**Funding Criteria**

**A. General Rules**

1. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to submit requests for funding. Student-led projects require a faculty or staff sponsor in order to have funds awarded.
2. Funding can only go to university-affiliated projects from students, faculty, staff, and departments.
3. All SSC projects must make a substantial impact on students. This may be a direct impact or an 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 list.

**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 staff positions that are related to improving campus sustainability. Strong preference will be given to proposals receiving matching funding from departments and/or plans for maintaining continuity of the position after the end of the initial grant.
3. SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
4. SSC discourages funding requests for food and prizes but will consider proposals on a case by case basis that prove significant reasoning.
5. 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.
6. SSC can provide departments with loans for projects with a distinct payback on a case by case base. Loans will require a separate memorandum of understanding between SSC and departmental leadership pledging to repay the award in full and detailing the payback plan.

**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 any travel expenses.
4. SSC will not fund tuition or other forms of personal financial assistance for students beyond standard student employee wages.

**Your Step 2 funding application should include this application, the supplemental budget form, and any letters of support.**

*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 & Contact Information**

**Project Name:** Ecofeminism Summit

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** $20,000

**Project Topic Areas:** [ ]  Land & Water X Education [ ]  Energy

[ ]  Transportation [ ]  Food & Waste

**Applicant Name:** Kasey Umland

**Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization):** Women’s Resources Center/Student Success, Inclusion, and Belonging – Student Affairs

**Email Address:** umland@illinois.edu

**Check one:**

 [ ]  This project is solely my own ***OR***

X This project is proposed on behalf of (name of student org., campus dept., etc.): Women’s Resources Center

**Project Team Members**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Department** | **Email** |
| Kasey Umland | Women’s Resources Center | umland@illinois.edu |
| Amie Baumeister | Women’s Resources Venter | Baumstr2@illinois.edu |
| Eric Green | iSEE | Ewgreen@illinois.edu |
| Student Intern | WRC | TBD |

**Student-Led Projects (Mandatory):**

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor:
Advisor’s Email Address:

**Financial Contact *(Must be a full-time University of Illinois staff member)***

Contact Name: Joan Wingo

Unit/Department: Women’s Resources Center

Email Address: wing@illinois.edu

**Project Information**

*Please review the proposal materials and online content carefully. It is highly recommended you visit a working group meeting sometime during the proposal submission process.*

**Please provide a brief background of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes:**

*You may copy and paste your Step 1 application answer if nothing has changed.*

The Ecofeminism Summit offers a series of public programs designed to connect social justice, environmental justice, and feminist theory. Lectures, workshops, film screening, and lectures will provide students with unique opportunities to further explore ecofeminist theory and praxis.

**Where will the project be located? Are special permissions required for this project site?**

*If special permission is required for this location, please explain and submit any relevant letters of support with the application.*

The primary venue for all smaller Summit events will be the Women’s Resources Center, located at 616 E. Green St., Suite 202, Champaign. However, we plan to engage with our partners at other cultural and resource centers to potentially host Ecofeminism events in their spaces, ideally during existing Lunch on Us programs, to reach a broader audience and will explore larger spaces for in person speakers with a bigger draw (i.e. Lincoln Hall, SDRP, Allen Hall Multipurpose Room, University YMCA Latzer Hall, etc.)

**Other than the project team, who will have a stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments affiliated directly or indirectly by the project. This includes any entity providing funding (immediate, future, ongoing, matching, in-kind, etc.) and any entities that benefit from this project.**

*Please attach letters of commitment or support at the end of the application.*

None.

**How will this project involve and/or benefit students?**

*This includes both direct and indirect impact.*

**Involvement**

* A student intern will oversee the planning of this project from conception to implantation to assessment.
* Student representatives from registered student organizations will be engaged to help identify speakers, topics and committees as part of the planning committee.
* Students are the primary intended audience.

**Educational components**

* Speakers will highlight how environmental impacts disproportionately impact women and people of color
* Speakers will draw connections between movements for gender and environmental justice and provide tangible ways attendees can advocate for positive change

**How will you bring awareness and publicize the project on campus? In addition to SSC, where will information about this project be reported?**

Our outreach plan combines both broad and targeted outreach.

In moving the program to the fall, we aim to be able to better engage incoming students in the program. The WRC will share information about the Ecofeminism Summit during welcoming programming, including Resource Fairs (RAs, Living Learning Communities, Dining Service Employees, and Illinois New Faculty), New Student Programs’ Welcome Celebration, WRC Welcome Back Open House, Family & Graduate Housing Orchard Downs Welcome Back and outreach presentations to groups of incoming students including the Illinois Scholars Program. The estimated reach of these programs is 1500-2000 students through direct 1:1 contact.

In addition, we will use campus communication channels to broadly advertise and recruit participants. We submit events to campus bulletins for board outreach (INews, GradLinks, Humanities Research Institute Bulletin, and Student Affairs Digest and EWeek to reach faculty and staff who can share with students). We will also share directly with key campus partners to include on newsletters and social media, including Cultural and Resource Centers, other Student Affairs units, iSEE, Gender and Women’s Studies, Women and Gender in Global Perspectives, University YMCA, and International and Student Scholar Services. Additionally, this fall we will pilot use of digital signage at the Illini Union, Campus Recreation, and Housing.

Additionally, we capitalize on student networks to reach other students. Working with SSC, SSLC, SECS, and the student organizations affiliated with the WRC (known as the Gender Liberation and Action Movement or GLAM), we hope to reach students who may be interested in either the environment or gender equity and strive to draw connections between the intersections of these issues.

We also develop a list of courses and instructors whose material intersects with feminist and environmental learning to reach out to and encourage instructors to consider offering extra credit or assignments associated with events.

Finally, perhaps least strategically but most effectively we share events on our social media to reach our audience and request the partners mentioned above share on their platforms.

WRC Social Media Reach:

* Instagram - 1135 followers
* LinkedIn - 153 followers
* Twitter - 1193 followers
* Facebook – 3400 followers

Information about this project will be included on the Women’s Resources Center website and will be reported and shared with Student Affairs leadership as part of our annual reporting project.

# Financial Information

*In addition to the below questions, please submit the supplemental budget spreadsheet available on the Student Sustainability Committee* [*website*](http://ssc.sustainability.illinois.edu/?page_id=2087)*. Submission of both documents by the submission deadline is required for consideration of your project.*

**Have you applied for funding from SSC before? If so, for what project?**

The Ecofeminism Summit was funded in FY 21 and FY22 as a student-led project. During the 2021-2022 school year, the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment (iSEE) served as the fiscal sponsor and the WRC was a project partner. For 2022-23, the project was again funded as a student-led project and the WRC served as the fiscal sponsor. For the 2023-24 term, we hope to be able to compensate the student who leads the project as a paid intern and make additional funds available for honorarium. To do so, we are submitting a staff-led project.

**If this project is implemented, will you require any ongoing funding required? What is the strategy for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs?***Please note that SSC provides funding on a case by case basis annually and should not be considered as an ongoing source of funding.*

Without SSC funding, the Women’s Resources Center would be unable to host higher profile speakers from outside of the campus community. We would still make a point to host programs that highlight the intersections of gender and the environment but they would be fewer and on a smaller scale.

**Please include any other obtained sources of funding. Have you applied for funding elsewhere?**

*Please attach any relevant letters of support as needed in a separate document.*

Women’s Resources Center programmatic funds (provided annually by the Student Cultural Programming Fee) are used to supplement any costs not covered by the SSC and to fund expenses the SSC does not fund. For example, food for events held during the lunch hour as well as supplemental marketing costs (printing, giveaways, etc.). Additionally, WRC funds may cover additional events not in this application such as film screening right.

# Environmental, Economic, and Awareness Impacts

**How will the project improve environmental sustainability at the Urbana-Champaign campus? If applicable, how does this project fit within any of the** [**Illinois Climate Action Plan**](https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/) **(iCAP) goals?**

While the ecofeminism summit does not directly address any objective in the iCAP, it is related to several themes. First, it will be an educational event that draws in students that may not encounter sustainability material in their general education. Students studying a broad set of disciplines, especially Gender and Women’s Studies, Community Health, Political Science, Interdisciplinary Health, and Advertising, are typical students that the frequent the WRC, and these will get exposure to sustainability through these intersectional talks. Further, it engages with the campus community. We look for partnerships across campus, highlighting opportunities for collaboration. Bringing in other campus units also exposes them to sustainability and gives them the opportunity to learn about sustainability for their unit. Finally, it makes our culture and society more resilient. By challenging dominant, and sometimes oppressive, ideologies, ecofeminism allows us to envision a new way to operate and reorganize old ways of thinking and doing.

In educating students on these topics, we shed light on new perspectives and encourage them to take personal and community action towards sustainability and gender justice. By drawing connections between theory and practical application, we empower university members to think critically and creatively and take action.

**How will you monitor and evaluate the project’s progress and environmental outcomes? What short-term and long-term environmental impacts do you expect?**

*Some examples include carbon emissions, water conservation, green behavior, and reduced landfill waste.*

In our assessment of this program, we will measure broad reach through the number of unique individuals who participate in Ecofeminism events as well as the depth of impact by reporting on the number of individuals who attended more than one event during the series. In addition, for each event, we develop a series of expected learning outcomes for attendees and ask participants to gauge how their knowledge has increased. In Spring 2023 (beginning April 19), we also hope to measure if attendees were inspired to take action after attending events by asking participants to commit to one action they can take for to address environmental justice as it relates to gender equity and then following up later to see if these individuals acted on their commitments. To facilitate this, we have provided students with a list of tangible actions they can take to work towards environmental justice as part of this year’s Summit.

In 2022, overall event satisfaction was very high with 100% of participants who completed the feedback survey rating all events attended as good or excellent.  In addition, 88% of respondents agreed with the statement, “My understanding of ecofeminism has improved.” 94% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, “The Ecofeminism Summit improved my understanding of the intersections of social oppression and environmental justice.” 82% of respondents indicated they wanted to get more involved in campus environmental and/or gender equity activities and 94% indicated they would recommend attending the summit to a friend or colleague.

**What are your specific outreach goals? How will this project inspire change at UIUC?**

Building on the success of the 2022 Summit which reached over 167 unique individuals, we hope to recruit at least 200 unique individuals to participate in the Fall 2023 Ecofeminism Summit. Of these individuals, we aim that:

* At least 20% of participants are first-year or transfer students
* At least 15% of participants describe their familiarity with ecofeminism and environmental justice prior to attending as low.
* At least 30% of participants identify as being part of an underrepresented community on campus

**If applicable, how does this project impact environmental injustice or social injustice?**

**The Annual Campus Ecofeminism Summit is designed** to engage students and community members in thinking about the intersection of social oppression, feminisms, and environmental justice. The summit brings together a variety of campus units, academic departments, local NGOs/non-profits, and grassroots community organizations to examine local and global issues in ecofeminism, environmental justice, and sustainable living. Lectures from graduate students, professors, community organizers, and professionals feature topics from indigenous land practices and feminist ecology, to toxic waste and reproductive health

The goal of the summit is to demonstrate that environmentalism is inextricably linked to feminism(s), and in that way social justice and environmental justice must be discussed and studied together.