



## STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

### Micro Grant Application (Under \$750)

#### **Funding Criteria**

##### **A. General Rules**

1. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit requests for funding up to \$750. 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](mailto: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](mailto:sustainability-committee@illinois.edu).

## General Information

Project Name: Green Lab Feasibility Study

Total Amount Requested from SSC ( $\leq$  \$750): \$147.28

Project Topic Areas: ☐ Land & Water ☐ Education ☒ Energy  
☐ Transportation ☐ Food & Waste

## Contact Information

Applicant Name: Brinn McDowell

Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization): Energy SWATeam

Email Address: brinnem2@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.): Energy SWATeam, F &S, Nuzzo Lab Group

(Optional)

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor:

Advisor's Email Address:

## 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.*

This project was brought up in response to the energy iCap goals. Labs produced around 50% of college campus utilities bills, and could drastically be decreased with a few small changes. I started working on this project over the summer of 2020 to explore ways that my lab could become more environmentally friendly. When brought up at an Energy SWATeam meeting, many people showed support for this cause, which influenced me to explore collecting empirical data to display to the University. All of this is in hopes of implementing an official Green Lab committee. This is being written as an Energy SWATeam recommendation.

*2) How will this project improve sustainability at UIUC?*

This feasibility study will help to provide empirical data needed in regards to energy use and savings. It hopefully will implement green labs committee at UIUC. This change will have a great impact on the sustainability of energy use on campus, and directly connected researchers with the iCAP goals of net neutrality.

*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.*

This project will take place in ESB Nuzzo Lab group space. I have special permission from the Post-Doctorate mentor Michael Enright to meter the energy usage of instruments, and install outlet timers for instruments like hot plates.

*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*

There are no other funding bodies needed for this project. However, people who have a stake in this are F&S and iSEE.

*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?*

This project end date will be in mid-late April. The feasibility study aspect will not need to be continued past my involvement as the data collected will be given to F&S. The outlet timers/aerators will remain in the Nuzzo lab group for continued usage and support to greening their lab space. The metering equipment may also be left there or donated to F&S for other meter studies on campus.

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

I am currently a senior here at UIUC. This project will teach me how to use metering equipment, how to make lasting change in a laboratory setting, and is something I can carry through to graduate school.

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

I have not applied before this. However, I am on the committee as an Energy Working Group Co-Chair.

## 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.*

The start date was 03/01. This included taking a full inventory of the make and model of the instruments in the lab spaces. I am hoping to start metering instruments 03/15 week, and continue through 04/20. This data will then be entered into the excel spread sheet that lays out energy usage, and monetary savings possible for making suggested changes. The Energy SWATeam is hoping to have a recommendation into the University by that date, as well.

*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.*

2 outlet timers:

1 for hot plate

1 for balance

Total: \$24.00 (\$12.00/each)

[https://www.amazon.com/Century-Indoor-24-Hour-Mechanical-Outlet/dp/B01LPSGBZS/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?dchild=1&keywords=outlet+timer&qid=1615905563&sr=8-6](https://www.amazon.com/Century-Indoor-24-Hour-Mechanical-Outlet/dp/B01LPSGBZS/ref=sr_1_6?dchild=1&keywords=outlet+timer&qid=1615905563&sr=8-6)

4 metering devices:

Will be used on all equipment in the lab that has been inventoried

Total: \$123.28 (\$30.82/each)

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00009MDBU/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o00\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00009MDBU/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o00_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

Total: \$147.28

*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)*

No, there will be no ongoing funding needed.

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

Nothing else has been applied to for this project.

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

The information will get reported in an Energy SWATeam recommendation to the University, and be given to F&S for future use.