

The Green Initiative Fund 2017 Annual Report

MISSION: The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) shall strive to promote sustainable development by providing monetary resources to the UC Davis Community. The Green Initiative Fund will involve and educate students of all backgrounds by empowering them to develop, propose, and enact sustainable projects on campus.

BACKGROUND: The University of California system has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase solid waste diversion rates to support 2020 sustainable development goals. Campuses across the nation, including seven UC campuses, have passed green funds primarily with student fees to meet these goals and seen many innovative projects develop as a result. UC Davis students, staff and faculty can apply for TGIF funds to establish and develop student projects with a significant undergraduate student involvement that improve educational opportunities, promote environmental awareness, increase energy and water efficiency, advocate for climate justice, and/or reduce the amount of waste created on campus.

INITIAL FORMATION OF COMMITTEE: The challenge of the initial gathering was to form a committee and bylaws. The UC Davis sustainability manager spent fall 2016 contacting student organizations to nominate five undergraduate members to the committee, and various departments or offices that would nominate a faculty representative. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission (EPPC) was not yet formed for the year, so the ASUCD President was given three nominations, while the Campus Center for the Environment (CCE) and the Office of Sustainability (OS) each provided one nominee. For a faculty representative, the Academic Senate was contacted, then ASUCD President, then the Provost's office. Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education Carolyn Thomas agreed to serve for the initial year. From OS, Assistant Vice Chancellor Bob Segar volunteered to serve for the formative period.

Meetings have been attended also by Camille Kirk, Director of OS, Allen Doyle, Sustainability Manager in OS, Laurie Carney, BIA Budget Analyst and ex-officio member of COSAF, Kristen Fernandez, BIA Budget Analyst, and Janice Corbett, Business Manager for ASUCD and ex-officio member of COSAF.

PRESENT MEMBERS (and graduating years, if appropriate):

Summer Jean Cortez	2018	sjcortez@ucdavis.edu
Abigail Marie Lourenco	2017	amlourenco@ucdavis.edu
Chase McFadden	2018	mcmcfadden@ucdavis.edu
Arianna Elizabeth Stokes	2018	aestokes@ucdavis.edu
Brent Drew Rosenwald	2017	bdrosenwald@ucdavis.edu
Bob Segar		AVC, Campus Planning and Environmental Stewardship
Carolyn Thomas		Dean, Undergraduate Education

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The inaugural committee has had three meetings in 2017, during which committee scope, by-laws drafting, and proposal criteria were discussed. The vision of TGIF grants has been broadly inclusive of student leadership and learning goals, high priority projects for the university community such as climate neutrality or zero waste, and originating from all sectors of the community while benefitting undergraduate students. An additional component was included for undergraduate research projects that impact sustainability on campus or nearby.

Draft by-laws prepared by students during the campaign are still under review by the committee, and formal action to finalize the by-laws is expected at the next meeting or two.

The committee is beginning nomination process for 2018 so that student members may receive orientation this spring. Only Chase McFadden will be on campus next fall so he is the only continuing undergraduate seeking a second term.

TGIF FEE INCOME (AS OF 3/14/17)

	\$188,378	TGIF program
	\$62,792	RTA (Financial Aid)
<hr/>	\$251,171	Total

Fund Allocation: No funds have been allocated in 2017, as the committee was only recently seated. It is anticipated that a call for proposals will go out in fall of 2017 and awards will be complete by spring, 2018. With the first and second years of accrued fees, the pool of funds for the initial year will be about double this for 2017-18 grant cycle. Expenses for staffing as decided by the committee will be deducted.

Proposals will be weighed by the committee using the criteria developed this spring with focuses on undergraduate student benefits, campus benefits to existing work as well as new innovations, student research, feasibility and other practical considerations.

A program manager is described to be a half-time employee in the draft by-laws. The manager would inform proposal writers about ways to best strengthen their ideas and seek partners and endorsements from necessary stakeholders, and convene meetings while being an ex officio member. Recipients typically have one year to complete their work, and are tracked and guided by the program manager.