

**Center for Sustainability
Sustainability Incentive Grant
Application Deadline, October 15, 2009**

Sustainability is often defined as *the ability to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs*. Sustainability requires careful use of our resources (water, air, energy, biodiversity, soil, etc.) to ensure an adequate supply for the foreseeable future.

Colleges and universities around the country have begun to incorporate sustainability into their research, teaching, service, and operations, both to set a good example and to prepare a generation of students for a world with depleting resources. At Georgia Southern, the mission of the Center for Sustainability is to promote sustainability on campus, and in the broader community.

In order to encourage COST faculty and students to incorporate sustainability into their teaching, scholarship, and service, the Center for Sustainability is issuing a call for proposals for a **Sustainability Incentive Grant** during the 2009-10 academic year. We anticipate that \$15,000 will again be available for grants in 2009-2010 from the Allen E. Paulson Endowment. Typical grants will be \leq \$3,000. Applicants intending to request $>$ \$3,000 should contact Dr. Lissa Leege, Director of the Center for Sustainability, in advance of submitting their proposal.

What: Sustainability Incentive Grant proposals must address a need for sustainability on campus and/ or in the broader community. Proposals that develop partnerships within the community (i.e. organizations or businesses) are encouraged, and those that secure matching funding from sources external to COST will receive higher priority. Projects that clearly demonstrate that they will become self-sustaining following funding will receive higher priority.

Examples of potentially fundable projects include:

- Research to develop energy-saving or pollution-reducing devices / materials
- Development and implementation of CO₂ (or other greenhouse gas) reduction strategies for the college
- Conservation research
- Campus partnership with groups involved in sustainable practices/ activities (i.e. regional composting site for Georgia Southern's compostable waste; development of alternative fuels to power equipment at local farm)
- Partnership with local municipalities and companies to research water conservation in the construction/land development process
- Development of a course focusing on sustainability in a COST department
- Environmental service projects for courses: i.e. set-up of recycling at local businesses

Projects that are not likely to receive funding include:

- Basic research in an area peripherally related to sustainability
- Travel to professional meetings
- Projects that are not self-sustaining (i.e. litter cleanups)

Duration of grant: Funds will be granted for FY2009 and must be used prior to June 1, 2010. Expenditure beyond that date will require explicit prior approval of the Director of the Center for Sustainability.

Eligibility: The principle investigator must be a COST faculty member (tenure track, temporary, part-time, emeritus, or adjunct), or a Georgia Southern student (any major) with a COST faculty mentor as a

project Co-PI. Additional Co-PIs or project associates from COST, the university, or external community are welcomed on project proposals.

Proposal Deadline: One round of proposals will be accepted in Fall 2009, due Oct. 15, with notification by Nov. 2, 2009. Please collate your proposal into a single pdf or word document and email as attachment to Tina Brookins: tbrookin@georgiasouthern.edu. Also, deliver one double-sided, single-spaced hard copy to the COST Office, PO Box 8044, no later than 5 P.M. on the deadline.

Successful Grant PIs will be expected to do the following:

- Submit a one paragraph description of the project and a representative photograph for the Center web page by November 15, 2009.
- Submit a final report detailing expenditure of funds and fulfillment of the objectives, due to the Director of COS prior to September 15, 2010.
- Submit syllabi, reports, student projects, publications, promotional materials and other products related to this grant to the Center for Sustainability for record keeping purposes.
- Be willing to be interviewed for publicity purposes.
- Present a poster, or serve on a panel that highlights sustainability at Georgia Southern during April 2010 (as requested by the Director of the Center)

Format of Applications:

Applications must be typed using Times New Roman 12 point font with 1" margins. The following format is required for all applications:

I. Cover Sheet - The cover sheet should be completed and signed by the principle investigator(s) and their respective department chair(s). Students will need to have a faculty Co-PI who agrees to be the mentor for their project. When projects involve other agencies/organizations, a letter of intent to collaborate and/or to provide matching funds, signed by the authorized institutional official should be included in the application packet. Official signatures need only be included on the submitted paper copy; the electronic version does not require signatures. Letters of intent to collaborate should be scanned as PDFs and submitted with the electronic version.

II. Summary of Proposed Project - This section should not exceed 3 pages in length (excluding references). The proposal should be concise, yet sufficiently detailed to be clear to the Sustainability committee. Figures, tables, and photographs may be included if they enhance clarity.

A. Background and Objectives: Briefly review relevant previous work and the current status of activities related to this proposal. Identify previous impediments to success (if any) and identify how the proposed actions will address previous problems. Describe the proposed project. Describe the need for this project in terms of promoting/improving sustainability on campus or in the broader community. State the project objectives. Include the rationale for the proposed project and list external collaborators/beneficiaries as appropriate.

B. Scope of Work: Describe the activities that will be undertaken to accomplish the objectives stated. Include a tentative timeline of activities.

C. Significance/ Project Relevance: These grants are specifically intended to provide opportunities to incorporate sustainability in teaching, research, service, and in practice, both on campus and in the broader community. Briefly describe how the proposed activities will achieve this objective. Also include a plan to measure the effectiveness of this project as related to proposal objectives. Please

describe plans for how this project will become self-sustaining (i.e. seek external funding, establish a mechanism of sustained volunteer recruitment, etc.).

III. Personnel – Identify all faculty, associates, research assistants, technicians, or students to be involved in the project and describe their role in the project.

IV. Budget – (\$500 - \$3,000 is typical) Attach a detailed budget and a budget justification page. Funds can be requested for supplies and services, technical assistance, and travel to research sites or for work with partners. Indicate matching funds from partners if any. Partial faculty summer salary and/or student support are allowable costs (note that all fringe and benefits must be included as line items); summer salary is the only item that can be available through July 2010 (beyond the spending deadline for other expenses in the grant).

V. Biosketch - Attach a current biosketch for each principal and co-principal investigator, not to exceed 2 pages per person.

Still Have Questions? Should you have any questions about this grant opportunity or the application process, please contact Dr. Lissa Leege at leege@georgiasouthern.edu or 912-478-0800.

