

View results

Respondent

30 Adam Dziaba

03:14

Time to complete

Instructions:

Please adhere to the session word counts. Project leads must attend one SSC working group meeting post step 1 application submission. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the SSC at Sustainability-Committee@illinois.edu.

1. Have you attended an SSC working group meeting? If not, please attend an SSC Working Group and present your project. Once working group attendance is complete, please return to complete your application.

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/student-sustainability/ssc/calendar/>

*

Yes

No

2. Please enter the date of the working group meeting you attended. As a reminder, the working group meetings are structured as follows

- Energy + Transportation and Infrastructure working group.
- Food & Waste + Land, Air, and Water working group.
- Education and Justice working group.

*

Tuesday, February 6th, 2024

3. Date of Application *

Wednesday, February 14th, 2024

4. Project Name: *

Brewshroom

5. Total Funding Requested From the SSC. *

3153

Please enter a number less than or equal to 10000

6. Project Lead Full Name: *

Adam Dziaba

7. Project Lead University Email Address *

adziaba2@illinois.edu

8. Project Abstract: (In less than 100 words, briefly describe the project.) *

Brewshroom is a local initiative that focuses on addressing issues of food waste and food desertification through community collaboration. As a material that is still nutrient-rich, Spent Coffee Grounds (SCGs) will be collected from local cafés and then utilized for mushroom growth. Most of my knowledge has come from Jasper Nord and his research on coffee ground fungiculture, so this project is student-led and student-supported. The growing will be done in a larger agricultural setting at the Sustainable Student Farm. Grown mushrooms will be donated to Jubilee Cafe, a community kitchen, for use in their prepared meals.

9. Project Category *

- Education & Justice
- Energy
- Food & Waste
- Land, Air & Water
- Transportation & Infrastructure

All rolling application require a faculty/staff advisor.

Faculty and Staff Advisor

10. Full Name: *

11. RSO/Department *

12. University Email Address: *

13. Do you have additional members? *

- Yes
- No

UIUC Financial Contact

Financial Contact (Must be full-time UIUC employee)

14. Full Name: *

15. RSO/Department *

16. University Email Address: *

Project Questionnaire:

17. Is this project student led? *

- Yes
 No

18. If applicable, have you received approval from Facilities & Services and/or site manager? *

- Yes
 No
 N/A

19. If additional funding is required, do you have a plan for ongoing funding beyond SSC? (SSC cannot guarantee ongoing financial support) *

- Yes
 No

20. Beyond SSC, do you have sources contributing funding or support (ex. staff time, external grants, etc.) to this project? *

- Yes
 No

21. Have you applied for SSC funding previously? *

- Yes
 No

22. Project Timeline:

(SSC funding agreements remain active for two years. List your project's timeline and major milestones.) *

February - March 2024 |
Purchase Materials: 1-2 Weeks
Construct Farm: 1 Week
April - May 2024 |
Substrate Inoculation & Incubation (continuous): 3-4 Weeks
Mushroom Fruition (continuous): 1-2 Weeks
Harvest & Distribution (continuous): 1-2 Weeks
Operation of Farm by me: 1-2 Months
May 2024 - May 2025 |
Operation of Farm by successor: At least 1 Year
Post-May 2025 |
Planned continuation by another student or group.

23. Project Description:

(In 250 words or less, describe your project. What does your project hope to accomplish? What are your project's deliverables?) *

Brewshroom is a local initiative beginning this semester at the University of Illinois, and looks to utilize coffee grounds for fungiculture growth. Spent Coffee Grounds (SCGs) are still nutrient-rich even after being used for coffee, and along with a few other materials, can be used to grow gourmet mushrooms which can then be given back to the community. The project is student-led, as I'm running it this semester, and it will continue to be run by students after I graduate as well. This project is designed to be easily transferable between different heads and thus is long-lasting, and can become an established program connected to UIUC. It is also student-informed, as much of the knowledge informing the project has come from Jasper Nord. Student support comes from visitors to the local cafes from which I'll be getting my grounds, and design material will notify patrons that the coffee they're drinking contributes to the project. Brewshroom focuses on addressing issues of food waste and food desertification through the utilization of a usually neglected waste stream. By relying on community collaboration, it demonstrates that community effort makes sustainability initiatives more successful than at an individual level. Additionally, I hope to inspire people to think about other things that can be reused after seeing Brewshroom in operation. The deliverables for this project are the farm in continuous operation, grown mushrooms, and posters detailing the process to make it more approachable to everyone.

24. Environmental Impact:

(In 200 words or less, how does your project increase environmental stewardship at UIUC? If applicable, what is the carbon, water, waste, and/or energy savings?) *

This project saves food waste, and creates food through it. Not only does it divert coffee grounds from the landfill waste stream, but it also utilizes those same grounds to grow more food for local purposes. However, it is not meant to exist or operate in a vacuum, and in fact, is meant to be visible to all involved parties. Through informing cafe patrons of their contribution to the project, I hope to make people feel more empowered to become involved with the project in a personal way. They can go home and save up their own coffee grounds and grow mushroom themselves, after seeing a poster detailing the process to make it more approachable.

25. iCAP Objective Correspondence:

(In 200 words or less, does your project aim to advance one or more of the Illinois Climate Action Plan's (iCAP) objectives? If so, how?)

A full list can be found here: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/objectives>

Brewshroom aims to primarily advance objectives 5.2 Reduce Landfilled Waste and 5.5 Plan for Organic Waste. If these coffee grounds are not reused for an initiative like this, they are thrown away and end up in one of three landfills near Champaign, from 30 minutes to an hour away. There, they acidify the soil and water through leachate and contribute to water pollution. This project not only addresses food waste but also prevents eventual pollution down the line. The Plan for Organic Waste objective is also handled by giving purpose to this otherwise-landfilled resource. Grind2Energy already addresses food from university dining halls, but community food waste is left in the lurch. Brewshroom begins to address community food waste by focusing on one specific resource.

26. Student Impact:

(In 200 words or less, how will this project benefit students? How will students be involved with this project? What educational components are in your project?)

This project benefits students by informing and educating them of their contribution to the project. It is not intended to only inform them, however, but also to encourage them to produce their own mushrooms with resources that are normally thrown away. I am working with another student to inform myself and for guidance; that same student will continue to operate the farm after I graduate. As the operation continues to grow, it can also employ students wanting to get their hands dirty, and inspire them and others to do the same. Design material, especially at the cafes where grounds are sourced, will provide in-depth education on the project and process in general, and intends to inform them of a less-commonly contemplated option for reuse. Students benefit by contribution, involvement, and education.

27. Please see attached file, please be very descriptive and fill out the budget and timeline Excel sheet, and submit it below.

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/student-sustainability/ssc/docs/SSC-Supplemental-Budget-Timeline.xlsx>

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 FinalBudget.Confirmations_Brewshroom_Adam Dziaba.pdf