 SSC Biweekly Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2018 2-3pm
NSRC 358

Student Attendees: Emmanuel Fadahunsi, Zishen Ye, Joe Edwards, Julia Marsaglia, Adrian Chendra, Prahallad Badami, Justin Vozzo, Sarah Gediman

Advisor Attendees: Morgan White, BK Sharma, Andrew Stumpf, Cathy Liebowitz

- 2pm: Red Bison Micro Grant
  - Asking for funding for landscape equipment.
  - If they didn’t get SSC funding, they would do fundraisers, such as bake sales.
  - Motion to approve: (9) approved, (2) abstained, (0) rejected. Micro grant approved to purchase equipment for Red Bison.

- 2:11pm: Update from Sarah about marketing efforts
  - Act Green is organizing a green business panel event next semester. They might be interested in collaborating once they have a clearer vision of what they want the event to be like.
  - SSLC is planning to begin the guest lecture series that we gave them a microgrant for next semester. They want to begin by asking faculty and other people on campus to speak, and are looking for suggestions for potential speakers.
  - SSLC is thinking about working with the International Student and Scholar Services to try to get international students more involved in environmentally oriented organizations through cross-RSO social events.
  - SSLC is working on a social event in December.
  - Roger with SORF would be interested in collaborating on outreach efforts.
  - How can SSC encourage non-sustainability RSOs to care about sustainability?
    i. Athletics: Focus on the marching band first.
    ii. Fraternity & Sorority Life: Housing is owned privately so SSC cannot give infrastructure funding. Fraternity & Sorority Life could focus on programs and awareness.
    iii. Graduate students living on campus: Talk to GEO about what SSC can do for graduate students.

- 2:27pm: SSC’s thoughts on distributing loans (instead of grants) to less visible projects (ex. LED upgrades)
  - Some projects have really high number reductions (ex. energy conservation or carbon emissions), but have minimal visibility and student awareness.
  - Applicants should think creatively to increase visibility about more hidden projects.
  - SSC could put a line in the bylaws that requires applicants over $X to include some areas of outreach.
  - SSC was founded to inspire change towards sustainability. Visibility is part of this puzzle.
• If SSC could get more proposals that have both visibility and impact, then other applicants would be forced to focus on awareness to stay competitive.
• Is it SSC’s responsibility to help building upgrades so units can use the funding for other priorities?
  i. If SSC offers loans, the committee would support the unit’s goals, but still leave the financial responsibility on individual units.
• SSC has struggled to get applicants to repay loans in the past.
• SSC would want a MOU to make sure applicants could actually pay the loans back.
• Sending more proposals to RLF after Step 1 could alleviate this overall issue.
• 2:50pm: Discussion about Yale’s Carbon Tax
  • UIUC is thinking about implementing a carbon tax based off unit’s emissions over the last few years.
  • The university would charge units for the energy they consume.
  • Currently, the university is starting a shadow bill (showing the colleges what would happen if the program had already started).
  • This initiative makes unit’s aware about carbon emissions.
  • Students led the charge at Yale, and U of I students could do something similar.
  • SSC could fund a pilot program and some of the initial first steps.
• 3:03pm: End meeting.