

Progress Report - Campus Sustainability Fund

May 2023: UArizona Sustainability Summit 2023

Email:

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Project Manager Name:

who is submitting this project?

Lexis Meza

Project Name:

UArizona Sustainability Summit 2023

Project Subaccount Number:

24078976

Project Summary Snapshot:

Please copy and paste the "Summary Snapshot" you provided in your project application.

Response

The Sustainability Summit is fully planned, run, and led by students and is a four-hour event that will serve as the pinnacle of Earth Week, an annual week-long celebration in April run by Associated Students for the University of Arizona (ASUA)'s Students for Sustainability program. This event will include a series of talks by local speakers on topics ranging from place-based solutions to the climate crisis to environmental justice to ecological resilience, and tabling on the UArizona mall from a variety of environmental and justice-focused organizations from across the UArizona and Tucson community. This summit will provide a sustainability-focused educational experience to the University of Arizona's student body as well as provide exposure for local community organizers and businesses.

Requested Metrics:

Please report your project's metrics and their most recent number or response in a list format.

Response

- CatCard Swipes – 33
- Stamp Cards Given Out- 40
- Stamp Cards Turned In- 34

Project Accomplishments :

Please describe what aspects of the project have been accomplished. Be as descriptive and specific as possible. Examples of accomplishments could include: Held 4 public meetings totaling 130 attendees; Transitioned 300 square feet of dirt into usable garden space and signed on 14 community

garden volunteers. Other examples of accomplishments could include sharing a confirmed schedule of events, the connections/contacts that have been established, etc.

Response

We successfully held a 4-hour event on April 19th, 2023, from 10am-2pm with 2 venues, 2 food vendors, 18 tabling organizations, and 10 speakers. 24 organizations signed up to table, 3 were unable to participate due to lack of volunteers to man the table, and 3 were no-shows. The day of the event, we had 11 volunteers from Students For Sustainability running logistics behind the scenes in addition to the head planner Lexis Meza and SFS co-director Poulami Soni. In planning this event, we held approximately 14 team meetings this semester with 5 core team members on the planning committee. As a part of our coordination efforts, we created and shared a confirmed schedule for both our tabling portion and speaker series. We also designed and shared event announcement graphics on social media and with participating organizations. We established and reaffirmed relationships with approximately 27 organizations, several of which expressed interest in continuing to speak at Students for Sustainability functions. Various event attendees shared their gratitude for the diversity of speakers and topics at our speaker series, including a representative from the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Next Steps:

Response

There are no next steps for the Sustainability Summit 2023. However, things can be reflected upon for future summits. The successes from this year's event can be carried into next year, and challenges can be improved upon.

Challenges Faced:

Please identify and describe any obstacles/roadblocks you or your team have experienced, and detail how you've managed them/ will manage them. Should your project already be completed, please note what challenges you faced and what you would do differently.

Response:

The Sustainability Summit ran smoothly, and had little obstacles in the running and set up/tear down of the event. However, there were a number of issues in getting everything that we wanted to get done completed. For example, a qualitative survey was desired but could not be done, and more advertising and outreach would have been nice but team members did not have the capacity to do so. These shortcomings on auxiliary, but desired, aspects of the event can be attributed to a number of different reasons. The big one is that the team only consisted of 5 individuals. For an event that requires coordination between multiple parties across speakers and tabling groups as well as the logistics of set up and other moving parts core to the event, there were already a significant amount of tasks to be completed among too few people. For future summits, having a bigger team would allow for more tasks to get done and for the event to feel more complete. Second was the timing of getting tasks completed. Approaching the day of the summit there were a number of tasks that still needed to be completed, but had to be dropped due to the time constraints. In the future, this can be alleviated by setting earlier deadlines for tasks as well as having a larger event team. The other large challenge faced was the lower than expected attendance of the event. To improve this, we can start advertisements earlier, more frequently, and with more sources. This will pull in more interest for the event, and a larger group devoted to this aspect would also help. Also, the event could be more centralized. Tabling was rather spread out on the mall, and so it could be interpreted as not part of the same event. With tabling closer together, not only will the event feel more cohesive, but more traffic would make its way to the SFS admin table, where the speaker sessions can be promoted better.

Project Support:

Can the CSF support you in addressing any roadblocks you've encountered? How else can the CSF support your project?

Response:

Potential means of support could include amplification of our marketing materials on social media, support from a professional photographer, and more presence in administrative support, i.e., the designated committee member attending the occasional planning meeting.

Photo Upload:

Please upload or provide links (below) to relevant photos.

Response:

{Empty} Photo Link https://drive.google.com/file/d/1820FC_2MoMnJZ0DFRuJ3N7uTO8ecYQ3/view?usp=drivesdk
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z-ywzrp_sfvp208WAI9htUCdZDz04Olv/view?usp=drivesdk
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oPxLxZtZ6wD1hmVslQ_H4JLeQtu1LOAq/view?usp=drivesdk

Photo Link:

Please copy hyperlinks to photos here should you not be able to individually upload photos.

Response:

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https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z-ywzrp_sfvp208WAI9htUCdZDz04Olv/view?usp=drivesdk
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oPxLxZtZ6wD1hmVslQ_H4JLeQtu1LOAq/view?usp=drivesdk

Media/Links:

Please include links to any media coverage or events information (e.g. news, social media, websites, interviews, etc.)

Response:

https://www.instagram.com/p/CrAO_g1OV7C/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y= <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cq-2D9wLwXT/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>