## **Funding Award and Acceptance Letter**

April 4, 2014

Project Leader: Sam Wortman

Project Team: Sarah Lovell, Zack Grant

Project: Campus Community Garden: Fostering Sustainable Food Production and Undergraduate Learning

Re: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee - Award Recommendation

Dear Mr. Wortman:

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 Campus Community Garden: Fostering Sustainable Food Production and Undergraduate Learning project receives \$51,530.00 in grant funding.

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

- 1. All funds must be spent by December 31, 2015.
- A final report of all work completed should be provided by January 31, 2016.
- 3. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester until the project is completed.
- 4. 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.
- 5. All projects will be expected to follow campus policies and procedures as well as any applicable State and Federal laws.
- 6. SSC reserves the right to revoke funding if the project does not comply with the terms and conditions outlined in this letter.
- 7. Upon implementation, signage must educate the public about the project and its impact on campus.
- Any signage involving the project or events surrounding this project should include SSC's logo and/or a statement of which fee funded the project.
- 9. Any press releases involving the project should acknowledge SSC funding.

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, Marika Nell, at nell2@illinois.edu or the Interim SSC Program Advisor & Student Programs & Activities Assistant Director, Dementro Powell, at dementro@illinois.edu. 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 Signatories

Chair, Student Sustainability Committee

Kathryn Kinley /

Treasurer, Student Sustainability Committee

Awardee Signatory

Sam Wortman

Department of Crop Sciences

iSEE Signatory

Dr. Evan DeLucia, Director

Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

## **Project Information**

Project: Campus Community Garden: Fostering Sustainable Food Production and Undergraduate Learning

Funding Source: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

**Funding Amount:** \$51,530.00

Award Code: 1-303692-802050-802512-802CCG

Receiving Campus Unit: Department of Crop Sciences

Unit Financial Contact: Anna Tammen, Administrative Clerk

E-mail: amtammen@illinois.edu Phone: (217) 333-3422

Primary Contact Person: Sam Wortman

E-mail: swortman@illinois.edu Phone: (217) 300-50232

Project Description: Community gardens on a university campus can provide many environmental, educational, cultural, and social functions. As a form of local, urban food production, a community garden on campus will contribute to a closed-loop cycle of food production, consumption, and waste recycling. While on-campus food production has increased in recent years with the support of the Student Sustainability Committee (e.g., Sustainable Student Farm and the Woody Perennial Polyculture Project), a campus community garden will complement these other local food initiatives on campus because of the unique hands-on learning opportunities it will provide for undergraduate students. Our objective is to design, build, and operate an undergraduate student-managed community food garden on campus to provide students with outdoor classroom experiences, internships, and hands-on production opportunities in the emerging field of sustainable urban food production. The Campus Community Garden (CCG) will be designed by students, built, and planted in the spring of 2014 on the grounds of the University of Illinois Turf Farm. The CCG will look and feel like a typical allotment-style community garden, but the management of the garden will be focused on undergraduate learning opportunities. To this end, half of the individual garden plots (24 raised beds) will be made available to students for independent gardening activities and experimentation. The other 24 raised bed garden plots will be used for teaching, demonstration, and outreach on urban agriculture, and will serve as important examples of successful production methods for student gardeners. Similar CCGs already exist at the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN; http://uststewardshipgarden.wordpress.com/) and Westminster College (Salt Lake City, UT) and this project will provide opportunities for UIUC undergraduate students to collaborate with students at these other institutions to examine questions of regional and national importance. The CCG will collaborate with the Sustainable Student Farm (SSF) to pool labor resources and market food to Dining Services.