

Campus as a Laboratory for Sustainability Call for Proposals

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO DEC. 31, 2016

The Campus as a Laboratory for Sustainability (CALs) program seeks proposals from faculty and students for projects that can advance Syracuse University's Climate Action Plan (CAP), either by promoting reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), directly or indirectly, or by increasing awareness within the campus community about climate disruption and environmental sustainability. The CAP looks at social, environmental and economic sustainability with emphasis on measurable outcomes and/or cultural change. (<http://sustainability.syr.edu/campus/climate-action-plan/>)

Under the CAP funding, which was established to help accelerate sustainability related research and educational opportunities, CALS will accept proposals that may range from \$500 to \$50,000 for the 2016-17 fiscal year. Depending on the proposals submitted, multiple projects maybe chosen, but the total budgeted programs will not exceed \$50,000.

Proposals may include, but are not limited to faculty research projects, student-initiated research projects, applied research, campus infrastructure or landscape projects, outreach campaigns, service projects, or course development or enhancement.

A. PROGRAM PRIORITIES

1. All proposals should address climate disruption. This does not mean that they must focus narrowly on GHG emissions, or that they need climate as a primary focus. Proposals addressing environmental justice, urbanization, resource exploitation, or waste generation are appropriate, as long as they are placed in the context of climate disruption. Similarly, projects can focus on the response to climate change (adaptation and resilience) as well as on mitigation or prevention of GHG emissions. Proposals should be explicit about the relationship between proposed projects and climate disruption, as well as the expected contribution of the project to other sustainability challenges. Some examples of appropriate projects include:
 - a. a proposal about food that has an impact on agricultural or transportation emissions or the water-energy-transportation nexus;
 - b. a proposal about waste disposal that might reduce methane emissions from landfills or carbon dioxide emissions from incinerators;
 - c. a proposal about urban design that addresses the differential impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations or indirectly reduces GHG emissions by improving transportation efficiency.
2. All proposals must contain a communications component, either describing how the results will be disseminated, showing how the project will contribute to campus-wide understanding of the relevant issues, or outlining other outreach or educational activities;
3. In addition to the required criteria, any of the following features will be looked upon favorably in the selection process:
 - a. Proposals that involve cross-disciplinary collaboration or communication;
 - b. Proposals that could lead to additional, external funding;
 - c. Projects that build on results from previous initiatives, such as those that broaden collaborations or bring new audiences to prior work;
 - d. Proposals that address major components of the CAP, particularly energy conservation through existing technology or energy efficacy through emerging technologies;
 - e. Proposals that address one or more of the five "ABCDE" priorities laid out in the CAP (Analysis-Behavior-Communication-Demonstration-Engagement – see CAP, pp, 10-13)
 - f. Proposals that provide further cost reductions to the university through energy

efficiency, water savings, etc., which may further increase the pool of funds available for Campus as Laboratory in the future.

B. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

- All Syracuse University faculty and students may apply;
- Proposals from students must be sponsored by a faculty advisor;
- Proposals should be explicit about the relationship between proposed projects and climate disruption;
- All proposals must include detailed budgets and timelines;
- **The submission deadline is DECEMBER 31, 2016;**
- An application form with submission guidelines is available at <sustainability.syr.edu>.

C. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

- Summer salary or stipends for students must be justified as critical to the project and are subject to approval. Funds may not be used for faculty salary or living expenses.
- All funding will be disbursed in accordance with CAP funding guidelines and procedures proscribed by the University and the Division of Sustainability.
- All expenses and disbursements must be approved by the Project Manager/Requestor, Financial Manager and the Director of Energy Systems and Sustainability Management, and will be paid directly from the Division of Sustainability.
- Changes that modify the original scope of the project significantly will require approval by the Division of Sustainability, depending on the extent of the change.
- Requests for extension of the project completion date may be submitted to [insert relevant Office or contact person] before the funding is due to terminate. Such requests should outline the reasons for the extension and the proposed revised completion date.
- Any funds remaining in award accounts at proposed project completion dates will automatically revert back to the CAP Funding Account.
- Funds received by students and faculty related to coursework, thesis projects, or other degree requirements may be taxable.
- Any equipment purchased with CAP funds that is not part of a permanent installation, or to be used for ongoing research, will be returned to the Sustainability Division after completion of the project, to be made available for use by other initiatives. The Sustainability Division may label such equipment with instructions.

D. SELECTION:

An advisory group comprised of faculty from all 11 schools and colleges at SU will review the proposals and submit recommendations to the Chief Campus Facilities Officer and the Vice President for Sustainability Initiatives. We expect to announce the awards by December 16, 2016.

E. QUESTIONS AND ASSISTANCE:

Questions related to the CALS program and application procedures should be directed to Rachel May, sumay@syr.edu, 3-9726, or Melissa Cadwell, macadwel@syr.edu, 3-9669.