**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:** Improving the sustainability of the freezer room at the Wildlife Veterinary Epidemiology Laboratory.

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** $50,000

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

[ ]  Transportation [ ]  Food & Waste

**Applicant Name:** Evan W. London

**Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization):** Prairie Research Institute – Illinois Natural History Survey

**Email Address:** elondon2@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.): The Wildlife Veterinary Epidemiology Laboratory

**Project Team Members**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Department** | **Email** |
| Evan W. London | Illinois Natural History Survey | elondon@illinois.edu |
| Nohra E. Mateus-Pinilla | Illinois Natural History Survey | nohram@illinois.edu |
| Nelda A. Rivera | Illinois Natural History Survey | river@illinois.edu |
| Eric M. Schauber | Illinois Natural History Survey | schauber@illinois.edu |
| Shari E. Effert-Fanta | Prairie Research Institute | sfanta@illinois.edu |
| Matt D. Thompson | Illinois Natural History Survey | matt1966@illinois.edu |

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

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor: Nohra E. Mateus-Pinilla
Advisor’s Email Address: nohram@illinois.edu

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

Contact Name: Matt D. Thompson

Unit/Department: Prairie Research Institute - Illinois Natural History Survey

Email Address: matt1966@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.*

Refrigeration units are one of the primary consumers of energy used in the labs. The best practices related to the freezer challenge led to safer, more efficient ways of managing samples at our lab and to win the freezer challenge 3 times. However, despite staff and students' efforts, there is currently no appropriate temperature regulation at the bay, forcing the freezers/refrigerators to work/consume more electricity. Even worse, in summer, some equipment may fail/get damaged during extreme heat.

With the funding provided by SSC, we want to improve the building for sustainable and efficient storage of research samples.

Our goals are:

* To convert a place with poor climate conditions (no A/C and temperature problems) to a more efficient room to reduce energy consumption and protect the equipment (extend the life of freezers).
* To improve the laboratory infrastructure through direct heat removal to manage sample storage efficiently and sustainably.
* To extend the life of our equipment by providing the appropriate environment.
* And to make sure that the new energy-efficient equipment will last.

**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 Pest Management Laboratory / Kinney Lab ([1819 S. Oak Street, Champaign, IL 61820](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pest%2BManagement%2BLaboratory%2C%2B1819%2BS%2BOak%2BSt%2C%2BChampaign%2C%2BIL%2B61820/data%3D%214m2%213m1%211s0x880cd72987f7ecf9%3A0x9e41259e6f38ac2a?sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiTq9zy7Kn-AhVDlIkEHXyVCesQ8gF6BAgTEAI)). No special permission is required for this location.

**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.*

Students from various departments (Animal Sciences, Integrative Biology, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, Molecular Cell Biology, College of Veterinary Medicine) are members of the Wildlife Veterinary Epidemiology Laboratory conducting research in this facility.

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

*This includes both direct and indirect impact.*

* The students will have the opportunity to participate in/learn the step-by-step process of how old laboratory infrastructures at UIUC are evolving into environmentally sustainable buildings.
* The lab has participated in the International Freezer Challenge for the past three years, with our lab consistently placing in the top five contributors to energy savings at the university level. Our students assist in taking and documenting freezer efficiency actions.
* This project will demonstrate to our students that we are taking steps to further improve efficiency.

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

This project will be reported in the Prairie Research Institute newsletter and the Illinois Natural History Survey newsletter. Our lab shares stories on our web page as well (<https://publish.illinois.edu/wildlifevetlab/news/>).

# 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?**

No.

**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.*

N/A

**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.*

N/A

# 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?**

**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.*

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

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