series. Each guest lecture will be promoted in the following ways; announced on the ISEE newsletter, email notices sent to many RSOs (SSLC has an email list of RSOs related to sustainability), dispersed by departments and colleges (email and/or flyers). In addition, SSLC will seek the support of the YMCA in publicizing the lecture series. Lastly, SSLC will build up a list of names and emails from people who have already attended guest lectures that we will use to publicize future events.