

Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Spring 2017

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IRA Funds Request for GROWING AWARENESS: PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF STUDENT GARDENS

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	RJ Maher
Activity Title	GROWING AWARENESS: PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF STUDENT GARDENS
Activity/Event Date	01/15-4/15, 2017
Date Funding Needed By	12/15/2016
Previously Funded?	No
Semester/Year	—
Proposal #	—
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	No
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	—
Additional Report #1	—
Additional Report #2	—
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	—
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	ESRM
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	1000
Amount Requested from IRA	2440
Estimated Number of Students Participating	50
Conditions and Considerations	Artist/Performer/Speaker Fees & Honoraria, IT Requirements, Space/Facilities Services Requirements
Brief Activity Description	The primary objective of this project is to make concrete contributions to the creation of a more sustainable, robust CSUCI student food system via the development of campus based (and/or elsewhere) student community gardens ultimately managed by and for CSUCI students. In this regard, CSUCI faculty and staff, while initially responsible for guiding the development of the methods proposed herein, directing workshops, and analyzing results of the workshops, will increasingly rely on CSUCI students to conduct student community food need assessments and develop gardens on their own, including related student forums meant to catalyze broader student community engagement around issues of student food security and community gardening. To this end, students will participate in a complete community garden planning and development training program to learn how to best develop and operate their own gardens. Instruction will take the form of student participation in workshops given by subject matter experts and hands-on training in the creation of a campus based student community garden.
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	Community Gardens can provide fresh, healthy, low cost food that can substitute for otherwise expensive food purchases; encourage physical activity for all age groups; create a social gathering place for the community and encourage the sharing of inter-generational knowledge; enable participants to learn basic gardening skills, from sowing seeds to harvesting, and to better understand their food system; provide a welcoming space for participants to build self-confidence, wellness, and personal skills; and help improve the local environment by preserving and growing green space and by encouraging people to act as local stewards.
Description of Assessment Process	We will utilize a participatory methodology that starts with increasing student awareness and understanding of CSUCI student food security issues through participatory exercises and activities that incorporate extant research findings and CSUCI students' own words, conceptualizations, and on-the-ground realities. The Project Managers will also conduct workshops focused on teaching key qualitative and quantitative community garden development methods. These methods may include surveys, focus groups, scenario planning activities, and/or asset mapping. As such, we will be measuring success by the formation of clearly defined interdependent resource relationships, MOU's planned or begun to be formed, ideas and specific plans documented from meetings and summarized research findings, documented attendance and participation in forums, formal and informal gatherings with discussion on components of planning, explicit knowledge documented of patterns of food security and insecurity in the CSUCI student community, documentation of explicitly clarified opportunities and directions planned for beneficial change, presentation of findings to larger groups, and a collaboratively created final report.
Activity Budget	GROWINGAWARENESSBUDGETRegularIRAbudget.pdf
CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—

CIA Certification	—
Other Sources of Funding	Workshop participation fees of \$25/participant with 50 expected initial participants = \$1000
Target Audience/Student Marketing	The intended participants are students enrolled in ESRM, COMM and interested others from a variety of related programs concerned sustainable gardening, perma-culture, food security, environmental justice, intercultural campus community development, inter and intra generational equity and communication. There is likely also a broad section of the general public that could be invited to participate in the specific garden planning training and set-up/management demonstrations.
Bring Benefit to Campus	Ultimately, the training and demonstrations developed for the students of CSUCI could be offered to off campus community stakeholders interested in the program's methods and deliverables once developed. For example, many assisted living facilities, low income housing community residents, and otherwise underserved rural and urban communities may be interested in creating their own community gardens as a means of making better use of underutilized community member knowledge, skills and other available resources, thereby encouraging healthier eating habits, food security, knowledge of food production and increased responsibility for sound land stewardship practices.
Sustainability	<p>Community Gardens can contribute to campus sustainability initiatives in many ways as they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide fresh, healthy, low cost food that can substitute for otherwise expensive food purchases; - Encourage physical activity for all age groups; - Create a social gathering place for the community and encourage the sharing of inter-generational knowledge; - Enable participants to learn basic gardening skills, from sowing seeds to harvesting, and to better understand their food system; - Provide a welcoming space for participants to build self-confidence, wellness, and personal skills; and - Help improve the local environment by preserving and growing green space and by encouraging people to act as local stewards.[3] <p>In this regard, community gardens can not only contribute most directly to solving some of the broader food security and food justice issues highlighted by the recent study commissioned by Chancellor White (02/15) (i.e., by providing students with fresh, organic fruits and vegetables at a relatively low cost). They can also help cultivate local knowledge about sustainable food production and healthy eating, and bring together community members from a variety of ethnic, socio-economic and personal backgrounds in positive social interactions focused on a shared mission. And in this latter sense, community gardens can serve as valuable "Communication Assets" for the communities in which they are found.</p>
Program Chair/Director	donald.rodriquez
Dean	james.meriwether
Acknowledgement	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

Program Chair/Director Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Donald Rodriguez
Date/Time	9/30/2016 12:41:22 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-JD-3455
Comments	—

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	James Meriwether
Date/Time	9/30/2016 12:56:20 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-C9-8520
Comments	—

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	9/30/2016 12:56:20 PM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from james.meriwether, Dean	9/30/2016 12:41:22 PM	9/30/2016 12:56:20 PM	James Meriwether
Review from donald.rodriquez, Program Chair/Director	9/28/2016 1:26:20 PM	9/30/2016 12:41:22 PM	Donald Rodriguez
Fill out Request	9/26/2016 7:03:56 PM	9/28/2016 1:26:20 PM	RJ Maher

Actions

- [IRA Committee Decision](#)
- [View IRA Funds Request](#)