

## Funding Award and Acceptance Letter

Project Leaders: Ben McCall

Project Team: Bart Bartels, Shantanu Pai

Project: Styrofoam Recycling

Re: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee - Award Recommendation

Dear Mr. McCall:

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 the Styrofoam Recycling project receives \$32,500.00 in grant funding.

In order to remain eligible for this award, you must agree to the following conditions:

- 1. A final report of all work completed should be provided to the SSC Program Advisor by January 31, 2017.
- 2. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester until the project is completed.
- 3. 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 Program Advisor.
- 4. All projects will be expected to follow campus policies and procedures as well as any applicable State and Federal laws.
- 5. SSC reserves the right to revoke funding if the project does not comply with the terms and conditions outlined in this letter.
- 6. Any press releases or educational/promotional materials involving the project should acknowledge SSC funding. Projects must communicate with the SSC's External Vice Chair to come up with appropriate marketing for the project.
- 7. Projects must participate in the Campus Sustainability Symposium at least once before June 30, 2018.

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 Chair, Amy Liu, at <a href="mailto:amy.linqin.liu@gmail.com">amy.linqin.liu@gmail.com</a> or the SSC Program Advisor, Micah Kenfield, at <a href="mailto:kenfield@illinois.edu">kenfield@illinois.edu</a>. You will be notified when the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment 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.



SSC Signato	ries
^ /	

Amy Liu, Chair

Student Sustainability Committee

Serena Hou, Treasurer

Student Sustainability Committee

**Awardee Signatory** 

Ben McCall

Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

i&EE Signatory

Dr. Evan DeLucia, Director

Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

## **Project Information**

Project: Styrofoam Recycling

Funding Source: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

Funding Amount: \$32,500

Award Code: 1-303692-508000-508029

Receiving Campus Unit: Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

Unit Financial Contact: Jenny Kokini

E-mail: ikokini@illinois.edu Phone: 217-333-5357

Primary Contact: Ben McCall, Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

E-mail: campus-sustainability@illinois.edu Phone: 217-244-0230

Secondary Contact: Bart Bartels, ISTC

E-mail: bbartel@illinois.edu

## **Project Description:**

This project is intended to permanently set up styrofoam (expanded polystyrene, or EPS) recycling on our campus, for the first time. We aim to emulate a very successful program at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and in fact we have received some funding for student support and supplies from UW as part of an EPA grant that students and postdocs there have received. The key difference between UIUC and UW is that UW had the benefit of a local styrofoam recycler, and we do not have that benefit: our closest recycler is in Indianapolis and the cost of transporting undensified EPS is too high for this to be viable.

We are establishing a partnership with Community Resource, Inc. in Urbana -- they have agreed to handle all of the logistics of picking up styrofoam from large containers ("gaylords") in campus buildings, transporting it to their site, feeding it into a machine called a "densifier", and selling the densified material to a company in Chicago. They will even give us a portion of the proceeds from the sales, in order to support student interns on campus who will promote and support the program. However, this agreement is contingent on UIUC purchasing a densifier and allowing it to be placed at Community Resource, Inc., and the funding to purchase this densifier is what is requested from SSC.

The goal of this project is to establish a self-supporting program that will ultimately capture most of the styrofoam waste from our campus and recycle it, while supporting student interns to oversee and continually improve the program.