



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**Funding Award and Acceptance Letter**

May 4, 2016

Project Leaders: Kevin McSweeney  
Project: Native Plantings at the Arboretum

Dear Dr. McSweeney:

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 Native Plantings at the Arboretum project **receives an additional \$10,000 in grant funding, to supplement the existing \$40,000 grant from Fall 2015.**

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

1. A final report of all work completed should be provided to the SSC Program Advisor by January 31, 2018.
2. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester until the project is completed.
3. The CFOP provided for this award shall strictly be used for the money awarded in this proposal.
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. Any press releases or educational/promotional materials involving the project should acknowledge SSC funding.
8. 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. Projects must coordinate with SSC to ensure promotion appropriately highlights the SSC's contributions to the project.
9. Projects must participate in the Campus Sustainability Symposium at least once before June 30, 2018.

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, Paul Couston, at [pcousto2@illinois.edu](mailto:pcousto2@illinois.edu) or the SSC Coordinator, Micah Kenfield, at [kenfield@illinois.edu](mailto:kenfield@illinois.edu). You will be notified when the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs 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.



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**SSC Signatories**

*Paul Couston*

Paul Couston, Chair  
Student Sustainability Committee

*Marcous Phillippe*

Marcous Phillips, Treasurer  
Student Sustainability Committee

**Awardee Signatory**

*Kevin McSweeney*

Kevin McSweeney  
Arboretum

**iSEE Signatory**

*Dr. Evan DeLucia*

Dr. Evan DeLucia, Director  
Institute for Sustainability, Energy & Environment

**Student Affairs Signatory**

*Renee Romano*

Dr. Renee Romano  
Division of Student Affairs

**Project Information**



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**Project:** Native Plantings at the Arboretum

**Funding Source:** Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

**Funding Amount:** \$10,000

**Receiving Campus Unit:** NRES

**Unit Financial Contact:** Kelly Sullan

**E-mail :** [sullan@illinois.edu](mailto:sullan@illinois.edu)

**Primary Contact:** Kevin McSweeney

**E-mail:** [mcsween@illinois.edu](mailto:mcsween@illinois.edu)

**Secondary Contact:** John Marlin

**E-mail:** [marlin@illinois.edu](mailto:marlin@illinois.edu)

**Project Description:**

The former forest research area south of the main Arboretum grounds (near Lincoln Avenue and Windsor Road) has been neglected for over 20 years and has largely been overtaken by invasive plantings that have forced out the native flowering forbs and bushes that normally occur in healthy woodlands – leaving instead honeysuckle, which is unpalatable to almost all native insects and mammals.

This project clears out the invasive species and begins the replanting efforts to restore native species to the area. Not only does this improve biodiversity around campus, but it also serves as an important educational opportunity for current students to witness the restoration process firsthand.

The original proposal directly funded:

1. Rental of equipment required to clear the majority of the invasive species
2. Other supplies (such as herbicide) required to prevent invasive regrowth
3. Student wages for the staff undertaking the clearing process
4. A small number of plants to begin the replanting process.

This additional \$10,000 will fully fund the remaining native plants needed to fully reseed the space.