

Campus Sustainability Fund Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 6, 2015 – 4:00 to 5:00 PM – Gerberding 142

Attendees
CSF Committee: Graham Golbuff, An Huynh, Colin Butler, Erin Sofinowski, Carolyn Hartman, Natalie Gray, Connor Birkeland
Guests: Claudia Frere, Will Cadra, Cindy Zhang, Maika Bui, Max Mossler

Agenda		
Time	Item	Presenter
1 min	Approve 2/27/15 Minutes Approve 3/6/15 Agenda	Natalie
57 min	Discuss LOIs	Committee
2 min	Reminders, Wrap up, and Adjourn	Natalie

Meeting Summary: The committee discussed 9 Letters of Intent submitted for the second round of funding and passed one small project.

Motion to approve 2/27/15 Minutes: PASSED

Motion to approve 3/6/15 Agenda: PASSED

LOI Discussion

Hydra Power

What is the conversion efficiency from infrared radiation (IR) to electricity?
 What is the limit to how much IR can hold – relative to what other studies have said?
 Connor has met with them: the group and project has made huge improvements quickly, moving towards large scale systems is the end goal
 How it works: use membrane within material to ionize water in columns, this creates semiconductor and energy from water molecules
 We like how it has a sensor, what's the difference between the three prototypes?
 Maybe because budget is missing, we would be curious to see this in a full proposal
 What would the reach of these devices be and how much would they serve?
 Did not have too much on maintenance, would be important to add to full proposal.
 We want to know that this will last! Ensure that prototype can be sustainable...

Expanding Education and Outreach at the UW Farm

- We like that it's wheelchair accessible
- Project is also very community-focused, beyond the UW
- We've given a lot of money to the UW farm, but this sounds like it could be more accessible to greater Seattle community

- This project might not be serving the UW community in particular. They have demand from Seattle schools, but this isn't serving UW students necessarily and this fund is meant for UW students – one missing piece that we would like to see
- Any concerns about non-students writing requests? Per our bylaws: Anyone can PROPOSE, but the committee can choose how we want to weigh where those projects are coming from (students, staff, faculty)
- Can showcase UW student work when people visit the farm, increase traffic especially from outside campus can be beneficial, networking opportunities
- Project can be put in a currently unused area at the Farm, it is more education focused instead of traditional “sustainability”
- UW has had many opportunities to reach out to students outside the university
- This can be self-sustaining and can pay for itself, majority is for the materials and infrastructure

Sustainable Stormwater

- Since this is a project that got funded last year, we should look at the ask from last year and see if they met what they were trying to achieve
- This project works with the whole campus and affects greater workings of the school
- Matt has seen changes that have been happening suddenly over the past couple of months, engineers have turned around to ask how this campus can be more salmon safe, a lot more traction now, might be a shame if we don't support him
- How else can you fund this position? Graham has met with project lead and suggested options to seek other funding sources, will keep us updated on that front

Tap That

- See if they can find another source of funding to fund some of the bottles
- Maybe we can find a deal for bottles or other manufacturing possibilities
- We like the idea for this project, embodied energy and environmental costs, bringing awareness could have significant change around campus
- How much traction can they get? Changing Cola-Cola contract
- Project sounds like they're putting effort into the technological issues and cultural aspect of the problem
- They are passionate enough to donate their time, bottom-up approach is beautiful!
- On top of physical water bottles, would you want to integrate water bottle refilling stations? There aren't a ton of those resources on campus
- Calculate how much water you need/day, how many bottles that accumulates to
- METRICS! “We've added x amount to decrease plastic water bottle usage” – adding something like this would be helpful
- San Francisco banned plastic bottles!
- Get Carolyn to contact project leads about ASUW Senate representative

Real-Time @ UW

- This is Transit Screen resubmission
- A lot of money for something not tangible and we're having trouble imagining student reception for project

- Increase parking fee on campus might have a larger impact on campus (ie. per occupancy charge for vehicles), the money could be better placed towards the same goal
- It would be really cool as an app
- Pilot or smaller scale project, looks like they've done their research to gauge buy-in
- We wouldn't mind seeing a full proposal and a presentation
- Is there one location that could gather the most attention? The campus has many nodes, how many people will you reach with ridership data?
- Work with Metro's Real Time displays, scale down so you can widely implement it on many locations
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UW Night Market (Small Project)

- Didn't mention compost at all, could we provide this? Willing to give them extra \$100-200 for composting
- Where will the RSO be getting recycling materials?
- More specificity in the budget would be helpful: What is under miscellaneous? What does "recruiting" mean? Why \$100 for video?
- Educational component is strong for this project
- We are mainly supportive because it's a group of students we haven't reached out to as much
- UW Sustainability Office has a great relationship with UW Recycling, we collaborate with them heavily, we can recommend that to the RSO and we can specify where to get recycling materials
- Give some direction to guide their funding, the night market is a huge event! We should get them equipped

Motion to approve the UW Night Market project with recommendations on who to contact for recycling materials and support with composting infrastructure: **PASSED**

Floating Wetlands at the UW

- This project asks for funding staff/faculty time. We CANNOT do that according our bylaws
- Do we want to keep funding phase 1 projects that are heavy on student work/research?
- Could this project use more advertising on campus?
- How much research has there been done on the already existing habitats on campus where this could take place?
- Don't have a particular place in mind at the UW? Project should come up with at least a game plan of somewhere they feel needs restoration or benefits from restoration
- Green Futures Lab has done great projects, and this project has potential to reach great wetlands restoration
- Is this precedent and have people used this technology pretty often? – Floating wetlands are an emerging technology and approach but plant species vary. You can have these "plug and play" restoration entities that sit in water bodies
- Would UW Grounds permit this?

- Did they specify if this was to be on campus?
- We strongly recommend a revised budget without funding staff time
- Clearing up Phases 1 and 2, our concern is that Phase 2 would just be paying students to do with this work

Permaculture for the People

- No detailed budget, just a rough estimate
- Did not list Environmental Science & Resource Management as one of their contacts and how could other people be involved?
- Was there a clear focus?
- Concerned with overlap with restoration projects at Kincaid Ravine, or how would you work together? More technical permaculture side on the edges of the ravine?
- Grand challenges were very broad, seems like these would apply to very sustainability project
- Location? How to recruit volunteers? – This should be established by the time they reach full proposal stage
- How would this fit into the UW Farm's goals? – Possible direction for further research
- Any kind of regulation for edible plants for this site? Liability issues? Beacon Hill Food Forest – what are they doing with the free edible food for everybody? How does their model work, and could this project adopt that?

New Media Student Engagement at UW

- This job could be done with part-time position at UW or Carlson Center student, could be integrated more formally into ESS/CSF
- Monetary prize to whoever wins? – We'd rather have the prize be something other than monetary
- Why do we think this could be housed within the CSF? Does it already fall in line with what we already have? More designed more ESS office?
- Environmental efforts on campus is a lot bigger than just CSF projects
- Max has talked to Daimon from ESS office. Max would have his own goals and direction, Daimon doesn't have the time and money to do this
- Cool for project to be coming from student or staff/faculty member
- Student-led projects have the ability to push where staff/faculty projects cannot
- Max: typical answers from students are to recycle and compost when asked about sustainability, not aware of other resources on campus that are also environmentally conscious – This project would help to promote those other resources

SER-UW Nursery Expansion

- We would like to hear analysis on the hoop house options and why they went with what they want
- We like how this project directly engages with other projects
- Nursery space would create something that will keep giving to other projects
- SER does a lot of work with ESRM department and recruiting student volunteers

- Disinterest with paying students... two RA-ships, just funding the hoophouse and materials for the Nursery, funding can be acquired elsewhere for positions

Reminders

March 11th - next Wednesday 2:30-4:30 are the final presentations from the Grant Writing Practicum! Located in the POE Commons in Wallace Hall. Event is open to all.

SAF Presentation is next Friday, 2:30-4:30 PM in the HUB

We will not have quorum to vote if we meet during SAF meeting, so we will be pushing back the committee meeting to about 4:15 PM. This will most likely take place in the HUB. Stay tuned.

Natalie and An will facilitate next week's meeting

CSF meeting during finals week? Probably not...