

Standard 5 – Service Learning Project - 2013

Urban Garden – Outdoor Learning Space Initiative:

In spring 2013, two IUPUI sustainable oriented student organizations, the Student Sustainability Council (SSC) and Developing IUPUI Gardens Sustainably (DIGS), collaborated and developed a concept and proposal for creating an outdoor learning space through the expansion of one of our campus urban gardens. This will be a space the IUPUI community can hold outdoor classes and meetings, and utilize the gardens for educational opportunities. They submitted a \$10,000 general fee grant proposal:

2012-2013 General Fee Funding Review/Request

Unit Name: SSC/DIGS

Contact Information

Unit Name: Student Sustainability Council

Unit Website: www.iupui-digs.tumblr.com

Unit Representative (s)

Student (s): Rachel Bennett, Steve Godanis, Travis Tornquist, Dile Wilson, Anna Clinch, Evangeline Rae Hodgson

Staff/Faculty: Dean Jane Luzar and Colleen McCormick

Primary Programs and Services of Your Unit: (Please limit to one page)

The Student Sustainability Council (SSC) serves to support the sustainability efforts on campus. Developing IUPUI Gardens Sustainably (DIGS) serves as the administrative body that offers a cohesive vision for the University's Urban Agricultural and Sustainability related issues. While our primary objective is to provide healthy, organic, and sustainable food to meet the needs of the student body, DIGS also serves as a public forum, seeking to explore and educate the public on Urban Agriculture (UA). We change attitudes about Urban Agriculture.

Through research, service learning, scholarships, outreach, education, and public dialogue, DIGS works hard to involve a diverse and ever-changing body on the benefits and services of:

- Crop production, including numerous experiments in production
- Permaculture
- Food Security & Nutrition
- Public Health
- Reuse of Wastes and Wastewater
- Policy/Action Planning
- How-to Guides
- Training and Learning Environment
- Agricultural Research
- Sustainability Options
- Organic options, including chemical-free environments
- Public forum for dialogue with communities, both on campus and in Indianapolis
- Creative Growing Methods
- Resource for Urban Agriculture enthusiasts

In addition to these benefits, DIGS donated over 200 pounds of fresh, organic produce to Global Peace Initiatives (GPI), which benefited local food banks in the community in 2011.

Funding Purpose: *In the section below, briefly describe what the General Fee funds will accomplish in 2012-2013:*

We have tripled our growing capacity and will now serve Chartwells to bring our sustainably grown food to the IUPUI student body, staff, and faculty. This strong collaboration with Chartwells will attract a much larger volunteer base through marketing of the food in the cafes across campus. We will not be able to handle an influx of volunteers without tools, tool storage, and an outdoor classroom.

The General fee will help by:

- Supporting the University's growing impact on environmental related issues by:
 - Demonstrating how unused property can be converted to an outdoor classroom that creates opportunities for hands-on learning experiences
 - Providing healthy food in the cafes across campus
 - Grow food on an otherwise unused green space
 - Demonstrating various sustainable methods of agriculture such as composting and rain collection.
- Initiating a program to develop an Urban Agriculture Outdoor Classroom will:
 - Serve as an educational resource for IUPUI and the community
 - Provide opportunity for students to experience outdoor environmental education
 - Provide a site for Lectures, Demonstrations, Workshops, Seminars, and Projects related to Sustainability and UA related themes
 - Foster a sense of community and offer an "Environmental Landmark"
 - Incorporate hands-on learning
 - Provide a setting for research on new UA techniques
 - Provide storage for tools and supplies necessary for the UF
 - Serve as a constant resource for volunteer and outreach services
 - Unify environmental organizations
 - Serve as a safe, organized, productive center to discuss the economic, social, energy and scale of UA.
 - Stabilize, Identify, Unify

Describe your evaluation plan: *(How will you know if you are successful in utilizing the funds appropriately?):*

- We keep a volunteer log and will continue to document how many volunteers help throughout the years. The program will be successful if we continue to bring new groups to the garden to engage and get excited about UA
- We anticipate increased activity and this will serve to evaluate our success.
- We weigh all of our harvests and strive to grow more than 500 pounds this year.
- We strive to unite sustainably minded individuals and groups to further urban agriculture and all environmentally friendly activities.

Budget:

Please summarize your estimated budget including all revenue sources (e.g., ticket sales, in-kind donations, rentals, etc. not just the General Fee (please add additional rows if necessary). Provide a brief description for each line in the Narrative section following the grid below. The revenue and expense totals must be the same amount.

NOTE: Please complete only the fields that apply. There may be rows that remain empty, especially in the case of student organizations.

Revenue Description	Amount 2011-2012 (Total)	Amount 2012-13 (Requested)
General Fee		9,968.29
General Funds		
Total		9,968.29

Narrative: (Please provide a brief explanation of expenditures from General Fees)

Supplies-A detailed budget is attached. With these funds we will build an outdoor classroom with benches that also serve as tool storage. This will allow many more volunteers to get involved with the IUPUI Urban Garden projects. Without tools on-site we are not able to support a large volume of volunteers for hands-on learning. We need to have a supply of tools because KIB no longer loans tools to outside entities. We now must rely on our own tool supply. We also do not have a place to gather to learn about sustainable agriculture and educate the volunteers prior to doing work. A couple of times I had to give a presentation to the volunteers indoors at a location very far from the gardens because I needed to use pictures to explain the day's work. We then had to travel to the garden which wasted time that could have been spent in the garden. This could have been accomplished with a quick drawing on the whiteboard. It's much easier to explain the garden work when you can use the garden to create an actual demonstration.


Marketing & Advertising-The informational signs in the budget will serve as teaching tools to help explain the various sustainable projects at the garden as well as specifics about the plants. One large sign would serve as a whiteboard and informational billboard with an encased corkboard to be able to post changing information. This allows volunteers and passersby to learn about the project, practices, and ways to get involved.

Equipment-We need a large supply of tools to accommodate the expansion of our garden and the growing interest of volunteer groups. We will be able to fully realize our mission to educate IUPUI and the community in urban agriculture. We strive to teach people how to grow their own food and spread the local food movement.

Please Provide a Brief Explanation of Any Plans You Have to Use General Fee Monies to Work Collaboratively with Other Units/Organizations in 2012 – 2013:

With a large amount of tools on hand at all times we will be able to invite many more organizations and groups to come to the outdoor classroom and resource center. We have worked with the SSC, Campus Tree Advisory Committee (CTAC), Honors College, Herron School of Art and Design, Sustainability House, Center for Young Children (CYC), Foodies Guild at IUPUI, Energy Club, and numerous other on-campus organizations. We have also had problems with organizing

large volunteer groups because we do not have enough tools. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) has loaned tools in the past for large projects but they have discontinued offering this service to non-KIB projects. The Marion County Health Department will loan tools but they only have a limited variety and they do not have wheelbarrows, which has proven to be an issue for our upcoming April 7th workday. Having tool storage, gathering area, and plenty of tools will enable us to collaborate and reach out to many more organizations.

Garden Budget				
		Total Costs		
			\$9,968.29	
Name	Description	Quantity	Cost Each	Total
Tools				
Hand Trowel	Johnny's	30	\$5.99	\$179.70
Broad Forks	Johnny's	4	\$199.00	\$796.00
Shears	Johnny's	20	\$24.95	\$499.00
Pitch Fork	Sullivan's	5	\$39.99	\$199.95
Spading Fork	Sullivan's	5	\$24.99	\$124.95
Garden Rake	Sullivan's	10	\$17.99	\$179.90
Compost Aerator	Johnny's	2	\$22.95	\$45.90
Bed Preparation Rake	Johnny's	3	\$79.00	\$237.00
Gloves	Johnny's	100	\$2.99	\$299.00
Stirrup Hoes 7"	Johnny's	15	\$49.00	\$735.00
11 gallon Tubtrugs	Johnny's	12	\$14.55	\$174.60
Weeder	Sullivan's	30	\$4.99	\$149.70
Wheel Barrows	Sullivan's	15	\$79.99	\$1,199.85
Seeder	Johnny's	3	\$390.00	\$1,170.00
Seed Roller Starter Kit	Johnny's	3	\$109.00	\$327.00
Total Tools				\$6,317.55
Support Structures				
A-frame trellis	Lowe's	2	\$22.87	\$45.74
Tool box benches	Lowe's	4	\$250.00	\$1,000.00
Rain Barrels	Circle City Rainbarrels	6	\$100.00	\$600.00
Cold frame supplies	Lowe's	2	\$50.00	\$100.00
Total Support Structures				\$1,745.74
Infographic Signs				
Large Sign	Educational White/Cork Board	1	\$180.00	\$180.00

Small Signs	Interchangeable information	4	\$100.00	\$400.00
Compost signs	Describe composting	1	\$25.00	\$25.00
Plant Signs	Plant descriptions	30	\$20.00	\$600.00
Project/Involvement sign	Describe project and concepts	1	\$100.00	\$100.00
Bed Dedications	Donor recognition plaques	30	\$20.00	\$600.00
Total Signage				\$1,905.00

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The students were successful with their grant proposal and received \$10,000 from the VC of Finance & Administration. On April 6, 2013 we held a Service Work Day at the New York Street Urban Garden. We had over 70+ student/staff/faculty volunteers that assisted in the construction and expansion of this space to our new Outdoor Learning Space. Various types of standard and raised beds were built, flip top benches were built, mulch and topsoil were laid and prepared the beds for the spring plantings.



As part of this year's effort, cardboard boxes, including pizza boxes that fed the hungry work crew, are broken down to help provide an eco -friendly foundation for the growing beds.



A student helps prepare IUPUI's urban farm site on the west end of the campus during a work day, readying the ground for a growing season with the city skyline looming in the background.



The students moved a lot of dirt, mulch and sustainability - related items during the work day, which helps IUPUI do its part on a month that highlights Earth Day.

A dedication of this new Outdoor Learning Space was held on April 22, 2013:

IUPUI Outdoor Learning Space Dedication

April 22, 2013 @ 1:00 p.m.





The IUPUI Office of Sustainability, Student Sustainability Council (SSC) and Developing IUPUI Gardens Sustainably (DIGS) are proud to showcase the Inauguration of the IUPUI Outdoor Learning Space

Join us

Monday, April 22, 2013

1:00-3:00 pm

The Urban Farm

@ Lansing/West NY Street

Order of Events:

Comments by:

IUPUI Office of Sustainability

SSC, Student Sustainability Council

DIGS, Developing IUPUI Gardens Sustainably

IUPUI Division of Student Life

Appearance by Jawez

Planting Dedications

Tour

Q&A



IUPUI Office of Sustainability
SSC IUPUI Student Sustainability Council
DIGS Developing IUPUI Gardens Sustainably

<http://sustainability.iupui.edu/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SustainIUPUI>
<https://www.facebook.com/iupuidigs>

WHERE IMPACT IS MADE



An Outdoor Learning Space was developed with the SSC in collaboration with DIGS, and was awarded \$10,000 for the development and enhancement of our New York Street Garden site. A Biology faculty member is currently developing an Urban Gardening Course that will be offered, Spring 2014 and will hopefully utilize this Learning Space.

Office of Sustainability urban garden initiative

The following is a variety of the items planted in the spring at our campus urban gardens:

At the raised bed garden by University Library:

Mixed types of lettuce, Cabbage, Mixed peppers, Cucumbers, Onions, Herbs- Basil, thyme, cilantro, mint, sage.

New York Street garden:

Raspberries, Beets, Beans, Bush beans, Yellow squash, Eggplant, Mixed peppers - Sweet to habanero, Mixed tomatoes, Okra, Onion, Strawberries, Herb bed- Basil, Thyme, Cilantro, Sage, Oregano, Rosemary, Parsley.

*We also have a **lemon tree, blackberry bush, kumquat bush** that is producing now, **blueberry bush, 2 apple trees** (Honeycrisp and Fuji), **2 pear trees** (Bartlett and Bose), a Northstar **cherry tree**, and a Toka **plum tree**.*

Tree Planting Service Learning Opportunities:

We also held two additional service learning opportunities for students to participate in campus Tree Planting events on Arbor Day 2013 and Campus Sustainability Day 2013.



Twenty Crabapple and Sugar Maple trees were planted on Arbor Day and an additional Twenty Five Sugar Maples were planted on Campus Sustainability Day:

[2013 Arbor Day IUPUI](#)