



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Award and Acceptance Letter

February 17th, 2023

Project: **Decreasing Energy Usage in the INHS Fish Collection**

Dear **Dr. Christopher A. Taylor**,

On behalf of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), we would like to thank you for initiating a project that improves the sustainability of our campus. SSC is pleased to inform you that your project will receive **\$171,600.00** in grant funding.

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

1. The project must be completed within two years. A final report of all work completed should be provided to the SSC Assistant Director by **February 17th, 2025**.
2. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester, in the method requested, until the project is completed.
3. The Contact Person will be individually responsible for all official communication and the execution of this agreement.
4. The awardee will take the appropriate steps to create a CFOP with OBFS UAFR University Accounting Services. The CFOP provided for this award shall strictly be used for the money awarded in this proposal.
5. Any substantial modifications to project scope, budget, or timeline must first be approved by SSC. These requests must be submitted in a formal letter to the Chair and the Assistant Director.
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.
8. Any press releases or educational/promotional materials involving the project should acknowledge SSC funding.
9. Any signage involving the project or events surrounding this project should include SSC's logo and/or a statement of which fee funded the project. Projects must coordinate with SSC to ensure promotion appropriately highlights the SSC's contributions to the project.

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, at sustainability-committee@illinois.edu. You will be notified when the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs 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.



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SSC Signatories

Jack Reicherts

Jack Reicherts, Chair
Student Sustainability Committee

Awardee Signatory

Chris Taylor

Dr. Christopher A. Taylor
Applicant

**Faculty or Staff Project Advisor
(for Student-Led Projects)**

n/a
Faculty/Staff Project Advisor

iSEE Signatory

Madhu Khanna

Dr. Madhu Khanna, Director
Institute for Sustainability, Energy & Environment

Student Affairs Signatory

Danita M. Brown Young

Dr. Danita Brown Young, Vice Chancellor
Division of Student Affairs



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Project Information

Project: Decreasing Energy Usage in the INHS Fish Collection

Funding Source(s):

[X] Cleaner Energy Technologies Fee (302571): \$105,773.89

[X] Sustainable Campus Environment Fee (303692): \$65,826.11

Total Funding Amount: \$171,600.00

Receiving Campus Unit: Prairie Research Institute

Unit Financial Contact: Alan Dudley

E-mail: adudley@illinois.edu

Project Description:

The Illinois Natural History Survey Fish Collection is a nationally recognized research museum. The Collection contains approximately 1.3 million fish specimens and is housed in six rooms in the basement of the Natural Resources Building (NRB) on the UI campus.

The NRB was built in 1939 and all exterior windows in the basement are original, single-pane windows. The NRB does not have central air conditioning (AC) and climate control is achieved with window-mounted AC units. Because of the older, inefficient windows and AC units in the rooms housing the Fish Collection, the building is forced to run the AC units for nine months of the year to reduce the room temperatures and humidity levels. Additionally, drainage around NRB is extremely poor and mold growth is a constant threat. To keep mold growth in check, the building requires to continuously run six industrial-size dehumidifiers.

To reduce energy consumption in Fish Collection rooms, this project proposes to:

- 1) Remove old window AC units;
- 2) Install new interior window inserts that will increase the R-value of the windows;
- 3) Install new external AC units with ductwork that will go through the walls of NRB.



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We request funding from SSC to meet the first two of these deliverables. We will be requesting institutional funds from PRI to accomplish the third objective. This is a critical time to undertake this project as approximately \$12,000 in mold abatement activities have been conducted in the past four years.

This proposal directly funds:

- Insulating window inserts: \$120,000.00
- Personnel & wages: \$51,600.00
 - Removal of window AC inserts and installation of replacement glass
 - Installation of window inserts
 - Estimate from F&S, estimated at 10% of the project budget