



## STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

### Scope Change

*From time to time unforeseen challenges or opportunities can affect the planned budget, timeline, or overall goals of a project funded by the Student Sustainability Committee. Past examples of these situations include projects coming in under budget but having additional opportunities available, or inclement weather delaying the planting of agriculture projects.*

*Below please include a brief project summary and your requested changes. Attach additional documents as needed. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee at [sustainability-committee@illinois.edu](mailto:sustainability-committee@illinois.edu).*

### **General Information**

**Project Name:** Illinois Organic Internship

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** \$42,800

**Date of Scope Change Submission:** 08/18/2022

---

### **Contact Information**

Project Lead Name: Carmen M. Ugarte

Scope Change Applicant Name (if different than Project Lead):

Unit/Department: NRES

Email Address: [cugarte@illinois.edu](mailto:cugarte@illinois.edu)

## Project Information

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

The Illinois Organic Internship was launched to support training of undergraduate students interested in conducting research alongside the three PIs (Carmen M. Ugarte-NRES, Michelle M. Wander-NRES, and Martin O. Bohn-CPSC). Specifically, student interns have the opportunity to conduct research about the implications of diversified food production systems for sustainable soil management; the influence of organic management practices on soil organic matter; and the agronomic characteristics of various lines of food-grade corn produced under organic cropping systems. The program aims to improve the student's science communication skills and help prepare a pathway to environmental science careers (i.e., graduate school, environmental consulting, etc.).

Please provide a brief summary of how students will be involved in the project's changes:

This is a student-centric project. Student interns are involved all aspects of scientific inquiry. They work with graduate students and receive training in various methodologies. Ultimately, and as part of the internship, we guide students to develop an independent research project, execute it, and finally present it at campus events and at a scientific meeting.

Mark the components for which you are applying to change. (Mark all that apply.)

Overall goals

Budget

Timeline

- Original Timeline: 08/2020 to 05/2022
- New Timeline: 08/2020 to 05/2023

Other

Please provide a brief summary of your requested scope change. How is your request different from your original plan? Please explain the reason for the proposed changes.

The scope of the project remains unchanged. The additional time will help us accomplish the originally outlined goals and proposed impact.

The activities in our original timeline were delayed due to challenges associated with 1) late starting on the release of funds, and 2) inability to recruit students to work on campus during the first semester of the pandemic. Having a one-year extension will give us the opportunity to work and train students interested in soil health. Potential projects will consider soil health evaluations at the Multifunctional Woody Polyculture and the Illinois Organic Trial sites that are located at the University South Farms.

**Additional comments (Optional)**

Any additional comments/relevant information for the project proposal