



**Proposals that have been approved and completed or in the process of being completed:**

*UTSA Recycling Program Sustainability Enhancements:*

Project Summary: Since its beginning in December 2004, the recycling program on the UTSA campus has been self-sustaining with no annual budget. Our intention is to use the Green Fund monies to continue providing quality service to the campus by having adequate personnel to provide this service and to give them the necessary equipment with which to do it. This year's requested funds will be used to hire four (4), 19 hr student positions to assist with recycling efforts. A new golf cart vehicle purchase is being requested to accommodate the extended manpower as well as support the program. Expandable recycling bins for special events are also being requested to be purchased to support these events. This project will enhance requests by students and staff to make the campus more environmentally friendly.

*UTSA Earth Week (2012, 2013, 2014):*

Earth Day is an internationally recognized event created to raise awareness about worldwide environmental issues. Raising awareness about environmental concerns is absolutely key to generating the necessary momentum from the community to create the greatest impact on our everyday world. Harnessing this opportunity to educate students about these issues is directly in line with the mission of the University of Texas at San Antonio. It is an opportunity to educate, celebrate, and showcase UTSA's commitment to sustainable practices. In order to ensure a successful and memorable event, adequate marketing is essential for generating involvement from the entire UTSA community. The event will ensure increased awareness of the Green Fund and its benefits to students.

*Hydration station 2 proposals Main and DT campuses:*

With the success of installing 16 Hydration Stations at the Main Campus UTSA has become a more sustainable campus. Students have begun to achieve a new independence from buying water bottles, but this opportunity has only been provided to the students/Faculty & Staff that utilize the Main Campus. This proposal calls for the installation of 5 hydration stations at strategic locations around the DT Campus to capitalize the usage of the Hydration Stations. Approval and sponsorship has been given by every affected party, and the requested funds equals \$12,000, with monies allocated to be placed back into the fund if a surplus is created.

*UTSA Campus Garden Initiative:*

The UTSA Campus Garden is an initiative for an environmentally sustainable and educational resource for the University's student and faculty population. Physical groundwork for the garden will begin in the summer of 2013 after a feasibility work order for a finalized budget is approved in the spring of 2013 by the listed faculty advisor.

*Big Belly:*

With pressure on endowments and budgets, colleges and universities are seeking innovative ways to transform operations for greater efficiency and lower cost. A growing number of institutions worldwide are finding a dramatic win-win answer in an unlikely place: waste collection. Any campus process that may yield 70-80+%

operating efficiencies through the application of innovative technologies and process changes is worthy of prioritized consideration. Information-driven operating practices mean more efficient resource utilization and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The idea of displacing fossil fuel usage and wasteful labor practices with renewable energy and information technology is enormously appealing. Solar-powered waste & recycling stations, distributed and visible across the UTSA, displays a clear and obvious commitment to campus sustainability – and leads to direct bottom-line savings.

On top of providing the innovative technology and high profile trash / recycling compactors – this proposal calls for an expansion of the Environmental Health , Safety and Risk Management Dept. at UTSA by employing two part time student workers to help facilitate the transition for the first full calendar year. This will not only give students the opportunity to learn of operations management, get a hands on experience at sustainable projects, but also assist in keeping their wallets full.

#### *GreenLove (2013 & 2014):*

GreenLove will be an on-campus music festival during Earthweek 2013. The Festival would be focused on promoting sustainability, student involvement and UTSA School Spirit. The stage will be solar-powered with live local bands and student organizations would provide food, games, and information on their efforts to be sustainable. GreenLove will be a great chance for UTSA to showcase their efforts at sustainability as well as possible become a UTSA tradition that could rival UT's Forty Acre Fest or A&M's Chili Fest. GreenLove also has the ability to be a high-profile yet inexpensive project for the Green Fund.

#### *Sombrilla Fountain Renovation:*

Retrofit the system the fountain runs on to be a condensate system.

#### *The UTSA Downtown Campus Spirit Lighting Project:*

The UTSA Downtown Campus Spirit Lighting Project will create a new Homecoming tradition for students that will reflect the UTSA spirit and pride. Students involved in registered student organizations will be given a new involvement opportunity at the UTSA Downtown Campus.

LED orange, white and blue lights will be used to decorate parts of the campus exterior during the week of Homecoming and remain up through the rest of the fall semester. Although the initial cost of the LED lights is more expensive than standard lights, the energy savings over the next several years will more than make up for it. In addition, the Spirit Lights will give the UTSA Downtown Campus higher visibility within the greater San Antonio community and with visitors to the city during the holiday season. This project will literally be a “shining example” of UTSA's commitment to sustainability.

### **Tree Planting at UTSA Oval and Peace Circle**

The project consists of planting trees in the UTSA Oval and Peace Circle which is the main point of arrival for the campus and serves as a multi-modal transit hub serving pedestrians and bus transit. The project will provide the following environmental benefits: Heat Island Reduction, Carbon Reduction, Reduction of Runoff and Erosion, Noise Pollution Reduction and Habitat for Birds. Additionally planting trees in these student areas will improve the quality of the physical environment for students by providing shade and enhancing aesthetics.

### **In feasibility studies or in current committee discussions:**

#### *Green Up: Flawn Science Building:*

In efforts to improve the energy efficiency and physical appeal of the Flawn Science Building on the UTSA campus, we have evaluated and identified five simple and cost effective improvements that can be made. The Flawn Science building was built in 1975 and has key design features that attribute to the building's low energy

efficiency. Large first floor windows surrounding the center atrium give off large amounts of heat during San Antonio's frequent warm days, making the adjacent hallways uncomfortably hot while creating a large load for the HVAC unit to maintain a comfortable temperature. The atrium is rarely used by students mainly due to its uninviting landscaping and lack of shade provided in the area. The goal of the GreenUp: Flawn Science Building project is to address these issues by installing solar tint on all 32 main floor windows surrounding the atrium, plant shade trees within the atrium, and installing shade sails on the third floor balconies. GreenUp Flawn Science Building will also address the outdated water system by installing an Elkay Filtered Bottle Station and adding faucet aerators to reduce water usage in all bathroom sinks. Making these simple and cost effective changes will make the Flawn Science Building a more energy efficient building while boosting student and faculty comfort and encouraging the use of valuable outdoor space. Because of its high traffic volume throughout the day large room for energy efficiency improvements, the components listed in this proposal are the ideal way to "make science cool".

*Lettuce Turnip the Beet: Farmer's Market Marketing:*

We would like to survey the students at the UTSA main campus by exchanging seed embedded paper with the words "Lettuce Turnip the Beet" and Greenfund sponsorship information for surveys. These surveys will be used as baseline marketing research to gauge the student interest in a Farmer's Market.

*UTSA Campus Garden Initiative with the addition of Composting:*

The UTSA Campus Garden is an initiative for an environmentally sustainable and educational resource for the University's student and faculty population. Physical groundwork for the garden will begin in the summer of 2013 after a feasibility work order for a finalized budget is approved in the spring of 2013 by the listed faculty advisor.

*Roadrunner Solar Power-Doks*

To provide 6 self sustaining solar shades for The University of Texas at San Antonio. Three to be installed in the Paseo area and three to be installed by the Biotechnology Sciences and Engineering Building (BSE) next to the Einstein Bros Bagels.

*SOLAR THERMAL HEATER FOR UTSA RECREATION CENTER:*

Huge amount of hot water is consumed in Recreation center per day. And in order to supply these hot water lots of thermal energy is required. That eventually impacts on the monthly utility bill. After completing the project a major portion of the hot water will be supplied by the solar thermal heater with no significant variable cost. According to the proposed location the total maximum heat capacity @ 94% efficiency will be 3MW (Theoretically)

*UTSA Recycling Program Sustainability Enhancements (through 2019)*

Our One-year plan for the Recycling Program at UTSA includes these 2 objectives:

- 1) Provide sufficient funding to hire four (4), part-time 19 hour student helpers to assist with campus recycling efforts on a continual basis. With the completion of mini-trash and recycling program to 100% for all campus buildings, our recycling continues to be a challenge ensuring over 300 containers and possibly the Big Belly units are serviced timely. All containers are now required to be bar scanned to ensure its assigned location. These individuals will be responsible to scan and locate or relocate recycling containers.
- 2) Standardizing the trash and recycling containers throughout our tri-campus community for a more aesthetic look has been addressed to us by students. Our goal is to make that happen, however we need to purchase additional recycling containers. We are requesting funding to purchase up to 30 containers at \$700.00 each for a total of \$21,000.00.

3) Purchase and installation of two compactors for use on campus to help reduce the number of 8 cubic yard recycling containers, reduce the overall number of container pick-ups, and maximize the volume of recycled material hauled to the recycling plant.

*Rowdy Bike Share Initiative*

To provide the UTSA community with a bike share program as a healthy, convenient, and sustainable transportation alternative. This program discusses the benefits of having a bike share program at UTSA as well as the many ways to provide that program.