



## 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

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](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 & Contact Information**

**Project Name:** Improved recycling at CEE

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** \$9,000

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

**Applicant Name:** Roman Y. Makhnenko, Assistant Professor

**Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization):** Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Email Address:** romanmax@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
Roman Makhnenko	CEE	romanmax@illinois.edu
Timothy Prunkard	CEE	prunkard@illinois.edu
Name	Department/Organization	Email Address
Name	Department/Organization	Email Address

**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: Laura Cooky

Unit/Department: CEE

Email Address: cooky@uillinois.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:**

The aim of the project is to increase the scope of recycling capabilities and students' awareness of importance of recycling in Newmark Civil Engineering Laboratory. Currently, recycling in Newmark is limited to paper, bottles and cans. We need some help in changing it and, hopefully, initiating changes in other UIUC buildings. We aim at building additional facilities to recycle materials that are currently not accepted by the University Waste Management such as plastic bags, tin and steel cans, batteries, glass, etc. These materials will be collected in bins provided by us and then taken to local recycling centers. Understanding the importance of collecting the food leftovers (compost) separately, we will work with the facility management at Newmark to construct special bins for compost and lately bring them to department of agriculture facilities and Sustainable Student Farm.

An additional component of the project is increasing environmental awareness and importance of recycling and reusing among UIUC students, faculty, and staff. Colorful posters will be placed near the recycling bins with tips on how to recycle on campus and at home and also relevant statistics on the effect of recycling and information about the campus Climate action plan because many students are unaware of it.

### **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.*

This project will be located in the Newmark Civil Engineering Laboratory. The building facilities manager participates to the project. No special permissions are required.

### **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.*

The department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) facilities team will participate to the project. In the short term, the CEE department will benefit from the project and will contribute to it. In longer terms, we expect that the project will be expanded to other departments at UIUC and we hope to get Facilities and Services involved in terms of technical, publicity, and financial support.

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

*This includes both direct and indirect impact.*

Students from Civil and Environmental Engineering department will be educated on the proper ways to recycle their waste and be more sustainable when using products. A few graduate students from the department will be involved in the project and work on bringing extra recycling facilities (for plastic bags, glass, batteries, and compost), and promoting the recycling through the information campaign via posters and seminars.

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

It will reported on CEE ([cee.illinois.edu](http://cee.illinois.edu)) and my group websites ([rockmechanics.cee.illinois.edu/sustainability](http://rockmechanics.cee.illinois.edu/sustainability)).

## **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?**

Yes. I have applied for a similar project in Fall 2018. That project was not funded.

### **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 purpose of the project is to bring new recycling facilities to CEE department in order to significantly reduce the waste the department produces. It will be also used as a demonstration project for other departments at UIUC. We expect that the CEE department will cover the renewal costs. We are also hoping that UIUC Facilities and Services will contribute to the later stages of the project.

### **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 not applied for any other funding. The PI is willing to contribute part of his funds to support the project if necessary.

## **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?**

iCAP states that 45% of the waste produced on campus should be recycled in FY2020, while currently it is just 30-35%. Improved recycling capabilities at Newmark and later at the other departments will reduce the amount of waste directed towards landfills and help the University to move closer towards its zero waste 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.*

The purpose of the project is to reduce landfill waste produced by the University. The timeline for implementing the project is January to December 2020. We plan to acquire and build additional recycling bins for compost, glass, batteries, and plastic bags withing Spring 2020 semester. We will regularly monitor how much additional recyclable waste we collect throughout summer and fall in 2020.

At the same time, the new recycling capabilities will be promoted with the education campaign (posters, seminars, outreach) where the surveys on participants' environmental awareness will be collected.

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

This project will inspire students to recycle more both on campus and at home. The information campaign should push people from other departments to get involved. A few of Energy-Water-Environment Sustainability (EWES) seminars will be dedicated to sustainability awareness and importance of recycling. We are already doing an outreach in local elementary schools and summer camps explaining the importance of recycling and sustainable living. We are planning to expand it to middle and high schools, as well as to some University summer programs.

We believe we can make a big change on campus and in Central Illinois. A number of UIUC graduates are leaving Champaign for other cities and countries. At least some of them will become recycling activists and will be promoting sustainability actions wherever they go.

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

This project will give opportunities for UIUC students and staff to learn about recycling and implement better waste management practices in their lives. Addressing environmental or social injustice is beyond the scope of the project.