



January 14, 2009

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
Student Sustainability Committee

Re: Request for funding from the UIUC Sustainability / Clean Energy Technology Fees
Project: Student Farm for Local Food Production
Applicant: Bruce Branham

Dear Bruce:

On behalf of the Student Sustainability Committee for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, I would like to thank you for responding to our call for proposals to use funds raised by the student Clean Energy Technology and Sustainability Fees to implement a project that improves the sustainability of our campus. Each proposal was evaluated based on its sustainability impact (i.e. energy or sustainability impact, campus presence, project longevity, and budget) and broader impact (i.e. education and creativity).

The Committee is pleased to inform you that we are recommending to the Office of Sustainability that your project (to start a student-operated farm that produces significant quantities of fruits and vegetables for use in the University food service operations) be **funded in full in the amount of \$50,000, with the following requirements:** 1) that the committee's support be permanently indicated at the location of the farm, 2) that the farm operations provide annual reports for the duration of three years after the end of direct financial support by the committee, and that the project achieve financial self-sufficiency by December 2011, and any unspent committee funds revert back to the Student Sustainability Committee at that date. If you have any questions regarding these requests, please contact us at sustainability-committee@uiuc.edu

The Committee will contact you when the Office of Sustainability officially approves this project. At that point, we will discuss the Committee's protocol for financial and progress management to complete this project, and make arrangements for transfer of funds. As previously discussed, semesterly updates and account statements describing how funds are being used will be required in addition to a final report on project completion.

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.

Sincerely,

Suhail F. Barot
UIUC Student Sustainability Committee, Chair



Project: Student Farm for Local Food Production

Funding Source: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

Funding Amount: \$50,000

Receiving Campus Unit: Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Primary Contact Person: Bruce Branham

E-mail: bbranham@illinois.edu **Phone:** (217) 333-2770

Secondary Contact Person: Wes Jarrell

E-mail: wjarrell@illinois.edu **Phone:** (217) 244-0384

Project Description:

The goal of this project is to start a student-operated farm that produces significant quantities of fruits and vegetables for use in the University food service operations. The operation of such a farm will be of significant educational value, reduce carbon emissions associated with food production and transportation as well as be of value to Extension programs. Additionally, this project furthers the university's role as a land grant institution. Thus, the Student Sustainability Committee is in favor of funding the full requested amount of \$50,000.

Student Sustainability Committee:

Suhail Barot, 08-09 Committee Chair

Paul Cheng, 08-09 Committee Vice-Chair

Ying Fang, 08-09 Committee Treasurer

Date Approved: _____

Office of Sustainability:

Richard Warner, Director, Office of Sustainability

Steve Sonka, Vice-Chancellor for Public Engagement

Date Approved: _____

Date Approved: _____