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Respondent

11 Kasey Umland

12:59

Time to complete

Project Questionnaire

Please provide proper and accurate information.

1. Name of project *

Ecofeminism Summit Fall 2023

2. Date project received financial award letter *

May 5, 2023

3. Date of forecasted project completion *

11/14/2023

4. Date of report submission *

12/19/2023

5. Marketing and promotion efforts to date *

The events were promoted through the Women's Resources Center newsletter, the WRC Instagram account, virtual signage in SDRP, Illini Union and Campus Rec, and through campus wide newsletters like Grad Links and Eweek. To market the Ecofeminism Summit and reach a large portion of our audience we focused our presence on social media such as Instagram because of its large usage by students allowed us to provide information regarding the event's workshops and speakers to a mass audience. For the posts tailored to the events we made sure they followed a nature theme because of the summit's overall topic, paid attention to detail and pursued creative layouts throughout the posts.

6. Please describe project progress *

The Fall 2023 Ecofeminism Summit took place between September 25 – September 19, 2023. The 2023 Ecofeminism Summit was a weeklong series of programs including workshops, keynote speakers, trivia, and a book club committed to creating a space to educate and advocate for the intersectionality of feminism and environmentalism while inspiring students to act.

Guest speakers highlighted diverse and multi-faceted perspectives on environmentalism, social justice, and feminist theory. On September 25, Niha Eley, fashion blogger, environmental advocate, and co-founder of Tega, a sustainable fashion brand, led off the week with a well-rounded discussion on sustainable fashion, the effects of fast fashion, and the importance of raising awareness about indigenous culture and craft especially within the environmental movement. The speakers allowed students to engage in an active and inciting discussion regarding environmental issues.

Over 50 students attended the Ecofeminism Trivia Night held on September 26 in collaboration with the Illini Union Courtyard Cafe. Attendees engaged in trivia and had the opportunity to learn more about the theory of Ecofeminism while also being exposed to sustainable products and services in the local community.

On September 27, Leah Thomas who coined the term "intersectional environmentalism" and has advocated in the environmental and social justice space has used to her platform to raise awareness about the intersection of environmental issues with social issues such as racial justice, gender equality and economic disparities.

A student-led workshop was hosted by the register student organization, Students for Environmental Concerns (SECS) on September 28, 2023 at 12 noon. SECS explored the intersections of reproductive justice and environmental justice. The workshop explored the impact of menstrual production on the environment, access to reproductive care and gender affirming care as well as how the oppression of menstruating people and the environment are inherently connected.

The new addition of a Book Club this year for the Summit expanded on the connection of Indigenous knowledge within the conversation of environmental concerns and relationship between native cultures and nature. It opened and created conversation amongst students on the intersectionality of environmental issues. The Ecofeminism Summit 's events look to inspire and motivate students to have productive discussion on the content they are learning.

7. Please describe how your project integrates student involvement and community outreach *

Throughout the Summit we made sure students at the University were involved in the project. We emphasized the importance of student engagement by reaching out to students who would also like to take participate in the planning committee, planned a workshop with an on campus environmental organization founded by university students, and provided a workshop with speakers who represented emerging youth environmental work. The Ecofeminism Summit Internship provided a wonderful opportunity for a student to work hands on with the Women's Resource Center and allowed for connections and relationships to be built amongst a student and University program. This helped foster a communicative and respected environment which further entails not only the student intern to feel connected but expanded the role of the WRC and the Ecofeminism Summit to other students and organizations around campus.

Another goal focused on was student involvement within the Summit it the first year we held a book club which would actively bring students to an open environment that encouraged participants to engage in critical thinking, analytical skills, and open-mindedness. It also allowed students to not only socialize amongst the participants in the book club but created a sense of community amongst the students and the Women's Resources Center while also emphasizing the importance of active discussion amongst environmental and feminist theory. The Ecofeminism Summit has and will continue to actively work on engaging students and fostering a sense of community.

Project Documentation

8. Please upload updated financial documentation for your project

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/student-sustainability/ssc/docs/SSC-Supplemental-Budget-Timeline.xlsx> *

 [SSC-Step2-Supplemental-Budget-and-Timeline_Kasey_Umland.xlsx](#)

9. Please upload project photography *

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