**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. All SSC funding is 100% from student green fees, so the projects funded by the students must benefit them.

**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 requests for food and prizes but will consider proposals on a case by case basis.
5. SSC can fund repairs and improvements to existing building systems as long as it works toward the goal of improving campus sustainability.
6. SSC can provide departments with loans for projects with a distinct payback. 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.

**Instructions**

*Submit this completed application and one map, graphic, or picture to* *Sustainability-Committee@Illinois.edu**. Please adhere to the session word counts. The committee holds the right to decline applications over the designated word counts. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee Coordinator at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu.*

**Project Name:**  Illini Union Recycling Center Shadow Boxes

**Total Amount Requested from SSC:** $3,911.56 (addition to original $29,000 recycling center project)

**Primary Project Leader Name & Email:**  Louis Sommesi, lsomme4@illinois.edu

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| **Project Abstract:** This project is a revision to a previously approved $29,000 project which envisioned adding eight SSC branded eight Max-R three-stream recycling centers and two single stream paper centers to the Illini Union. **The additional scope adds 3-D shadow boxes (containing physical examples of waste and recycling streams) to the top of the 3-stream units, which through negotiations with the supplier, Max-R, are now total nine (9).** Based on research of other per institutions which have implemented these (University of Wisconsin – Madison, University of Texas-Austin, and Oberlin University), shadow boxes demonstrate to users in a more tangible way how to effectively separate recycling streams from waste.  |
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|  | Education | Energy | Food & Waste | Land & Water | Transportation |
| Project Category |  |  |  X |  |  |

**Project Team Member List** (student projects must include their faculty/staff advisor’s information)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | RSO/Department | Email Address |
| Louis Somessi | IU Board/VP of Programming | lsomme4@illinois.edu |
| David C. Guth | Asst. Director for Facilities | dcguth@illinois.edu |
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| Questions | Yes | No |
| Is this a student-led project? |  X |  |
| If applicable, have you received approval from Facilities & Services and/or site manager? |  X |  |
| Do you have a plan for ongoing funding beyond SSC? (SSC cannot guarantee ongoing financial support) |  NA |  |
| Beyond SSC, do you have sources contributing funding or support (ex. staff time, external grants, etc.) to this project? |  X |  |
| Have you applied for SSC funding previously? |  X |  |

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| **Project Timeline** |
| SSC funding agreements remain active for two years. Please list your project’s timeline and/or milestones. |
| The primary project milestones include: Step 1 & Step 2 approvals, order placement, delivery, installation, and project roll out. The production timeline is four – six weeks from receipt of the purchase order after Step-2 approval. The actual purchase order & production process will consume most of the timeline (eight – ten weeks), as installation and roll out and promotion can be completed in less than a week. If project receives Step 2 approval mid-December and funds are released by the end of January, a completion date range of March 28, 2021 – April 10, 2021. |

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| **Project Description** |
| In 250 words or less, describe your project. What does your project hope to accomplish? What are your project’s deliverables? Bullet points welcome. |
| The project goals and deliverables are as follows:**Primary Goals:**Increase recycling efforts within the Illini Union in highly visible spaces in the Lower Level, 1st Floor, and 2nd floor student-focused programming spaces.* Educate end users with highly visible, tangible examples of each recycling stream
* Implement iCAP strategies for waste reduction and increased recycling volume on Campus
* Promote recycling within the Union and across campus
* Encourage individual environmental stewardship through awareness
* Divert recyclable products from landfills

**Deliverables:*** Create a co-sponsored kick-off event with SSC and IU Board participation to load the shadow boxes. The event would be live-streamed and posted on social media through SSC and Illini Union channels.
* Increased opportunities for recycling with more bins available throughout the Illini Union at all levels
* Increase awareness of SSC investment with branded recycling centers; existing Illini Union recycling centers will move up to floors 3 & 4.
* Improved waste reduction and corresponding increase in recycled materials.
* Increased visibility for recycling efforts.
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| **Environmental Impact** |
| In 200 words or less, how does your project increase environmental stewardship at UIUC? If applicable, what is the carbon, water, waste, and/or energy savings? Does your project relate to the iCAP? Bullet points welcome. |
| This project increases environmental stewardship by providing the campus community an opportunity toactively participate in eco‐friendly behaviors. Individuals encountering these recycling centers are more likely to question their personal habits and responsibly dispose of bottles/cans/paper. Recycling is a very easy choice that fosters future environmental stewardship. By encouraging this type of conscious behavior, it is likely that individuals will recycle in the future.The following iCAP goals are related to this project:* iCAP Chapter 5.1 Develop and Apply Environmental Purchasing Standards
	+ Manufacturer (Max-R) is a State of Illinois IPHEC contract participant, generating discounted pricing for our Campus and this project.
	+ Max‐R recycling bins are made from recycled milk jugs.
* iCAP 5.2.1 [F&S] Install appropriate waste collection infrastructure throughout the University District, with new indoor bins placed in at least 150 buildings by FY24.
	+ Illini Union with its original purchase helped spur discussions with Max-R to specify and purchase new Campus standard 3-stream recycling centers.
	+ The 3-stream recycling centers with shadow boxes further raise recycling rates across Campus.
	+ Increase Availability and Visibility of Recycling Bins within one of the most iconic and heavily trafficked buildings on Campus.
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| **Student Impact** |
| In 200 words or less, how will this project benefit students? How will students be involved with this project? What educational components are in your project? Bullet points welcome. |
| With the implementation of this project, students are encouraged and given the opportunity to raiserecycling rates across campus. After the recycling centers with the shadow boxes are placed throughout the building, it will be very difficult for students to avoid encountering the receptacles and their message. Each recycling center will have physical examples of each recycling stream and non-recyclable waste. Each center also has a label that tells exactly how many recycled plastic milk containers were reclaimed in the creation of a single bin. This educational component increases awareness for recycling efforts and serves as an example of successful recycling. Last, the project also raises awareness of the SSC’s funding impact on their student experience and campus life. |

