



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Award and Acceptance Letter

December 16, 2020

Project: **Biodesign at Illinois**

Dear **Gabe Tavas**:

On behalf of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), I would like to thank you for considering the funds raised by the Sustainable Campus Environment Fee to implement a project that improves the sustainability of our campus. SSC is pleased to inform you that we are recommending to the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment (iSEE) that your project receives **\$4,840.00** 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 **December 16, 2022**.
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

Joseph Edwards, Chair
Student Sustainability Committee

Awardee Signatory

Gabe Tavas
Applicant

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

Dr. Mark Smith
Faculty/Staff Project Advisor

iSEE Signatory

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

Student Affairs Signatory

Dr. Danita Brown Young
Division of Student Affairs



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Project Information

Project: Biodesign at Illinois

Funding Source:

Cleaner Energy Technologies Fee (302571)

Sustainable Campus Environment Fee (303692)

Funding Amount: \$4,840

Receiving Campus Unit: Gies College of Business (Finance)

Unit Financial Contact: Mark Smith

E-mail: smithmk@illinois.edu

Project Description:

Symmetry and CreAlgae are early-stage biodesign projects focused on creating products from natural materials to serve students, designers, entrepreneurs, and community members in the Urbana-Champaign area. Symmetry is creating wood without cutting down trees for eco-conscious woodworkers in and out of the university, and CreAlgae is focused on creating petroleum-free, algae-based bioplastics for local businesses.

The two projects are leading an unprecedented effort to register UIUC in The Biodesign Challenge (BDC), an annual competition in which teams of artists and scientists from universities across the world learn how to develop sustainable products with biotechnology.

This proposal directly funds:

1. Biodesign Challenge Registration Fee (\$3,000)
2. Testing
 - a. Algae Toxicity Screening (\$24)
 - b. Moisture Sensor (\$25)
3. Tools
 - a. Dehydrator (\$100)
 - b. High-speed Grinder (\$100)
4. Material Ingredients
 - a. Algae (\$280)
 - b. Sugar (\$58.60)



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- c. Chitosan (\$68.96)
 - d. Cinnamon Oil (\$120)
 - e. Agar (\$212)
 - f. Carrageenan (\$340)
 - g. Vinegar (\$10.50)
5. New Experimental Materials (\$500)