



GREEN FUND

Sustainability Through Student Innovation

Project Application

Green Fund Mission Statement: “The NAU Green Fund promotes student participation in and provides funding for projects that reduce NAU’s negative impact on the environment and create a culture of sustainability on-campus.”

Requirements for Funding:

- The project must be implemented on campus.
- The person submitting the project must be a NAU student, faculty, or staff member. • Projects must provide all necessary documents, letters of support, and authorizations prior to submission. • The Green Fund distributes funding on a **reimbursement basis**. Project teams should partner with an administrative office to provide upfront funding for the project. Once the project has been successfully completed, the Green Fund will reimburse the administrative partner.
- All project applications should be submitted to greenfund@nau.edu for review.

Disclaimer: All applications will go through a comprehensive vetting process. We highly recommend meeting with a Green Fund Committee member prior to submitting the application. The Green Fund Committee member will assist you with every step of writing your project application. If your project is approved, you may be asked to provide more detailed information regarding specific deliverables. The Green Fund is not responsible for acquiring the necessary permits, permissions, or approvals for a project, although we are happy to assist with this process if needed. Additionally, the Green Fund does not provide any ongoing maintenance costs. A sponsoring department must take responsibility for operations and management.

Review Process: Upon project application submission, the Green Fund will review your project within two weeks. At this time, the Green Fund will provide comments on the project. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed until all components are submitted. **Note:** The Green Fund Committee only meets during the academic year. All projects submitted outside of the regular academic year will be reviewed at the start of the next academic session.

Contact Information

Project Leader Name: Emma Reich Phone: 949-633-3541 E-mail: egr65@nau.edu

Expected Graduation Date: May 2025

Project Advisor Name: Andrew Richardson Phone: _____ E-mail: Andrew.Richardson@nau.edu

Sponsoring Department: School of Informatics, Computing and Cyber Systems

Project name: Ecoinformatics Seminar Honorarium Fund

Project Overview

Executive Summary

Please provide a brief overview of your proposal. Please address how this project will support the goals of the Green Fund (student involvement, creating a culture of sustainability, and lessening NAU's impact):

We are proposing an Early Career Honorarium Speaker Event in the Informatics department for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters. The topic of the work presented at the event would fall under the umbrella of "big data in ecology, global change biology, and earth system science" and "21st century environmental problem solving". The funding through this grant would support the cost of travel and accommodations for 2 speakers (1 per semester), and compensation for the speakers' time. The event would involve graduate students, post-docs, professors, and researchers affiliated with the Ecological and Environmental Informatics program (i.e., Ecoinformatics), and invitations would be sent to members of other departments who do environment-focused research at NAU, such as ECOSS, Biology, and Forestry. The seminar will consist of a NAU student introducing the speaker, a question-answer session led by the student about the speaker's career trajectory and their personal story (e.g., how they got to be where they are, how they got into science in the first place, what the key decisions were along the way, and what challenges they have faced). This will take up the first 10 minutes, will be followed by a 30-40 minute climate change-related science talk, and 10-20 minutes of audience questions. The purpose of this event is to create an on-campus dialogue surrounding solution-oriented climate change research, to support an early-career researcher in a climate change-related field, and to engage and encourage students just beginning their careers in this field. This event is intended to inspire a diverse group of graduate students, and help connect them to early-career climate change researchers. These kind of interactions are critical for the successful professional development of Ecoinformatics graduate students. NAU's current group of Ecoinformatics graduate students have recently been impacted negatively by the COVID-19 pandemic, and have had few opportunities thus far to connect in-person with successful scientists from outside Flagstaff. Hosting a speaker of interest would be a huge service to NAU graduate students, and assist in fostering collaboration and the spread of ideas among a new generation of climate researchers. The Fall 2022 Honorarium Speaker would be Alana Ayasse, a Research Scientist for Carbon Mapper. Alana's current research interests include understanding the role of satellites in a global carbon monitoring system and using airborne remote sensing data to further understand trends in methane and CO2 emissions. She has worked extensively with Imaging spectrometers (hyperspectral) and specializes in applying imaging spectrometers to map greenhouse gases.

Please answer the following questions detailing the components of your project:

1. Does your project require space or construction on campus? If so, where? Please review the "Space Committee Document" located on our webpage and follow the steps to begin requesting a location.

No space/construction required. This event will co-convene with a scheduled class (INF 623), and the assigned classroom space will be used.

2. Have you obtained all necessary approvals for this project? Please attach all letters of support to this application. Letters of support should include confirmation from the sponsoring department that the sponsoring department will cover all upfront expenses and work with the Green Fund Business Manager to acquire reimbursement after project completion. If any ongoing operations and maintenance is required of your project, provide a letter of support from the entity that will be covering those costs and/or services.

The letter of support from SICCS department is in progress.

3. Will this project provide funding for student wages?

No

4. Please list all additional sources of funding you have pursued. Include departments, grants, ASNAU, Graduate Student Government, etc.

We are currently ing additional funding from ECOSS to potentially match the SICCS department in their amount.

5. Have any of the Green Fund Committee members been involved in this project?

- a. If Yes, please identify all committee members:

N/A

Project Specifics

Please address the following questions. One or more of these questions may not apply to your particular application. Answer as many questions as are applicable to your project.

Relationship to NAU Climate Action Plan (CAP)

1. How does your project align with one of the seven CAP categories (Energy, Water, Transportation, Waste Minimization, Sustainable Landscaping, Environmental Justice, Communication)?

This project aligns well with Communication through having a climate-change related scientist speak on a topic of interest to a diverse group of students, researchers, and faculty. The structure of the event— e.g., student introductions and questions— will encourage a collaborative dialogue on environmental research between scientists in a variety of research groups and career levels.

Community

2. Is there a public outreach plan? How will faculty, staff, and students learn about this?

This event will be advertised to Informatics and other departments (i.e., Biology, ECOSS, Forestry) through email listservs. Attendance will be mandatory for students enrolled in INF 623, the Ecoinformatics Seminar.

3. Are you working with other groups on or off campus? If so, describe your partnership.

This event will be organized with assistance from the Informatics Graduate Student Association (IGSA).

Project Parameters

4. What are the environmental costs and benefits associated with your project?

This event will foster communication between scientists in environmental fields, which is a necessary component to successful scientific inquiry. Environmental costs include the plane flights the invited speakers will use to travel to and from Flagstaff.

5. Provide an economic cost/benefit analysis for your project. Focus on identifying specific cost savings.

N/A

6. Is this a one-time expense or will you require future funding?

This proposal represents a one-time expense (i.e., does not require future funding to be initially successful). However, yearly funding will be pursued to repeat this event.

7. When your project members no longer attend NAU, who will be responsible for running the project?

Members of the Informatics Graduate Student Association will be responsible for running this project and re-applying for funding when necessary.

8. How will you monitor the impact of your project after implementation?

A survey will be sent out to Informatics graduate students after the event to assess student response and reception to the speaker.

Project Budget

Please include a thorough breakdown of all project costs, as well as a 5% line item for contingency.

Example:

NAU Pollinator Garden Budget			
Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Sunflowers	6.00	8	48.00
Golden Crownbeard	5.00	12	60.00
Rabbit Brush	3.00	6	18.00
Columbine	4.00	4	16.00
Skyrocket	7.00	9	63.00
Beebalm	2.00	13	26.00
Shovel	23.00	2	46.00
Fertilizer	12.00	3	36.00
5% Contingency	11.55	1	313.00
Total Pollinator Garden Cost			\$328.65

Project Timeline

The timeline should include significant implementation dates for your project. Please add information such as shipping time and consider any holidays or breaks.

Example:

NAU Pollinator Garden Timeline		
Action	Parties Involved	Month/Year
Order plants and gardening supplies from Home Depot	Project Leader, Green Fund Committee Member	April 2019
Organize student volunteers	Project Leader, Freshman Sustainability volunteers	April 2019
Fertilize ground for planting	Project Leader, Volunteers	May 2019
Plant the garden	Project Leader, Volunteers	June 2019
Monitor plant growth	Gardening Class Students	July 2019
Assess pollinator activity	Gardening Class Students	July/August 2019
Prepare garden for winter	Project Leader, Freshman Sustainability volunteers	October 2019

Project Checklist

Please ensure you have completed all of the following items before submitting your application:

- Meet with a Green Fund Committee member
- Obtain all necessary letters of support (sponsoring department, ongoing maintenance, etc.)

Project Overview

- Project Specifics
- Project Budget
- Project Timeline
- Complete Project Checklist

Thank you for your submission. We deeply appreciate your commitment to sustainability at NAU, and we look forward to working with you.