



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Application – Step II

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

- SSC can fund feasibility studies and design work; however, it must work toward ultimately addressing a sustainability need on campus.
- 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.
- SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
- SSC discourages funding requests for food and prizes but will consider proposals on a case by case basis that prove significant reasoning.
- 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.
- 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: Engineering a Greener Future Sustainability Mural Project

Total Amount Requested from SSC: \$3,966.66

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

Applicant Name: Yeon Kim, Halie Collins, Anna Slezak, Lily Perez

Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization): Grainger/Gies/FAA

Email Address: yjk4@illinois.edu/haliejc2@illinois.edu/asleza3@illinois.edu/lilygp2@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.):

Project Team Members

Name	Department	Email
Yeon Kim	Gies College of Business	Yjk4@illinois.edu
Halie Collins	Grainger College of Engineering	Haliejc2@illinois.edu
Anna Slezak	School of Art + Design	Asleza3@illinois.edu
Lily Perez	Gies College of Business	lilygp2@illinois.edu

Student-Led Projects (Mandatory):

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor: Meredith Moore

Advisor's Email Address: mkm0078@illinois.edu

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

Contact Name: Meredith Moore

Unit/Department: ISEE

Email Address: mkm0078@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.

- Our group is organizing a sustainability art exhibit titled *Engineering a Greener Future* that will be featured in the main gallery area of the Siebel Center for Design during the Fall 2022 Semester.
- We want to put a spotlight on university-led sustainability initiatives (such as the integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) panels of Sidney Lu, geothermal system at CIF, Solar Farm 2.0 by Illinois Climate Action Plan, Illinois Solar Decathlon, and countless more) via the perspective of Illinois student artists and designers.
- Through this project, we hope to **(a) inspire other students to participate in sustainable choices and actions and (b) empower environmentally conscious student thinkers by letting them know that they are not alone in their fight against climate change**; the Power of I has their back.
- We have partnered with a variety of departmental researchers and RSOs (some of our current sponsors include MechE, CEE, Illini Solar Decathlon, Illini Solar Car, CABBI, IBRL, IRAI, and many more.) to learn more about their projects and are currently interviewing artists and designers (~30 applicants as of 3/4/2022, our application submission deadline) who will help design and create the mural. The student artists will engage and coordinate with the sponsors to design artworks for the mural.

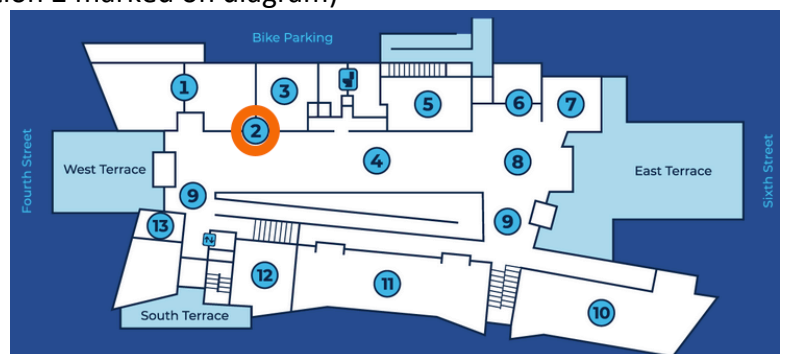
Purpose: Inspire students to think about sustainability.

- Fighting climate change is a communal effort and is a challenge that involves many perspectives, but the ultimate motivation comes through the Power of I.
- Unify different majors and departments in fighting the climate crisis.
- Show UIUC's commitment to the climate crisis and showcase different efforts made by the school.
- Three Pillars of the Mural Project: Bridging the gap between...
 - Engineering/Technology
 - Sustainability
 - Arts

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 project will be hosted by the Siebel Center of Design for the Fall 2022 semester. The mural will be painted on MDF board panels and hung on the center wall of the north-facing wall near the west terrace exit in SCD's main gallery area. (position 2 marked on diagram)
- Following the completion of the Fall 2022 semester, the sponsoring RSOs/campus departments for each portion of the mural will be able to claim their respective panels and display them at their desired location.
- The permissions to display the artwork at the project site have already been discussed with Mr. Nicholas Puddicombe, the Associate Director of Operations & Experience at SCD.



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.

- This will be an **entirely student run project**. However, RSOs, campus departments, and other organizations will be able to contribute by providing artistic direction and material contribution.
- The **main sponsor organizations** will be able to claim ownership of their panel once the installation at SCD is completed.
- The **secondary sponsor organizations** will be able to claim ownership of any panels (if theme consists of large and regular panels) that the main sponsor is not able to take.
- Other potential locational sponsors for the panels following the Fall 2022 exhibition will be determined later.
- Our student artists will coordinate with our Creative Director, Anna Slezak, and the sponsoring organization to finalize the design of the panel that they are responsible for by **April 8th, 2022**. (please refer to budget and timeline spreadsheet for a more detailed timeline)

Themes	Main Sponsor	Secondary Sponsors
Infrastructure	Civil and Environmental Engineering (in the works)	
Energy	ECE Illinois (in the works)	
Transportation	MechSE Illinois	Illini Solar Car
Power of I	Illini Solar Decathlon (donation to Habitat for Humanity)	SSC
Waste	YMCA	Integrative Bioprocessing Research Laboratory, CABBI
Urban Planning	School of Architecture (in the works)	
Agriculture	Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment	Illinois Regenerative Agriculture Initiative

How will this project involve and/or benefit students?

This includes both direct and indirect impact.

1. Build a sense of community

- While discussing the idea for the project with a couple of fellow students, we noticed a subconscious social gap between students in the different colleges at the University of Illinois. With the Grainger College of Engineering having a separate portion of campus dedicated specifically for its students, a common concern that was voiced among non-Grainger students was that the Engineering quad seemed somewhat “unapproachable” for the rest of the student population.
- The school is making an active effort to combat this concern by constructing buildings such as the Campus Instructional Facility, Siebel Center for Design, and ISR commons which are placed strategically around campus to promote the coalescence of talent throughout the campus. At these facilities, students can come together and focus on academics while sharing invaluable thoughts and ideas with each other, regardless of their majors. However, these intentions by the University do not seem to have been communicated well enough to students.
- With the mural, we hope to bridge the gap between the different talent pools across campus through a productive, creative outlet.

2. Empower and inspire students to combat climate change

- Through the Power of I that unites students, we aim to shift the meaning of “I” from “Illinois” to “I” as the context of oneself, providing a platform to recognize the potential within themselves to bring change, especially in the realm of sustainable choices and designs. Students are negatively affected by fear, and specifically fear of climate change. A student-led climate strike in front of Alma Mater.
- The mural will showcase a variety of the sustainability-related projects that are being conducted on campus (LEED certification, geothermal systems, solar farms, etc.) in students’ perspective. We are currently accepting recycled material donations from our project sponsors to incorporate a mixed-media element to the final mural design. This will help us better align the actual operations of the creation process towards our overarching theme of sustainability and zero waste. Many of our artists have previous experience with mixed media formats such as ceramics, stained glass, mosaic, and etc.
- We want to bring fresh attention to these invaluable tools that the University has given students to collaborate and share their ideas.

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

- The gallery area of the Siebel Center for Design is expected to have high foot traffic. We will coordinate with the SCD operations team to determine means of better promoting the mural through their marketing channels.
- With the help of our graphic designers, we are also planning on constructing a website to showcase the different panels of the mural. This website will serve as a tool for the audience to learn more about the meaning and research behind each panel of the mural, while also serving as a central hub for the individual panel installations after the Fall 2022 semester.
- To bring awareness to the project, we will be constructing an Instagram page and informational website display to track the progress of the design and creation of the mural.
- We will reach out to each college, residence hall, campus facility, art display hall, art museum via email promotion. Team members will also use word-of-mouth social media marketing through Instagram posts and stories. Additionally, a description of the project will be published on platforms such as GradLinks, iNews, and college-wide student communication channels – including but not limited to: engineering, sustainable design, and architecture.
- We are also planning on putting up flyers and posters in high-traffic areas around campus to promote the mural.

Financial Information

In addition to the below questions, please submit the supplemental budget spreadsheet available on the Student Sustainability Committee [website](#). 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?

- Halie has applied for funding on behalf of Illinois Solar decathlon Fall 2020 for projects over 10K.

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.

- The general budgeting for the project has been specified in the supplemental budget and timeline spreadsheet, which includes items and supplies such as paints, hardware, primer, and etc. However, based on the final orientation/dimensions of the panels for the mural, the installation of the fiberboards (on which the mural will be painted on) might require additional hardware and tools.
- Material modification for recycled material donations from sponsors and other general arts-and-crafts activities may incur additional costs (but at a low level).

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.

- We have only applied for funding through the SSC.

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 \(iCAP\)](#) goals?

- The creation and exhibition of a sustainability-themed mural with the primary purpose of bridging the gap between sustainability, the arts and engineering will serve as a source of inspiration for students on the University of Illinois campus to incorporate the principles of sustainability in their daily lives as we all work towards a greener future for our generation as well as ones to follow.
- The concepts depicted through the artistic mural will showcase the natural resources that sustainable technology, practices and designs collectively aim to preserve, sparking creativity within students from all different majors by showing them there is no limit to what they can do to be a part of this movement.
- Upon ideation of the mural's design, the artist(s) will be presented a set of iCAP goals, including, but not limited to, energy conservation and net-zero GHG emissions that they will then showcase through their artistic work.

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

- One way in which the outcomes of the project can be measured is through the level of green behavior on campus. With sustainable practices becoming more widespread, we expect more students to consciously incorporate behaviors that are aligned with our beliefs, such as enrolling for courses centered around environmental sustainability, using public transportation as opposed to personal vehicles and joining environmental groups on campus. These data points, along with others, could potentially be tracked through surveys sent to the student audience through their university emails.
- *carbon emissions, water conservation, green behavior, and reduced campus waste.*

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

- Ultimately, our goal is to share the message of sustainability with students from every college of this school on every corner of this campus. While it is true that the topic of sustainability is being incorporated into an increasing number of courses across campus, implementing a mural in a space that is highly visible by students who previously gave sustainability little thought would stress the importance of green life on campus, and not just as 'just another topic covered in class'.
- We hope to create an impactful mural whose message students will remember; our mission will hopefully serve as a catalyst for our audience to begin recognizing how sustainability currently is or potentially could be achieved in their own lives.

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

- A Pew Research Center survey shows that younger Americans are "particularly likely to express anxiety about the future" when asked about engaging with online content regarding climate change. Anxiety and anger is simply not enough when it comes to achieving meaningful success on this front. We believe that the bystander effect, in which people avoid acting up unless they are directly involved in the problem, is to blame. The main cause behind the bystander effect is that when other observers fail to react, individuals often take this as a signal that response is not needed or not appropriate. To bring the spark of change, we need to inform students that they are not alone in their efforts, and that even the University has their back. With our mural, we hope to unite students in fighting environmental injustice that is prevalent in our society, starting with on-campus efforts.