

The Green Initiative Fund Annual Report

University of California, San Diego

2009 - 2010



This is the annual financial reports from The Green Initiative Program at University of California, San Diego. This report includes background information, a summary of the first year, a list detailing the funds and descriptions of all projects and future plans for improving TGIF.

Lizzie Caldwell
Grant Coordinator

<http://ssc.clickrally.com/green-fund>
tgifucsd@gmail.com

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BACKGROUND

The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) provides funding for projects that reduce UC San Diego's negative impact on the environment and to make UC San Diego more sustainable in both the social and environmental sense. The goal is to enable and empower students to take an active role in making UC San Diego a leader in sustainability, providing much needed funding for projects that complete this goal.



TGIF is funded by a \$1.67 per quarter Associated Students activity fee which began in fall 2009. Only undergraduate students are allowed to submit applications. Projects are selected for funding by an annually appointed Grant Making Committee, consisting of only undergraduate students. The fee referendum was approved by the student body during the Winter Quarter 2009 Sustainability Referendum.

SUMMARY

After the Sustainability Referendum was passed in winter Quarter 2009, the first Grant Coordinator, Lizzie Caldwell, was hired in August of 2009 and immediately began to build the first TGIF program that was student-run, student-funded and student-accessible.

Because the amount of money available for grants depends on how many undergraduate students are attending UCSD, the number of money available to students changes every year. For the 2009 – 2010 academic year, \$80,066.23 was available.

To increase awareness of the TGIF program, kick-offs and informational sessions were hosted in October 2009. Throughout the year, outreach to UCSD students about the TGIF program was performed through websites(greenfund.ucsd.edu), Facebook groups, email,

flyers(both paper and electronic), bus signs, tabling and speaking at sustainability-related events on and off campus.

The deadline for the first funding cycle was November 16th. Nine applications were submitted. The Grant Making Committee decided not to fund two of the projects, and to fully or partially fund the other six projects, totaling allocation to approximately \$28,000.

The deadline for the second funding cycle was March 30th. Twelve applications were submitted, and eleven were fully or partially funded. Two of the applications submitted during the second funding cycle also submitted applications during the first funding cycle. The allocation for the second funding cycle was approximately \$44,000.

In total, TGIF @ UCSD allocated approximately \$71,000 to 15 different student projects. The average amount of money allocated to each project was around \$4,500. The largest was around \$14,000, and the smallest was \$330.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Grant Coordinator – Lizzie Caldwell

6 Student Sustainability Collective Directors

- Director of Food – Jared Muscat
- Director of Water – Fran Avendano/Rachel Grey
- Director of Urban Planning and Transportation – Elizabeth Elman
- Director of Civil and Human Rights – Rishi Ghosh
- Director of Corporate Accountability – Erin Brodwin
- Director of Energy and Waste – Rose Eveleth

8. Student from Committee of Sustainability – Kate Ziemba

9. Associate Vice President of Local Affairs – Aries Yumul

Two non-voting members:


1. TGIF intern – Catherine Crisp

2. Associated Students President – Ustav Gupta

PORTFOLIO OF PROJECTS

FUNDING CYCLE I

1. Organization/student: UCSD AQUAholics
 - a. Project title: Centrally-located Mega-Binding Machine for Recycled Notebooks: “The SRC Binding Monster”
 - b. Description: to have sustainability organizations have access to
 - c. Amount given: \$330.00
 - d. Status: Completed, on-going

 2. Organization/student: Compost Team
 - a. Project title: Project Compost
 - b. Amount given: \$1,679.91
 - c. Compost Team seeks to promote composting on campus, and sought funding to be able to collect compost and to provide them to the Urban Farm and Neighborhood Community Garden.
 - d. Status: Completed, on-going
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3. Organization/student: The Neighborhood Community Garden @ UCSD
 - a. Project Title: The Neighborhood Community Garden
 - b. Amount given(Funding Cycle I and II): $\$2,467.54 + \$ 7,756.8 = \$10,224.34$
 - c. Description: Neighborhood Community Garden(NCG) allows students to rent plots of land to be able to grow their own produce. NCG offers the tools(including water, and seeds) needed to students to do so.
 - d. Status: Active

 4. Organization/student: The General Store Coop
 - a. Project title: The General Store Coop Book Rental Program (GSCBRP)
 - b. Amount given: \$3600.00
 - c. Organized by the General Store Co-op, this program would demand corporate accountability from the UCSD Bookstore by buying textbooks from students at a higher price than the UCSD Bookstore would buy back textbooks, and would also rent them out at lower prices. Their ultimate goal was to put 30% more money in the student’s pocket than the UCSD Bookstore would.
 - d. Status: Completed, on-going

5. Organization/student: Biofuel Action and Awareness Network(BAAN)
 - a. Project title: Biodiesel Production
 - b. Amount given: \$8300.00
 - c. Description: Their goal was to build a biodiesel machine that would produce biodiesel in more green ways than the conventional method.
 - d. Status: Active

6. Organization/student: The San Diego Roots Sustainable Food Project
 - a. Project Title: UCSD Urban Farm/Garden Learning Center for Sustainability
 - b. Amount given(Funding Cycle II and II):
\$11,121 + \$2600 = \$13,721.00
 - c. Description: The Sustainable Food Project wants to have an urban farm on campus, to be able to grow organic produce and sell them to on-campus markets to promote organic and local food.
 - d. Status: Active



FUNDING CYCLE II

7. Organization/student: UCSD Student Sustainability Co-op Houses
 - a. Project Title: Student Sustainability Cooperative House #19
 - b. Amount given: \$586.21
 - c. Description: Co-op House #19's goal is to provide close, cooperative housing to UCSD students. Their application asked for composting bins and water meters to make the house as sustainable as possible.
 - d. Status: Active

8. Organization/student: Innovative Design and Engineering Applications(IDEA)
 - a. Project Title: Portable Hydro Generator
 - b. Amount given: \$690.00
 - c. Description: IDEA wanted to construct portable hydrogenerators and sell them to students.
 - d. Status: Active

9. Organization/student: Tau Beta Pi(engineering fraternity)
 - a. Project Title: Think Green! event
 - b. Amount given: \$342.89
 - c. Description: A project-like aspect of an event where students from Lincoln High School came to UCSD and constructed mini wind-turbines out of materials that TGIF funded.
 - d. Status: Completed, not on-going



10. Organization/student: The Sustainable Food Project at UCSD(SFP)
 - a. Project Title: Earl's Garden
 - b. Amount given: \$ 14152
 - c. Description: A native garden in the Earl Warren area to promote water conservation.
 - d. Status: Active
11. Organization/student: Student Water Collaborative (SWC)
 - a. Project Title: Test Pilot: Water Sustainability for On-campus Sustainable Housing Options
 - b. Amount given: \$ 6785
 - c. Description: Barnacles to help Warren College meter and reduce their water use. A barnacle is a remote monitoring device used to measure water flow in more detail than other existing campus water meters.
 - d. Status: Active
12. Organization/student: Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution Club
 - a. Project Title: Native Plant Garden
 - b. Amount given: \$6069.59
 - c. Description: A plant garden to be placed in Muir College to educate students about the native plants in the San Diego County.
 - d. Status: Active

Organization/student: Sustainable Transportation Club

- a. Project Title: Sustainable Student Run Car Sharing Network(GETTAROUND)
 - b. Amount given: \$3750.00
 - c. Description: GETTAROUND is a car-sharing program that is student-run. Students can register their car and get paid to let other students use their car.
 - d. Status: Active
2. Organization/student: USGBC Student Group
- a. Project Title: Workforce Development
 - b. Amount given: \$ 1000.00
 - c. Description: For students to be able to check the LEED rating of UCSD buildings and to see which building is the most energy efficient. These guides will also help students figure out how to help buildings become more sustainable.
 - d. Status: Active
3. Organization/student: The Roosevelt Institute
- a. Project Title: Hour off the Grid: Promoting Biking as Alternative Transportation
 - b. Amount given: \$400.00
 - c. Description: A one-hour event(that was deemed to be project-like) by the Roosevelt Institute to promote students to cut off their electricity for an hour, and to use bikes to power their own power use.
 - d. Status: Completed, not on-going

BUDGET INFORMATION FOR PROJECTS AND CYCLES

FUNDING CYCLE I	
Funds Available for Funding Cycle I and II 2009 - 2010:	\$80,066.23
TITLE OF PROJECT	GRANT
SRC Binding Monster	\$330.00
Project Compost	\$1,679.91
Neighborhood Community Garden	\$2,467.54
The General Store Coop Book Rental Program (GSCBRP)	\$3,600.00
Biodiesel Production	\$8,300.00
UCSD Urban Farm	\$11,121.00
Total Allocation	\$27,498.45
Funds Available for Funding Cycle II:	\$52,567.78

FUNDING CYCLE II	
Funds Available for Funding Cycle II:	\$52,567.78
TITLE OF PROJECT	GRANT
ThinkGreen! by Tau Beta Pi	\$342.89
Hour Off the Grid	\$400.00
Student Sustainability Cooperative House #19	\$586.21
Portable Hydro Generator	\$690.00
Workforce Development	\$1,000.00
UCSD Urban Farm	\$2,600.00
Sustainable Student Run Car Sharing Network(GETTAROUND)	\$3,750.00
Native Plant Garden	\$6,069.59
Water Sustainability for On-campus Sustainable Housing Options	\$6,785.00
Neighborhood Community Garden	\$7,756.80
Earl's Garden	\$14,152.00
Total Allocation	\$44,132.49
Roll over to Funding Cycle I and II 2010 - 2011	\$8,435.29
Total money allocated all year	\$71,630.94

FUTURE STEPS

Keeping up with the operations of TGIF and being in charge of marketing/advertising was extremely difficult, as it was seen that many students didn't hear about TGIF (even though a valiant effort was made). For the future, to help with outreach and marketing of TGIF, TGIF created a position for an unpaid TGIF intern. The TGIF intern was also introduced to the TGIF Grant-Making Committee as a note-taker, and a non-voting member.

Another issue that has been realized is the presence of major delays with many of the student projects. Sometimes, students do not know where they'll need to obtain approvals in order to implement their project. Because of this, TGIF will start encouraging student leaders to acquire "project mentors" to help them complete their projects. These "project mentors" can be faculty members, staff members, community leaders, even recently graduated students: the student's choice. As long as the student leader trusts the project mentor to help them start, budget, and complete their project.

There is also a new, updated application for projects that have a budget of < \$500. The TGIF application is too strenuous for small projects, so a new application was made for these small projects.

Lastly, new applications will require a project "successor" to be listed if the expected timeline of the project extends beyond the graduation date of the project leader.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Green Initiative Fund program is located within the Sustainability Resource Center.

Sustainability Resource Center(SRC)
Price Center Room 101
9500 Gilman Dr.
La Jolla, CA 92093
(858) 534-5563

<http://ssc.clickrally.com/green-fund>
tgifucsd@gmail.com