

Executive Summary

This report covers the progress of funded projects and Green Fee Committee activity between September 2011 and August 2012. The committee activity includes membership changes, process changes, and the funding decisions of May 2012.

The bulk of the report concerns the active projects in the past fiscal year. Twenty-five applications were received in March 2011; sixteen were funded and active during 2011-2012. During this year, totaling the original grants and amendments, \$393,549 was distributed of \$506,975 available, including staff and administrative costs to the Office of Sustainability. The sixteen projects named twenty-four primary grantees. There were eleven undergraduates, five graduates, two faculty, and six staff. The proposals fell into the following general categories: horticulture and sustainable landscapes (5), student education and engagement (4), waste diversion (3), alternative transportation (2), and renewable energy (2).

As of August 31st, \$313,926 was expended with some projects approved to accrue expenses into the new fiscal year. \$99,893 remains available for these 2011-2012 projects. In May 2012, the Green Fee Committee granted \$476,697 for the 2012-2013 projects, and is taking action on the \$123,434 surplus that remains.



GREEN FEE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

Introduction

The first year of UT-Austin’s Green Fee proved that students are a deep source of creative and transformative projects for the campus. The first year was a learning year, in which rapidly-created processes were refined and strengthened. This report includes the following sections:

- I. List of Projects and Grant Amounts
- II. 2011-2012 Project Results
- III. Financial Review
- IV. Committee Membership
- V. Committee Activity

The program coordinator maintained detailed tracking on each of the projects throughout the year, which will not be fully rewritten here. A summary was provided in the Mid-Year Report available online, and full detail on any of the projects is available upon request.



Vlad Codrea fills seed trays at the UT Tree Nursery.

I. List of Projects and Grant Amounts

This section provides an official record of the grantees, their host departments, and original funding level from least amount of dollars to greatest. See Section V for a review of the total funds available for Green Fee, the expected expenditures for each project, and plans for full utilization of the Green Fee funds, as these projects did not fully expend the total available.

Proposal Name	Grantee Status	Grantee Affiliation(s)	Original Funded Amount
Green Dining at LBJ	Graduate Students	LBJ School of Public Policy	\$500
Plastic & Aluminum Recycling Containers in the Perry-Castañeda Library	Staff	Perry-Castañeda Library Green Team	\$3,000

Improving the Quality of Waller Creek	Undergraduate Students	Environmental Science	\$4,630
Energy Field Trip	Staff	UTeach Outreach	\$7,140
Retrofit Drinking Fountains with Bottle Fillers	Staff and Undergraduate Student	Facilities Maintenance and the Campus Environmental Center	\$7,500
Increased Bicycle Parking	Undergraduate Students	Psychology and Environmental Science	\$12,500
Organic MicroFarm	Undergraduate Students	Environmental Science	\$15,000
An Outreach Forum for UT-Austin Green Fee Projects	Faculty and Staff	Environmental Science Institute	\$16,350
Energy Submetering	Undergraduate Students	Environmental Science and the Campus Environmental Center	\$22,730
Sustainable Landscape Makeover	Undergraduate Students	Environmental Science	\$30,799
Analysis of Processed Algae as an Organic Fertilizer for UT Landscaping	Staff	Center for Electromechanical Engineering	\$35,444
Campus Environmental Center Expansion of Programs	Undergraduate Students	Campus Environmental Center	\$36,000
UT Safe Cycling Campaign	Graduate Student	School of Architecture	\$49,788
UT Tree Nursery	Graduate Student	Molecular Biology, Campus Environmental Center	\$54,198
Solar Powered Campus	Undergraduate Students	Environmental Science	\$54,800
200 kW Solar Photovoltaic Install on the UT Main Campus	Faculty	Department of Mechanical Engineering	\$75,000

II. 2011-2012 Project Results

Physical Changes to Campus. Many of the projects featured permanent and semi-permanent physical changes to campus. These included an increased number of bicycle racks, an extensive new landscape for the east plaza of the Harry Ransom Center, twenty-eight new water bottle fillers in buildings across campus, new recycling bins in the Perry-Castaneda Library, “Double-Lock Your Bike” signage on several heavy-use bike racks near residence halls, a 200kw solar installation on Facilities Complex Building 3, a 30x90’ greenhouse for raising trees at the Wildflower Center, and a solar table for studying and ‘recharging’ on the PCL Plaza. The physical changes were arguably the most noted and enjoyed by current students; the enjoyment extended to media coverage (articles, videos) as well as simply being able to see and touch the various improvements. A few changes were less visible but equally permanent; for example, the Honors Quad and Littlefield installed energy-use monitoring meters to track lighting and appliances with plugs.



Environmental Science majors Tim Eischen and Hank Star pose in front of their Harry Ransom Center landscaping project.

Academic and Research Outcomes. Five of this year's Green Fee projects had planned academic outcomes: the UTeach Outreach tours program, the Safe Cycling Campaign, the Energy Submetering, Analysis of Processed Algae as an Organic Fertilizer on the UT Campus, and 200 kW Solar Photovoltaic Install on the UT Main Campus.

The UTeach Outreach tours successfully exposed 370 children from Austin Independent School District, their teachers, and 47 UT-Austin students to in-depth knowledge of the campus, verified by exit surveys conducted at the end of each of the six field trip days. The featured topics were: the power plant, solar energy, biofuels, the Turtle Pond and greenhouse, and the algae collection in the BIO building.

The Safe Cycling campaign produced more research than originally planned; graduate student Elizabeth Rosenbarger produced a full report titled "Campus on Two Wheels: Increasing bicycle mode share on the UT-Austin campus," presented to the graduate school as part of her degree in Community & Regional Planning. Graduate students Alan Bush and Carolyn Aler produced a report entitled "UT Mobility Space Project" which is an outline for the creation of a mobility space mapping program, in response to the need for better information about bicyclist and pedestrian movement around campus. Both of these items were shared with Parking & Transportation Services and Sasaki Associates, to benefit the master planning process as the authors and designers see fit. It is highly gratifying to the Green Fee committee and Office of Sustainability that a student-led Green Fee project would be reviewed at this level in the first year of the program.

The processed algae project is moving into its second year; the first year was very promising. Research showed that the algae improved soil health underneath the Bermuda grass, which should increase the longevity of the grass. The research shows no adverse effects on the grass, and therefore Landscaping and CEM will be working together to create recommendations for on-campus applications. Dr. Connolly will continue her research in 2012 by testing the use of wet algae (used algae in water) on a larger exterior plot of grass.

The Energy Submetering project forms the backbone of its grantee's senior research project and will be available for other students to study and promote in future initiatives.

The 200kw solar install is completed and its data is viewable [where]?

Student Engagement. All of the Green Fee projects engaged students on some level. Some highlights are as follows: the LBJ Green Dining program was led by students who ensured that the compostable waste from weekly luncheons made it to the proper bins for pickup. The Tree Nursery engaged over 100 volunteers throughout its first year through weekly workdays, rain or shine. The Campus Environmental Center hired more students into meaningful hourly jobs, which translated into more volunteer opportunities for the student body with the Orange Bike Project and the Concho Community Garden.

Waste & Energy Use Reduction. A handful of projects have made a difference for UT-Austin's waste and energy use on campus. The sub-metering project in the Andrews, Blanton, Carothers, and Littlefield residence halls, run by Facilities Maintenance, SmarteBuilding, and a student grantee team will indicate to the Division of Housing & Food Service whether they might expect significant savings from similar installations in every residence hall. Recycle bins in Perry-Castaneda Library brought much-needed standardization to the waste stations on each floor, and the bins have become a model for the rest of campus. The water bottle fillers installed by the Campus Environmental Center and Facilities Maintenance encourage the use of reusable bottles and free, cold municipal water rather than buying water in plastic bottles. Finally, the LBJ School composting project was a useful pilot program that identified a concentrated need for waste diversion and worked through the implementation kinks to a successful program. The total compost diversion was over 3,000 lbs for February, March, and April 2012.



Environmental Science undergraduate Michelle Camp prepares for the energy conservation contest in the Honors Quad.

Staff Engagement. Staff involvement is a critical element of any large-scale program, and the Green Fee sets a solid precedent for engaging staff in creative ways. The PCL recycling bin installation was led by staff for the benefit of all library patrons. The Safe Cycling Campaign reached out to Parking & Transportation and UT Police Department staff in a positive and collaborative way. The Harry Ransom Center landscaping project introduced the HRC Directors, Architecture faculty, and UT Landscaping staff to students with a passionate vision for improving campus. Facilities Maintenance plumbers installed the water bottle fillers at locations identified by students. While staff may not have a vote in whether the Green Fee exists, their technical expertise, ideas and support are critical for implementing these projects.

Other Highlights. The Green Fee-supported Hot Science, Cool Talks lecture in October 2012 was well-received, as were the several Green Fee project participants at the fair. The Green Fee projects received ample coverage in the Daily Texan and were also featured in the Alcalde alumni magazine. The Environmental Science Institute created four feature videos (see appendix for links) about the Concho Community Garden and Leona Microfarm, the water bottle fillers, the algae-as-fertilizer project, and the Green Dining project. The UTeach Outreach project created its own videos and photos, as did the photovoltaic installation project. See appendix for links to these resources.

Lessons Learned. There were several lessons learned. One is that projects tend to falter if they do not have a home department, staff, or faculty supporting them prior to proposal or very quickly once the project is funded. The solar table project, which successfully brought a sample solar table to campus, had great difficulty finding a professor and/or department to create and offer a practicum course on designing and building a similar table of UT's own. The Waller Creek restoration and invasive species removal project originally seemed manageable in scope, but the execution relied on the coordination of several busy students' schedules. Once the work proved to be time-consuming and somewhat hazardous (due to extensive spread of poison ivy), the workdays largely failed to occur and nearly none of the funds were spent. A home department, faculty or staff advisor with established ownership in the project, or some other incentive might have sustained the project more successfully.

This manifests the second theme, which is that students are generally inexperienced at proposing and receiving grant support and may not fully understand the commitment they are getting into. There were notable exceptions, particularly the coordinators for the Tree Nursery and the Safe Cycling Campaign, but those individuals received compensation for most of their time even as they went over and above the 'call of duty' in support of their grants. The student volunteers that participated with enthusiasm in UTeach Outreach, the community garden, and the Nursery had distinct, manageable tasks and perceived immediate personal benefit to their participation. By contrast, the weakest projects (Waller Creek and the solar tables) required a long-term commitment and a healthy dose of determination, and there were significant natural and organizational factors working against them. The Committee plans to counteract this trend by advertising the grant workshops more broadly and coaching applicants to submit stronger applications in subsequent grant cycles.

The third and final theme is that ideas can take a lot longer to implement on this large campus than one might expect, and can unexpectedly deviate from their timelines. In the case of the HRC landscape renovation, a landscape architect was brought in at extra cost to assist on the design phase. The Tree Nursery changed its proposed location from Pickle Research Campus to the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, delaying its launch by about six weeks but improving its chances for long-term survival and growth. The sub-metering project took an entire year to reach full installation and functionality, and the disappointment suffered by the solar table team in failing to find departmental support for a practicum class despite several inquiries has already been mentioned. This aspect of the Green Fee program is unlikely to change, so the program managers and the Committee must continue to assist applicants in weathering lengthy administrative and bureaucratic processes.



Campus passersby provide feedback on risky intersections and bikeways during a Safe Cycling Campaign community feedback session on Speedway.

III. Financial Review

Financial Tracking and Best Practices

Until September of 2011, the program director (Jim Walker) was the only staff member assigned to the Green Fee administration and was therefore forced to focus on the most critical pieces of the financial picture: working with UT-Austin's main Accounting department to establish when and how transfers would occur, setting up a standard naming convention for the accounts receiving Green Fee funds, and establishing a general picture of where funds were going once the grant allocations had been decided. The new program coordinator (Karen Blaney) refined tracking procedures over the fall semester. These are the current financial best practices for the Green Fee projects:

- Each Green Fee project must create its own 19 fixed-rate tuition account for tracking purposes. Projects may not share accounts.
- The Office of Sustainability will create accounts for projects supported anywhere within Campus Planning and Facilities Management, and any projects that do not have their own home department.
- Each account's balance will be checked monthly by the program coordinator. Business Services assists by accessing non-CPFM accounts' balances, and keeping an up-to-date list of transfers in and out of Green Fee accounts.
- Multi-year grants are difficult to track and are best handled by a transfer of the multi-year total (funds permitting) to the designated account rather than attempting to encumber funds for future years out of future income.
- The Green Fee main account, 19 8640 53, is best managed by having all unbudgeted income in its 95 sub-account and only allowing beginning of year balances in the other sub-accounts as follows:
 - Program Coordinator wages in the -09
 - Program operation funds in the -50 (\$8,200 in 2011-2012)
 - \$20,000 contingency in the -90 (new for 2012-2013; contingencies in 2011-2012 were handled by the surplus funds resulting from insufficient grant requests).

- The main Green Fee fund does not support student wages or travel for the funded projects. These are supported in the project accounts.
- The main Green Fee account and other CPFM Green Fee accounts **do** support food purchases.
- The main Green Fee account is the primary supporting account for Procurement Card expenditures from the various projects; the subs should be pooled so that large expenditures do not “bounce” from the -50. ProCard expenditures should be promptly corrected to the proper Green Fee accounts to prevent a large debit from accumulating in the main account.

The most pressing question after establishing account-creation standard operating procedures was how to effectively track expenditures for each project. Most of the anticipated expenditure-tracking problems were resolved by splitting each project into its own account, and, in some cases, splitting off pieces of projects to other departments. Examples of these situations are described in the Special Cases section below. The other major problem defined and resolved in the spring of 2012 was the inability of CPFM units (such as Facilities Maintenance and Landscaping) to charge internal staff labor to the Office of Sustainability’s Green Fee accounts (19 8640) due to restrictions on the unit code under which they were created. Business Services moved all Green Fee accounts, including the main account, to a new unit code in August 2012, and labor was retroactively billed where required.

Financial Status of Projects & Fund Rollover

This section discusses the financial standing of the various projects and the overall Green Fee.

The total amount available to the Committee each year is \$506,975.00. The Committee allocated \$439,909.00 in May of 2011 to sixteen projects and the Office of Sustainability, to support program expenses and ½ of the program coordinator’s salary. Through the course of the year, three projects received additional funds: the LBJ Green Dining project, the UTeach Outreach project and the Harry Ransom Center landscape renovation. Others did not use the total amounts allocated to them.

Projects that used their entire grant as proposed were:

Plastic & Aluminum Recycling Containers in the Perry-Castañeda Library (Recycling in PCL)

Increased Bicycle Parking

Energy Submetering

Analysis of Processed Algae as an Organic Fertilizer for UT Landscaping (Algae as Fertilizer)

200 kW Solar Photovoltaic Install on the UT Main Campus

UT Tree Nursery (*n.b. in July, the grantee proposed using a small excess of wage funds to purchase materials and supplies; this was approved by the Committee.*)

Projects that proposed amendments were:

Green Dining at LBJ. The applicants had to recalculate the total cost of supplies for the year and a contract with a local compost vendor. The Committee awarded them \$1,000 additional after reviewing their amendment.

Energy Field Trip (UTeach Outreach Field Trips). The project proposed additional funds for video editing software and outreach. The Committee approved an additional \$1,460 to support an intern and publicity materials, and charged the Office of Sustainability with purchasing a software license for software to be used by UTeach Outreach and ESI, for the Outreach Forum/Videos project below. (See note on software and electronic purchases above in the list of best practices for the Committee funding meetings.)

Organic MicroFarm (Leona MicroFarm). This project experienced delays as the students involved agreed to change the primary grantee changed from Elizabeth Prokop to Daniella Lewis, and reconfigured the goals for the year. The final granted amount was set at \$15,000, with a priority on preparing the chosen site for planting, and creating a phased development plan similar to the one created for the Concho Community Garden.

An Outreach Forum for UT-Austin Green Fee Projects. In February, ESI sent in a budget revision that directed more funds to the video production and removed the honorarium and travel for the Hot Science, Cool Talks speaker. The overall grant was reduced by \$4,675.00.

Sustainable Landscape Makeover (HRC Landscape Renovation). In response to concerns from the School of Architecture, the project contracted with landscape architects Larson, Burns & Smith to review the plans for renovation. This activity added \$5,000.00 to the grant; final costs of this project are still being assessed, but the total cost is not expected to exceed the grant amount.

UT Safe Cycling Campaign. This project underwent the most changes and amendments. The first two changes involved the recipients of funds originally designated for a third-party contractor and for UTPD, supporting a selective traffic enforcement program. The research on campus modes of transportation was ultimately done by a Community & Regional Planning graduate student instead of the external third party.

The traffic enforcement funds were redirected to another research project, the Mobility Space report and to art installations representing bicycle issues. The art installation funds were given to the Department of Art & Art History, and the installations were designed by graduate and undergraduate students. The third and final installation, a dance production emphasizing the importance of using bike lights after the seasonal light change, will take place in November.

The Committee has reviewed all changes as they have been proposed and are confident that the intent and spirit of the grant is being faithfully carried out. The overall reduction to the grant is approximately \$6,000.00. The grant activity will continue through December 2012 and final expenses will be assessed at that time.

Projects that did not use all allocated funds were:

Campus Environmental Center Expansion of Programs. The only funds not used in this grant were in support of the graduate program assistant. The original grant was \$36,000 with \$17,000 allocated to the graduate assistant's wages. \$11,800 was ultimately used for the graduate assistant through the end of the summer. The excess funds will be released back to the main Green Fee.

Improving the Quality of Waller Creek. During Fall of 2011, this project seemed to be highly achievable. The student team secured support from Dr. Norma Fowler’s graduate students and worked with them to tag invasive plants on a section of Waller Creek. Obstacles arose after that work was completed: in addition to the students’ busy schedules, the actual invasive plants were not completely eradicable (some were too large, and removing too many would destabilize the banks), and the pervasive poison ivy throughout the creek bed is difficult to avoid.

At mid-semester, the pace slowed down considerably and the students had to be prompted a few times to create a plan for proceeding. A workday took place on March 4th, and one section by Clark Field was cleared of small-to-medium invasive plants. At a subsequent meeting in April with the program coordinator and student team, they promised to try to do two more workdays in the summer and then return the remainder of the grant to the Green Fee.

The original grant was \$4,630. Because of the reduction in scope and ability to borrow supplies from Facilities Services, only a \$9 charge for poison ivy protection cream was applied to the grant. (The bulk of funds were proposed to purchase replacement plants, which was not feasible relative to where the activity ended for the grant.)

Retrofit Drinking Fountains with Bottle Fillers. This project proposal overestimated the amount needed to pay labor for the installation of the twenty-eight bottle filler kits. The partners, Campus Environmental Center and Facilities Maintenance, have joined with UT Staff Council to propose that a second year be added to the timeline, so that more kits may be purchased and the labor funds spent out.

Solar Powered Campus. Procurement procedures slowed the installation of the solar table for most of the school year, but it was successfully constructed on the Perry-Castaneda Library plaza in March and has remained there through the summer. The student team and their alumnae-owned vendor, Sol Design Lab, periodically attempted to contact professors like Dr. Mack Grady, Kate Catterall and Dan Olsen to support a practical course in solar design, but had no success. As this grant originally had a two-year timeframe, the project will work through the Fall semester to resolve the course creation challenge. Thus far, the \$11,050 allocated for the solar table purchase/rental has been spent, but the \$43,750 allowed for the course is untouched.



Between the unallocated funds and the amounts reclaimed from the grants, the Green Fee has a surplus of approximately \$100,000 from the first year. The current Committee is reviewing options for using the surplus; this appears to present an opportunity to use the funds innovatively rather than expecting that the surplus will be accounted for in the next round of spring proposals.

IV. Committee Membership

The Committee's non-student members are permanent appointments, subject to change only when the appointees can no longer serve, or at the discretion of their appointing bodies. There was no change in the non-student membership during the year. These members are:

Jim Walker, Director of Sustainability, Campus Planning & Facilities Management

The Vice President for University Operations appoints an operational/facilities representative to the Committee. The Office of Sustainability also has administrative responsibility for the active projects once funds are granted.

Dr. Jay Banner, Professor, Jackson School of Geosciences and Director, Environmental Science Institute

The faculty representative is appointed by the Provost.

Donna Bellinghausen, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs

The Vice President for Student Affairs appoints a representative to the Committee in recognition of its responsibility for student fee money.

The student members were as follows.

Josh Russell, graduate, Cell & Molecular Biology – Graduate Student Assembly Representative

Josh served as Chair from September 2011 through January 2012.

Michelle Camp, undergraduate, Environmental Science – Campus Environmental Center Representative

Michelle served as Vice Chair from September 2011 through January 2012, and succeeded Josh as Chair from January 2012 through May 2012.

John Lawler, undergraduate, Urban Studies – Student Government Representative

Kiara Hermann, undergraduate, Environmental Science – At Large Representative

Arielle Ennis, undergraduate, Psychology – At Large Representative

Philip Wiseman, undergraduate, Government – Student Government Representative

Sam Marie Hermitte, graduate, Public Policy – Graduate Student Assembly Representative (succeeded Josh)

Corinne Wong, graduate, Geological Sciences – At Large Representative (succeeded Arielle)

Collin Poirot, undergraduate, Communication Studies – Student Government Representative (succeeded John)

Michelle Camp, Kiara Hermann, Philip Wiseman, Corinne Wong, Sam Hermitte, and Collin Poirot scored and evaluated the 2012-2013 applications, along with the three non-student members.

V. Committee Activity

This section will briefly discuss points of process raised during the Committee meetings throughout the year. Major decisions related to the projects will be reviewed in the following section.

One of the notable additions to the project review process is the Project Amendment form, created in early November 2011. This provides grantees with an easy way to update the Committee on proposed changes to their timeline or budget. Amendments are approved by a simple majority, provided that quorum is present. The Amendment form and accompanying budget form will be modified for 2012-2013.

The Committee conceived of and approved a logo design competition in the October 18th meeting; a graduate student in Architecture (Jeanie Fan) won the competition and her logo has been adopted for the duration of this Green Fee referendum, through Fall 2016. Should a future Committee wish to revise or re-select a logo, this Committee endorses the student competition model. Ms. Fan was awarded a \$200 for use in the Campus Computer Store as well as campus-wide recognition.

A new timeline for reviewing and granting awards was finalized and approved by the Committee in the December meeting. The official application is now available two weeks before the first class day in January through the first weekend of Spring Break. During Spring Break, the program coordinator collates the applications and creates a review book (virtual and physical) for the Committee members. The committee meets frequently through the end of March and April. This year, the projects were scored, ranked and an initial funding offer was recorded by April 25th. The minutes from the March and April meetings may be reviewed for detail on the scoring decisions; best practices are listed below.

The Committee also agreed that grantees in 2012 and onward should be formally asked to consent to media and promotional coverage as a condition of their Green Fee grant, to eliminate the need for a facilitated permissions effort such as the one ESI conducted for its outreach project.



Students work at the campus community gardens.

Anonymity of grant applicants during the review phase was also heavily discussed during the year. The Spring 2012 Committee suggested that the potential grantees NOT be anonymous, as their affiliations were potentially helpful in evaluating project feasibility, as well as making practical suggestions for combining complementary projects. The Committee also wishes to avoid inadvertently favoring one department or unit over others. Finally, the Committee wants to see funds distributed among students, staff, and faculty, while favoring student-led projects of high merit.

Below is a list of suggestions and lessons learned from the March and April funding meetings.

- The application should be re-designed with the knowledge that a review book will be created from the applications: instruction sheet easily eliminated, Excel budget sheet easily added, and consider accepting only MS Word or PDF file formats.

- Names and departmental affiliations should be included with the applications in order to better judge feasibility, and to prevent over-funding of any one department or division (or PI). The Committee conducted anonymous reviews in 2010 and 2011.
- The 2013 applications will require a “results of prior” for returning grantees.
- Care should be taken to include letters of support from other entities in the review book, and check that the full description and main application is included for each project.
- Continue to refine scoring criteria and the weight of each.
- Leverage funding in a way that allows the University to meet goals it otherwise could not meet.
- Spread the fee as widely as possible to as many grants that merit Green Fee support. Most grants in May 2012 were reduced from their proposed amount in service of this objective.
- Projects were reviewed beginning from the top scorers to lowest scorers.
- Focus was placed on “jump-starting” concepts and adding strength to partnerships.
- Projects that are permanently limited in physical access (such as inside a residence hall) should not be funded in full by the Green Fee, if at all.
- Purchases that are to be exclusively owned by a department such that students and staff are limited or prohibited from access are strongly discouraged. Examples include major computer/electronic purchases, software, and furniture.
- The campus stringently limits tribute and memorial signage, and therefore furniture purchases are further discouraged because there is no approved way to mark them as a result of a Green Fee project, much less the work of an individual organization or unit.
- The Committee will consider making workshop attendance mandatory. This would also help with letting grantees know what is currently happening in campus sustainability. Lack of familiarity with UT-Austin’s campus sustainability progress, key contacts, and pending decisions was a disadvantage to some applicants.
- A new level of response was added: declined, resubmit with changes. This is aimed at getting grantees to structure and strengthen their projects and resubmit for the next funding cycle.
- Revolving loan funds were discussed and are of great interest to the Committee. The funding structures at UT make this challenging, however. The Green Fee Committee will work simultaneously on piloting a revolving loan structure within the Fee, and advocating for a separate revolving loan for specific types of projects.

Conclusion

The Green Fee program had a relatively short introduction time and few precedents on campus. The Committee was fortunate to be able to follow in the footsteps of the Student Services Budget Committee in structure and general procedure, but with a completely new set of priorities. The projects proposed for 2011 were as diverse and creative as could be hoped for a new concept, and no funded project entirely failed to launch. The ones that faltered are balanced out by those that will have multiple years – perhaps decades – of impact on the campus environment and the students touched by the projects.

Appendix A: Press & Media

Green Dining at LBJ (video) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiGBwiBkP0c>

UTeach Outreach Field Trips (video and website) http://outreach.uteach.org/programs/field_trips

Solar Table & Practicum (articles)

<http://alcalde.texasexes.org/2012/03/ut-students-pump-up-at-campus-solar-station/>

<http://dailytexanonline.com/university/2012/04/03/new-solar-charging-station-campus-student-use>

Tree Nursery (articles)

<http://www.statesman.com/news/local/seeds-to-reforest-lost-pines-were-almost-lost-2219241.html>

<http://dailytexanonline.com/news/2012/09/21/ut-graduate-student-develops-tree-nursery-will-donate-thousands-of-seedlings-to>

HRC Landscape Renovation (articles)

<http://dailytexanonline.com/news/2012/09/21/landscaping-technique-helps-ut-save-water>

<http://www.utexas.edu/opa/blogs/culturalcompass/2012/10/02/xeriscaped/>

Safe Cycling Campaign (article)

<http://dailytexanonline.com/university/2012/04/05/students-give-input-cycling-conflict-areas>

Leona MicroFarm & Community Gardens (article and video)

<http://dailytexanonline.com/news/2012/09/24/green-fee-to-fund-several-sustainability-projects-on-campus>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tyQ1G36dow&list=UUXzicKpfSxa90q54SE6Nx5Q

Water Bottle Fillers (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSmvchOzH6s&list=UUXzicKpfSxa90q54SE6Nx5Q&index=2&feature=plcp>

Photovoltaic Installations

<http://www.youtube.com/user/webberenergygroup?ob=0> (FC-3)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qClbEDRgYng&list=FLqnaUAETcnRJxAmcXVgr7g> (Manor Garage)

ESI Hot Science Cool Talks Feature (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9m-RECMH-Q&list=UUXzicKpfSxa90q54SE6Nx5Q&index=8&feature=plcp>

Submetering (article)

<http://dailytexanonline.com/news/2012/10/01/sparks-fly-among-honors-dormitories-in-energy-conservation-contest>

Appendix B: Full Project Details

The information given below makes a note of whether the project changed primary contact or administrative department during the life of the grant. The 'current' designation refers to August 2012; after September 30, 2012, all primary contacts revert to the Office of Sustainability unless the project duration indicates that it ends on a later date.

Original Proposal Name Green Dining at LBJ

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Reed Malin, Sam Marie Hermitte (graduate students, LBJ School of Public Policy)

Original Funded Amount \$500.00

Amount Expended \$1,446.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Sam Hermitte

Duration September 2011 - August 2012

Original Proposal Name Plastic & Aluminum Recycling Containers in the Perry-Castañeda Library

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Meghan Sitar, Cindy Fisher, Steve McGuire (staff, PCL Green Team)

Original Funded Amount \$3,000.00

Amount Expended \$3,026.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Steve McGuire

Duration September 2011-May 2012

Original Proposal Name Improving the Quality of Waller Creek

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Jennifer Loeffler, Daniel Levine, Nathan Hoppe (undergraduates, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$4,630.00

Amount Expended \$9.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Jennifer Loeffler

Duration September 2011 - August 2012

Original Proposal Name Energy Field Trip

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Mary Miller, Laurie Briseno, Jan Ramesh (staff, UTeach Outreach Coordinators)

Original Funded Amount \$7,140.00

Amount Expended \$4,376.00

Original Administrative Department UTeach Outreach, School of Natural Science

Current Administrative Department UTeach Outreach

Current Primary Contact: Mary Miller

Duration September 2011-August 2012

Original Proposal Name Retrofit Drinking Fountains with Bottle Fillers

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Patrick Mazur (staff, Facilities Maintenance) and Michelle Camp (student leader, Campus Environmental Center)

Original Funded Amount \$7,500.00

Amount Expended \$2,305.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Pat Mazur

Duration September 2011-August 2012

Original Proposal Name Increased Bicycle Parking

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Andrew Lee (undergraduate, Psychology), Sloan Richey, Anna Schneider (undergraduates, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$12,500.00

Amount Expended \$11,010.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Andrew Lee

Duration September 2011-August 2012

Original Proposal Name Organic MicroFarm

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Elizabeth Prokop, Denise Chee, Ethan Moorhead (undergraduates, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$15,000.00

Amount Expended \$11,269.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Daniella Lewis (undergraduate, Architecture, and student leader, Campus Environmental Center)

Duration September 2011 – August 2012

Original Proposal Name An Outreach Forum for UT-Austin Green Fee Projects

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Eric James, Katie Hansen, Stephen Brueggerhoff, Jay Banner (staff and faculty, Environmental Science Institute)

Original Funded Amount \$16,350.00

Amount Expended \$10,637.00

Original Administrative Department Environmental Science Institute

Current Administrative Department Environmental Science Institute

Current Primary Contact: Eric James

Duration September 2011 - August 2012

Original Proposal Name Energy Submetering

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Michelle Camp (student leader, Campus Environmental Center), Jennifer Klingshirn, and Courtney Dunphy (undergraduates, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$22,730.00

Amount Expended \$22,730.00

Original Administrative Department Campus Planning & Facilities Management

Current Administrative Department Division of Housing and Food Service

Current Primary Contact: Scott Meyer, Associate Director, Food Service & Environmental Initiatives

Duration September 2011 – December 2012

Original Proposal Name Sustainable Landscape Makeover (at Harry Ransom Center)

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Hank Star (undergraduate, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$30,799.00

Amount Expended \$22,988.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact: Jim Walker, Director of Sustainability

Duration September 2011 – August 2012

Original Proposal Name Analysis of Processed Algae as an Organic Fertilizer for UT Landscaping

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Rhykka Connolly (staff, Center for Electromechanical Engineering)

Original Funded Amount \$35,444.00

Amount Expended \$34,194.00

Original Administrative Department Center for Electromechanical Engineering

Current Administrative Department Center for Electromechanical Engineering

Current Primary Contact: Rhykka Connolly

Duration September 2011 – August 2012

Original Proposal Name Campus Environmental Center Expansion of Programs

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Michelle Camp (student leader, Campus Environmental Center)

Original Funded Amount \$36,000.00

Amount Expended \$24,708.00

Original Administrative Department Campus Environmental Center

Current Administrative Department Campus Environmental Center

Current Primary Contact Faith Shin (student leader, Campus Environmental Center)

Duration September 2011- August 2012

Original Proposal Name UT Safe Cycling Campaign

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Kate Bedford (graduate student, School of Architecture)

Original Funded Amount \$49,788.00

Amount Expended \$17,362.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability, School of Architecture, and Art & Art History

Current Primary Contact Kate Bedford

Duration September 2011 – December 2012

Original Proposal Name UT Tree Nursery

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Vlad Codrea (graduate student, Molecular Biology)

Original Funded Amount \$54,198.00

Amount Expended \$33,727.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Campus Environmental Center

Current Primary Contact Vlad Codrea

Duration September 2011 – August 2014

Original Proposal Name Solar Powered Campus (Solar Tables)

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) William Austin Jorn, Meagan Archer, Eric Swanson (undergraduates, Environmental Science)

Original Funded Amount \$54,800.00

Amount Expended \$11,050.00

Original Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Administrative Department Office of Sustainability

Current Primary Contact Austin Jorn and Meagan Archer

Duration September 2011 – August 2013

Original Proposal Name 200 kW Solar Photovoltaic Install on the UT Main Campus

Grantee Names and (Affiliations) Michael Webber (faculty, Department of Mechanical Engineering)

Original Funded Amount \$75,000.00

Amount Expended \$75,000.00

Original Administrative Department Cokerell School of Engineering

Current Administrative Department Cokerell School of Engineering

Current Primary Contact Michael Webber

Duration September 2011- August 2012