

BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name: Husky Sustainability Fund

Create Date: 10/31/2023

Due Date: 11/10/2023

Submitter Name: Genevieve Conley

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Department Head Approval:

Department Head: Conor Leary

Requested Amount: **\$37,266**

Departmental Information

SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS - CRITERIA

Due to the 30% budget cut from the original SAFC request for the Husky Sustainability Fund in June 2023, we are requesting funding to allow us to get back to our original operating budget and funding to expand our programs. The current budget only covers reduced student hours and a small sum for the fund. The current amount for grants limits possible approved projects to smaller impact initiatives and events. In the winter and spring quarters of academic year 22-23, our team received \$71,616.61 worth of project funding requests. Not all projects could receive funding, but our team did approve \$37,906 just last year. We anticipate the same number or more requests during this academic year. Our team would like to provide more opportunities for students including programming, projects, and the Sustainability Leadership Certificate. Increasing the fund would allow for greater student involvement, outreach, and impact.

In addition, we are requesting additional funds to cover the expected increase in the minimum wage to \$16.28 in January 2024 and cover additional stipends for student workers.

STUDENT UTILIZATION

The Husky Sustainability Fund supports student-led or heavily student-focused projects and events on or around the UWT campus. Last year, we funded eight, 100% student-led projects, and the 14 other funded projects created 15 paid student opportunities.

The Husky Sustainability Fund invests money in student interests and wellbeing. The application process requires a group/individual to outline a detailed outreach plan that promotes inclusive, equitable, and diverse participation across the UWT campus population. Student involvement and participation are key requirements of successful HSF initiatives. In the first year, we had 508 students attend our funded and hosted activities on campus. We anticipate this number to increase in the upcoming year with stronger marketing and an increase in sustainability activities on campus. Already this quarter, we have hosted two sustainability-related events, presented in 12 academic classes and two RSO meetings, and we continue to work each day to reach out to students and form collaborative relationships.

To expand our programming, we plan to highlight the sustainability work being done by many of our current professors on campus, and bring community leaders on campus to do guest presentations. In spring 2024, our Earth month will hopefully expand on campus to include more programming, community collaborations, and bring a greater awareness of sustainability to campus. (See graphics document for more information)

SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS - STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES

Students are the primary audience for Husky Sustainability Fund promotion and use. The HSF was created with the intention that projects are implemented by and for UWT students. To ensure this vision, all funds allocated through HSF must directly involve students and have a noticeable impact on the wider UWT student body. Using special allocation funding during the 22-23 academic year, HSF provided funding for 22 different projects, drastically increasing our visibility and overall project impact on campus during the spring quarter. The HSF now employs three student leaders who table at all on-campus outreach events, present about HSF in a wide range of academic classes, and create consistent marketing materials to ensure that funds are used by and benefit all students. This fall, we have already approved one mini grant that focuses on current student needs through an interactive photo exhibition.

In addition to HSF proposals, we are actively planning programming in both winter and spring quarter. We are hoping to bring unique seminars, hands-on activities, and educational opportunities that will expand knowledge of sustainability at UWT.

SERVICE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Sustainability is a growing topic of interest in college programming and academics. Not only does having greater sustainability programming increase student service-learning opportunities, but it also can increase student well-being by funding initiatives that promote an inclusive, healthy, and solution-focused campus environment. The Husky Sustainability Fund is one of the few programs on campus intended to put student fees back into student's hands. Our team works directly with student groups and individual students to generate projects that address student needs. The HSF's mission is to create a welcoming and safe environment for any student, no matter their course of study or prior sustainability knowledge, to feel that they can leave a positive impact on campus.

The HSF team utilizes many marketing and outreach strategies that include class presentations, social media posts, flyers, tabling, and open office hours. Our team aims to provide weekly availability to answer student questions, support projects, and guide individuals through what may be their first time applying for grant funding. Last year, the HSF held over 40 support meetings to assist with writing and project execution. We have streamlined our processes and created more brainstorming and writing guides, and we work very closely with all our applicants to ensure success. The HSF provides a unique opportunity for students to gain skills in professional project management, grant writing, budgeting, and project implementation. The program provides a space for students to enact direct change and drive initiatives that will leave lasting impacts on campus.

In addition, new this year is the Sustainability Leadership Certificate (SLC) that will officially launch in winter 2024. This certificate program is non-academic, requires no extra fees, and expands sustainability opportunities for any student studying at UW Tacoma. The program focuses on environmental justice, sustainability leadership skills, and hands-on project work. We will host our first seminar in November 2023, and we have four seminars planned for upcoming quarters covering topics like community resilience, equity in public spaces, food justice, and environmental policies. The SLC was built in collaboration with student ambassadors and will continue to provide two paid stipend opportunities for UWT students.

Overall, the interest and interaction with sustainability topics continue to grow on our campus. With this special allocation, we will be able to continue our base programs and services, all while also offering a more active Earth Month, providing unique co-curricular learning opportunities, and expanding the reach of sustainability on campus.

Staff Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Student Staff ³	Additional wage amount increase that will cover the increase of \$16.28 occurring in January for my three student workers. E001	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$632
	Fringe @ 21.2%:	\$134
PERSONNEL TOTAL:		\$766

Other Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Contracted Services	Sustainability Leadership Certificate Programming to pay guest speakers S001	\$1,000
Other Services	Stipend amount for Student Sustainability Ambassadors to continue their work on the SLC through the winter and spring quarters. They work 7 hours a week currently broken between two students. S002	\$2,500
Non-Food Supplies & Materials	Programming and supplies for HSF and SLC S003	\$1,000
	Earth month programming and supplies S004	\$1,000
Aid, Grants & Subsidies Given	Husky Sustainability Fund money for disbursement for proposed projects through the Husky Sustainability Fund Committee. S005	\$31,000
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:		\$36,500

PERSONNEL TOTAL:	\$766
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:	\$36,500
COMPLETE PROPOSAL TOTAL:	\$37,266

Supplemental Documents



HUSKY SUSTAINABILITY FUND DATA- FALL 2023

This document outlines our past projects, marketing efforts, and upcoming programming.