**Project:**  Sustainable Student Farm

**Funding Source:** Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

**Funding Amount:** $10,000

**Receiving Campus Unit:** Department of Crop Sciences

**Unit Financial Officer:** Sheryl Netherton

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**Project Description:**

This proposal looks to further the University’s commitment to local food consumption through continued support the Sustainable Student Farm (SSF). The SSF began in 2009 with a grant from the Student Sustainability Committee to begin producing locally grown vegetables for the University of Illinois community. In the first season, the SSF produced nearly 25,000 pounds of produce and generated approximately $25,000 in revenue, primarily through sales to University of Illinois Dining Services for use in the University dining halls. The exceptionally hot summer of 2010, combined with the high time/labor demand of high tunnel construction and farm expansion, led to a disappointing harvest for the second growing season. This year, the SSF has enjoyed its first winter harvest season due to three new high tunnels. Through these season expansion techniques, along with increased mastery of farming practices, the SSF expects to have a bountiful and successful growing season. Funding for this proposal will bridge the gap between last season’s financial shortfalls and the revenue generated in 2011. The SSF will continue to work to increase crop revenue and educational outreach. As the University’s only current capacity for producing local produce for campus, the SSF is an essential component of increasing campus sustainability. Continuation of the SFF is essential to meeting these goals. Thus, the Student Sustainability Committee is in favor of funding a grant in the amount of $10,000.

**Student Sustainability Committee:**

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Suhail Barot, 10-11 Committee Chair Jenny Koys, 10-11 Committee Treasurer

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Office of Sustainability:**

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Steve Sonka, Vice-Chancellor for Public Engagement,

Interim Director, Office of Sustainability

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_