Meeting Summary
December 6, 2024

Council Members Present (via Zoom):

Bob Reuning — Interim Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer (Chair)
Scott Lupin — Assoc Dir., Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk; Director, Office of Sustainability
Ann Tonggarwee — Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Bryan Quinn — Director of Technical Operation, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
Maureen Kotlas — Executive Director, Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk
Colleen Wright-Riva — Assistant Vice President, Division of Student Affairs
Stephanie Yearwood — Professor, Environmental Science and Technology
Yueming Lucy Qiu — Professor, School of Public Policy, and Associate Dean, Research and Faculty Affairs
Eric Wachsman — Professor, Materials Science and Engineering, and Director, Maryland Energy Innovation Institute
Mark Addy — Executive Director, Systems and Networking, Division of Information Technology
Susan Corry — Director, Engineering and Energy, Facilities Management
Thomas McMullen — Special Assistant to the Provost, Facilities Management
Julia Ethan — Graduate Student Representative
Anushka Tandon — Undergraduate Student Representative

Guests Present:

Javiera King — Executive Assistant, Division of Information Technology
Reese Artero — President, Student Government Association
Mary Dorman — Associate Director, Research Safety

Meeting start time: 2:00 pm

Meeting Highlights

Announcements — *B. Reuning*

Bob Reuning introduced the new attendees and informed the group that Mary Dorman would be serving as the interim Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk when Maureen Kotlas leaves her position in December 2024.

The NextGen Energy Program — *S. Corry*

Susan Corry provided an update on the NextGen energy program (Appendix A). The development timeline was reviewed, with the following major events highlighted:

- Procurement process began: Pre-2018
- Board of Regents and Board of Public Works approval: Early 2023
- Commercial and financial close: Mid-2023
- Start of construction: July 1, 2023, expected to take about 3 years
- Completion goal: Summer 2027 for full scope of phase one improvements

Ms. Corry emphasized that the NextGen project has the full support of President Pines, and is in alignment with the state of Maryland's aggressive decarbonization targets. The project seeks to transition the campus to a fossil fuel-free power plant by 2035, achieving carbon neutrality by 2025 through lowering direct greenhouse gas emissions and the use of carbon offsets. UMD's energy system performance and goals were compared to other Big 10 schools, with UMD leading its Big 10 peers in both renewable energy use and utilization of wind and solar power.

Major construction milestones for the project were reviewed, starting with demolition activities that took place in summer 2024 to make room for the interim boiler plant. The interim boiler plant will provide steam to the campus while the new plant is being constructed through 2026. Other projects related to the program include renewing portions of the steam distribution system, replacement/electrification of primary chillers that serve approximately 15 buildings on campus, and a decarbonization study of campus.

Working closely with the Provost's Office and Maryland Energy Impact Partners (MEIP), a dedicated task force is developing an annual plan to foster academic collaboration with faculty researchers and students through scholarships, internships, and research partnerships.

Air permitting requirements were also reviewed. An air quality permit to construct the interim boiler plant, which will temporarily replace the central energy plant during its renewal, was obtained in January 2024. The next phase involves submitting an air permit application for the renewed central energy plant to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). This process will include public information sessions and possible public hearings to engage the community and address any concerns. Ms. Correy advised that the NextGen website can be accessed to learn more about the program and view project updates.

UMD SGA Sustainability Fee Proposal — *R. Artero*

Reese Artero, President of the Student Government Association, proposed a funding carveout from the University Sustainability Fund to support the Terp to Terp Campus ReUse Store, a campus resource providing donated appliances, clothing, and supplies to students (Appendix B). The proposal requests an annual allocation of $73,700 with a 3% cost-of-living adjustment to fund two student managers, seven program assistants, and one summer assistant. Ms. Artero emphasized the store's dual role in addressing basic student needs and promoting sustainability through waste reduction and community education. Highlighting the store's growing demand and successful track record, the proposal aimed to secure consistent funding to alleviate the administrative burden of repeated grant applications and ensure long-term operational stability. Ms. Artero also noted SGA's goal to further engage graduate students in contributing to the Sustainability Fee since these students also benefit from the resources maintained by the fund.

Council members present acknowledged the store's value in supporting student needs and sustainability goals but debated whether a permanent carveout or a three-year funding cycle was more appropriate. Concerns were raised about setting a precedent for future carve-outs and the potential to reduce funds available for other sustainability projects. Some suggested evaluating metrics like the store's environmental impact and student reach to strengthen its case in the future. Ultimately, the council voted to approve funding through a three-year cycle, requiring reapplication for continued support after that period.

Sustainability Fund Grant Recommendations, December 2024 — *A. Tandon*

Anushka Tandon, chair of the Sustainability Fund Review Committee (SFRC), presented recommendations for allocating funds from the Sustainability Fund, detailing project proposals, their goals, and the SFRC's rationale for funding decisions. A total of $1.7 million in requests was received, with the committee recommending about $746,000 in funding across selected projects. An overview of the projects reviewed in the council meeting are below:

1. Experiencing the Chesapeake Bay to Foster Connection and Stewardship: This $16,375.90 proposal included funding for three annual field trips for AREC200 students to enhance their hands-on understanding of the Chesapeake Bay's ecology and restoration efforts. Council members debated the inclusion of non-sustainability costs, such as student lunches, and emphasized the necessity of safety measures like life vests on these trips. While the program's alignment with experiential learning and sustainability education was supported, questions were raised about the need for including student lunches with the trip. **The proposal was approved.**

2. Updating the Sustainability Studies Minor Curriculum: The proposal requested $8,300.00 to fund a research assistant's work in discovering and recommending curriculum enhancements for the Sustainability Studies minor, which has not been updated since 2012. Council members questioned the SFRC's exclusion of the faculty stipend, raising concerns about oversight of the project and incorporation of the findings without faculty support. **Voting on the proposal was tabled to obtain further clarification about whether the project would be feasible without funding the faculty stipend.**

3. Unpaid Sustainability Scholarship: The proposal requested $150,000 over three years to provide students with stipends for unpaid sustainability internships. The goal of the project is to provide financial support to students in these positions who may not otherwise be able to afford these educational and career development opportunities. Some members questioned the lack of explicit financial need criteria, but the program's benefits for increasing access to sustainability careers were highlighted. **The proposal was approved.**

4. Monitoring Effects of Campus Creek Stream Restoration on Water Quality Phase 2: A sum of $42,000 was requested over three years to evaluate water quality and ecological impacts of the Campus Creek restoration project. Stream monitoring activities include student training, lab analysis, and data collection. Members of the council emphasized the educational value of the project and direct benefit to campus. **The proposal was approved..**

5. Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership: A proposal submitted by staff from the Office of Sustainability requested $469,563.06 over three years to fund five student interns and Associate position salaries. These positions benefit OS and the university through outreach and education programs, providing professional development opportunities for students and recent graduates, and fostering a culture of sustainability at UMD. The department's inability to fully fund these roles due to budget reductions was noted. Former OS interns shared personal stories about how these roles had transformative impacts on their careers. Many former associates have transitioned into state positions with the Office, demonstrating the program's success in creating a pipeline of sustainability leaders. **The proposal was approved.**

6. Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Summer 2025 Internships: This proposal requested $59,000 for summer 2025 to fund eight student internships, down from an initial request of ten through SFRC review. These internships would provide students with hands-on experience in tree inventory, conservation landscaping, and campus food garden management, contributing to campus sustainability efforts and food security. The proposal included hourly pay, meal plans, and necessary tools. The high relative hourly pay was deemed necessary to recruit for labor-intensive

summer work and make the internships more competitive. **The proposal was approved.**

Adjourn 4:20 PM

Appendices:

Appendix A: The NextGen Energy Program
Appendix B: UMD SGA Sustainability Fee Proposal
Appendix C: Sustainability Fund Grant Recommendations, December 2024

The NextGen Energy Program

Presentation to the University Sustainability Council

December 6, 2024

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FEARLESSLY FORWARD

NextGen Development Timeline

Phase 1 Definition

(2018-2021)

2018
Service Delivery Options Analysis to address end of life assets, system O&M reliability & sunset of Operator agreement

Initial Size: 30MW

2019
Commercial Model Options Analysis & Selection of Concession P3 for system O&M and Phase 1 implementation

Oct – Dec 2019
USM BOR Approval of Solicitation of Concession P3 for Phase 1

Jan – Apr 2020
MD BPW Approval of Solicitation of Concession P3 for Phase 1

2020
Phase 1 RFQ Issued & Proposer Shortlisting

Phase 1 Solicitation & Delivery

(2022-2027)

Apr-May 2022
Initial Proposals Due & Notification of Finalists

RFP responses submitted by shortlisted firms & shortlisting of 2 firms

Spring 2023
Best and Final Offers (BAFO) Proposals Due

BAFO Proposal review process

Reduced Size 15MW

June 2023
Preferred Finalist Designation

Preferred proposer identified and notified

Feb 2024
Approval received from BOR

Finalization of technical and financial scope

Spring 2024
Approvals from the MD BPW

UMD to seek other needed approvals & execute Concession Agreement

Summer 2024
Financial Closing & Phase 1 NTP

Completion of Phase 1 design and mobilization for transition from existing to new Operator

2027
Phase 1 Completion

Completion of CEP, DTP-4 & critical distribution system upgrades

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

President Pines' Commitment

"A carbon-neutral campus is a significant step, but now it's time to set our sights on reducing UMD's dependency on fossil fuels. We are committed to a fossil fuel-free power plant under the NextGen Energy Program."

- President Pines, Spring 2024

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FEARLESSLY FORWARD

State of Maryland decarbonization targets…

- 60% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2031 (2006 Baseline)
- Net-Zero emissions by 2045

NextGen aligns…

- Achieves **carbon neutrality on Day 1** through the use of carbon offsets
- **Reduces the CEP GHG emissions by 23%** starting in 2027
- Increases UMD's purchases of energy from renewable resources (including potentially renewable natural gas)
- Pathway to achieve **net-zero GHG emissions by 2035** through increased efficiency and lower consumption
- Critical component of **CAP 3.0**

How We Stack Up Against the Big 10 Schools

We lead Big 10 peers in renewable energy use, with **21% of total energy use coming from renewable sources**

We use **more wind and solar power** for our electricity use than any of our Big 10 peers, with approximately **67% of our electricity** use coming from these sources

Our **2025 carbon neutral goal** is in line with Big 10 peers

Our goal to achieve a **fossil-fuel free power plant by 2035** is in line with our more ambitious Big 10 peers

Procurement process

Maryland Energy Impact Partners (MEIP) is our partner

- Includes Plenary America US Holdings Inc., Kiewit Development Company/Kiewit Power Constructors Co., Honeywell International & Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc.

Procurement through Implementation

- 2021 – Competitive process with shortlisted proposers
- 2022 – Two finalists selected for BAFO stage
- 2023 – Identified private sector partner,
- 2024 – BOR and BPW approval
- 2024 – Implementation

NextGen Construction Timeline and Next Steps

- **Summer 2024:** Demolition of south wing, Service Building provides space for Interim Boiler Plant and construction of new energy plant
- **January 2025:** Interim Boiler Plant in place to serve steam needs of campus while new energy plant is under construction
- **2025 – 2026:** Construction of new energy plant (alternative fuel-capable equipment)
- **2026:** Renewal of steam distribution system from energy plant (across Baltimore Avenue) to campus steam lines
- **2027:** Renewal of a primary chiller plant on campus

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FEARLESSLY FORWARD

Economic & Community Benefits

- President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is estimated to provide incentives of $69M - $79M associated with cogeneration
- Construction is estimated to create 120 annual full-time trade employment opportunities at prevailing wages
- 15% of the total cost of the initial capital program classified as MBE or WBE
- Supports neighboring community (20,000 homes) during limited natural gas supply and/or periods of high demand

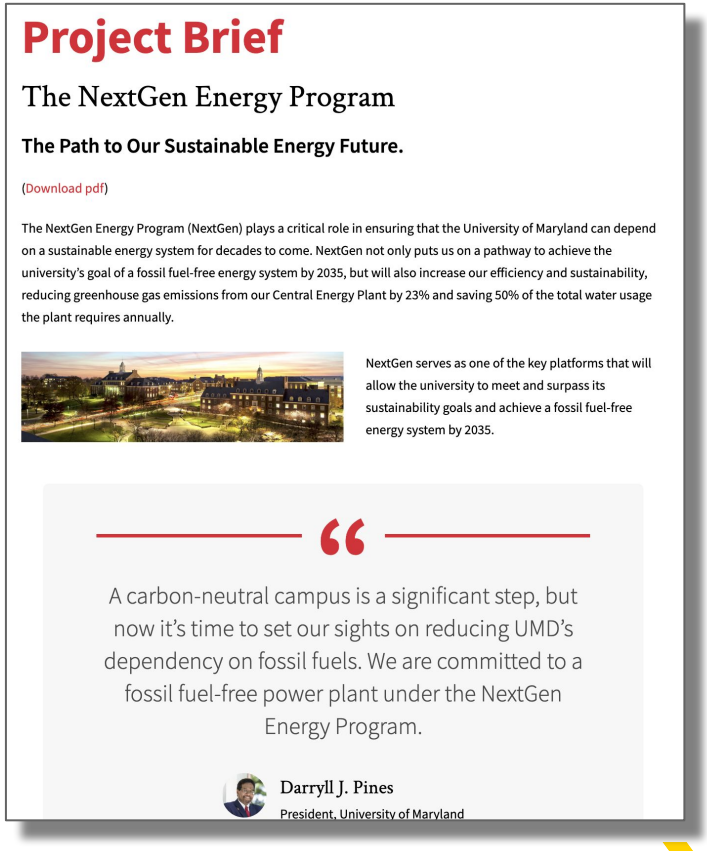
Decarbonization Study

- Analysis of campus transition to renewable natural gas
- 3-year heating, cooling and electrical load profile for every building
- Assessing building systems and identify measures to lower emissions
- Identify upgrades and costs for conversion to energy efficient and modern heating and cooling technologies
- Reduce consumption, enhance compliance with applicable energy regulations and reduce emissions

FEARLESSLY FORWARD

Communications

- Updated website to reflect the current state of the project
- Worked with Marketing & Communications on announcements / articles related to key project milestones
- Meetings with the following campus stakeholders:
    - Board of Regents
    - Board of Public Works
    - NextGen Advisory Group
    - President's Cabinet
    - Key state officials and agencies



Project Brief

The NextGen Energy Program

The Path to Our Sustainable Energy Future.

(Download pdf)

The NextGen Energy Program (NextGen) plays a critical role in ensuring that the University of Maryland can depend on a sustainable energy system for decades to come. NextGen not only puts us on a pathway to achieve the university's goal of a fossil fuel-free energy system by 2035, but will also increase our efficiency and sustainability, reducing greenhouse gas emissions from our Central Energy Plant by 23% and saving 50% of the total water usage the plant requires annually.

NextGen serves as one of the key platforms that will allow the university to meet and surpass its sustainability goals and achieve a fossil fuel-free energy system by 2035.

"A carbon-neutral campus is a significant step, but now it's time to set our sights on reducing UMD's dependency on fossil fuels. We are committed to a fossil fuel-free power plant under the NextGen Energy Program.

Darryll J. Pines
President, University of Maryland

Academic Collaboration

- Opportunities for undergraduates, graduates, and faculty members and researchers, including:
  - Student scholarships
  - Internships
  - Opportunities to collaborate

- Working with the Office of the Provost and MEIP partners to establish a task force that will develop annual plan

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FEARLESSLY FORWARD

Next Steps: Air Permit Public Process

- Air Permit to Construct, issued by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), to commence construction of the NextGen Central Energy Plant.
- Permit process will ensure that the new equipment in the CEP falls within required air pollutant limits based on equipment type and applicable state and federal standards for NOx, VOCs, CO, particulate matter, and SO_2
- Central Energy Plant is well below permitted limits.

For more information:
NextGen.umd.edu

UMD SGA SUSTAINABILITY FEE PROPOSAL

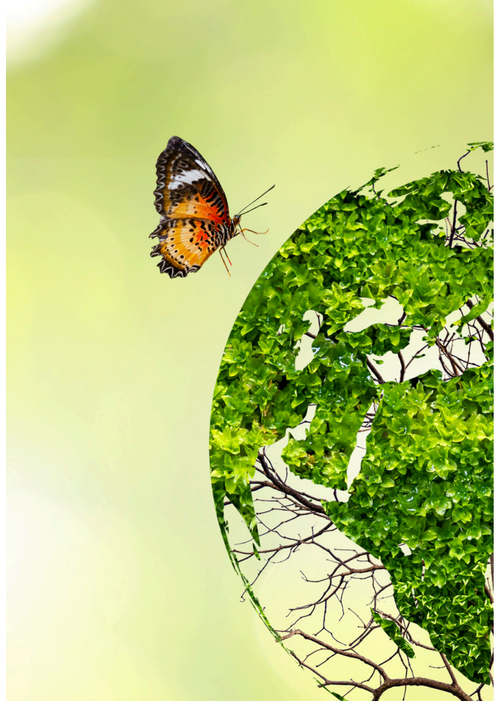
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

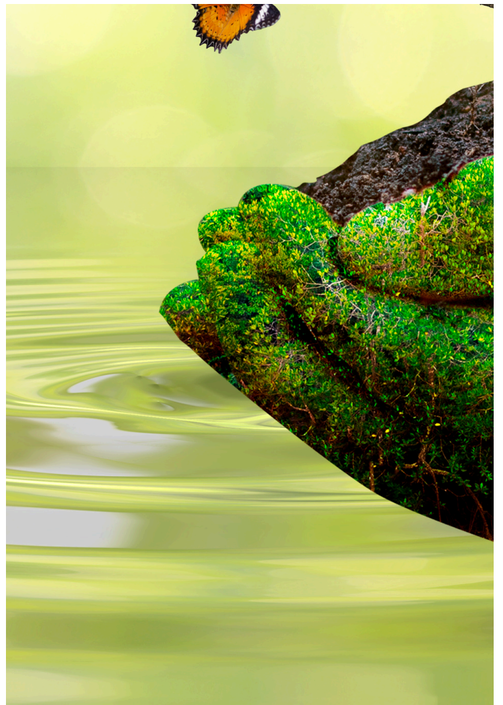
Fall 2024

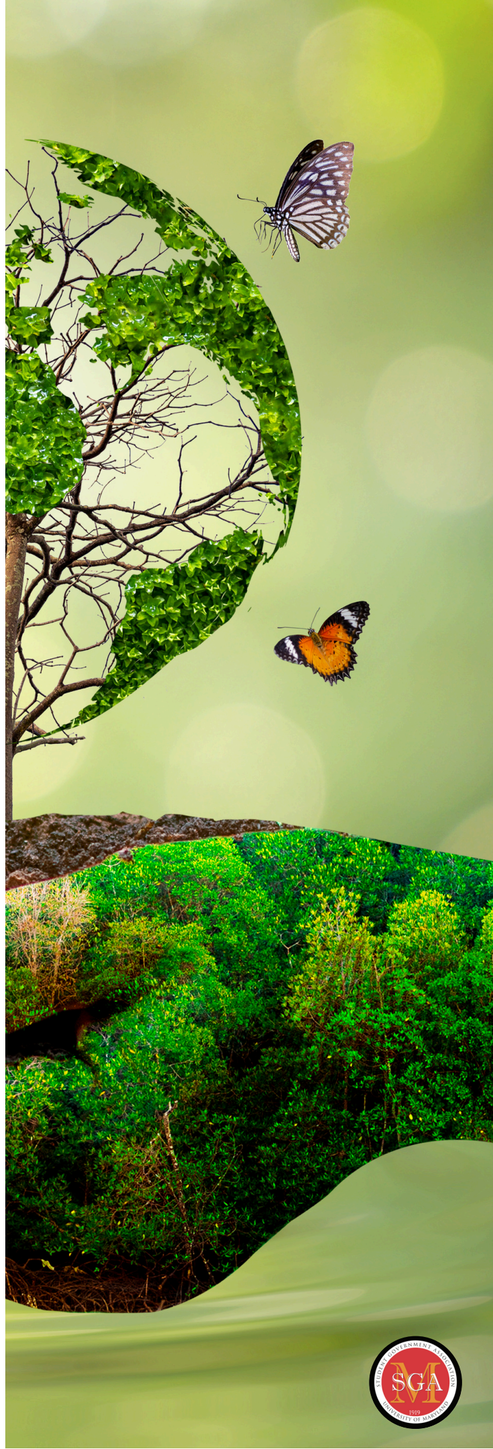
INTRODUCTION

The UMD Student Government Association proposes the following changes for FY25 onward:

- Request for $73,700 carveout (with 3% annual COLA adjustment)
- Sustains the Terp to Terp Campus ReUse Store as a critical resource for students
- Supports both essential student needs and campus sustainability goals







OVERVIEW OF FEE

Fee will generate: $837,900 annually to fund sustainability projects

Two funding streams:

- Grants (> $2,000) - University Sustainability Committee
- Mini-Grants (< $2,000) - SGA Sustainability Committee

Proposals for the fee must be approved by the University Sustainability Committee

UMD SGA SUSTAINABILITY FEE PROPOSAL

TERP TO TERP REUSE STORE

TERP TO TERP

- Free campus resource offering donated appliances, clothing, and supplies
- Operates based on an appointment system to serve low-income students

KEY GOALS

The Terp to Terp ReUse Store is a crucial aspect of the campus community, which strives to:

- Reduce waste through reuse and redistribution
- Educate the community on sustainable practices

RATIONALE FOR CARVEOUT

Why a Dedicated Carveout?

- Multi-year funding agreement is ending
- Terp to Terp fulfills essential needs for vulnerable students
- Grant process still requires application & metric assessment despite a proven track record of success and student use
- Provides educational programming, fostering social responsibility

Strategic Importance

- Supports equity and sustainability concurrently
- Demonstrates the university's commitment to supporting low-income students

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All funds are dedicated to projected labor costs as operations costs were previously subsidized by grants or other sources. It includes: 2 Student Managers, 7 Program Assistants, and 1 Summer Program Assistant. The proposal also covers a 3% increase in anticipation of COLA per year.

Fiscal Year	FT UG Fee	PT UG Fee	% Increase	$ Increase	Total Revenue	Carveout for Terp to Terp	Remaining Revenue
FY 2025	$30	$15	0%	$0	$837,900.00	$73,700.00	$764,200.00
FY 2026	$30	$15	0%	$0	$837,900.00	$75,910.00	$761,990.00

Remaining Revenue refers to the funds left that can be allocated toward the other facets of the Student Sustainability Fee.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

In summary, the UMD Student Government Association humbly asks for the Committee's considerations of the suggested proposal as it encourages a standing commitment to providing essential services to students and encourages similar programs to emerge.

Essential to Students

Terp to Terp is essential to student support and sustainability efforts

Long-Term Sustainability

Dedicated funding secures long-term operation without continuous application processes

Demonstrated Commitment

A carveout highlights the University's commitment to serving students

THANK YOU

Fall 2024

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

sustainability fund

GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS December 2024

Sustainability Fund Budget for FY25-FY27

FY25 General Info		Expenses	
FY25 Requested	$1,247,666.48	FY25 Recommendations	$287,872.54
FY26 Requested	$225,898.09	FY26 Recommendations	$225,898.09
FY27 Requested	$232,299.44	FY27 Recommendations	$232,299.44
Total requested	**$1,706,018.12**	**Total Grant recommendations**	$746,070.08
FY25 Total Available	$1,060,284.27	FY25 Remaining Balance if recommendations are approved	$772,411.73

Projects Recommended for Funding

1. Experiencing the Chesapeake Bay to Foster Connection and Stewardship
2. Updating the Sustainability Studies Minor Curriculum
3. Unpaid Sustainability Scholarship
4. Monitoring Effects of Campus Creek Stream Restoration on Water Quality Phase 2
5. Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership
6. Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Summer 2025 Internships

Experiencing the Chesapeake Bay to Foster Connection and Stewardship

Total Requested	$16,375.90	SFRC Recommended	$16,375.90
FY25 Requested	$5,298.10	FY25 SFRC Recommended	$5,298.10
FY26 Requested	$5,457.04	FY26 SFRC Recommended	$5,457.04
FY27 Requested	$5,620.75	FY27 SFRC Recommended	$5,620.75

Purpose: To provide hands-on Chesapeake Bay experiences, enhancing sustainability education and stewardship.

Summary: The grant will fund three annual field trips for 78 students in AREC 200 to explore the Chesapeake Bay through hands-on activities such as water quality sampling, seining, and visiting restoration sites. These trips aim to deepen students' connections with the Bay, enhance their understanding of sustainability and policy, and build community. The funding request of $13,632 covers participation fees, transportation, and snacks for a three-year duration.

Submitted by: Rebecca Epanchin-Niell, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Experiencing the Chesapeake Bay to Foster Connection and Stewardship

- **Primary Goal:** To secure consistent funding for Chesapeake Bay field experiences, ensuring long-term availability and allowing for the development of new learning opportunities.
- **Expected Impact:**
  - Enhanced student understanding of the Chesapeake Bay's ecosystem and sustainability challenges.
  - Increased appreciation for UMD's role in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
  - Strengthened connections between students and sustainability careers or internships.
- **Need:** Current funding sources are unreliable, creating barriers to maintaining and expanding these impactful field trips.
- **Eligibility:** Open to students enrolled in AREC 200, a general education course drawing participants from diverse disciplines, including many freshmen and transfer students.
- **Proposed Activities:** Three off-campus field trips annually:
  - Baltimore Harbor (urban ecology and oyster reef restoration).
  - Severn Creek and Annapolis Bay (water sampling and canoeing).
  - Anacostia River (local watershed history, ecology, and environmental justice).
- **Metrics for Success:** Number of students participating in field trips, Participant reflections, number of students that choose to pursue internships or professions related to sustainability and the bay

Experiencing the Chesapeake Bay to Foster Connection and Stewardship

Type	FY25 Request	FY26 Request (+3%)	FY27 Request (+3%)
Field Trip	$1,500.00	$1,545.00	$1,591.35
Transportation	$2,632.00	$2,710.96	$2,792.29
Lunch Costs	$1,166.10	$1,201.08	$1,237.12
FY25 Request			$5,298.10
FY26 Request			$5,457.04
FY27 Request			$5,620.75
Total Request			**$16,375.90**

Updating the Sustainability Studies Minor Curriculum

Total Requested	$13,959.80	**SFRC Recommended**	$8,300.00
Contingencies of Award	Will not be awarding the faculty stipend or fringe benefits. $1,500 for incentives that they can divvy up as they see fit. Awarding RA salaries.		

Purpose: To modernize the Sustainability Studies Minor curriculum to align with current trends in sustainability education, enhance student skills for the job market, and better incorporate principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

Summary: Funding a position for researching sustainability programs implemented at higher institutions across the country for the purpose of improving and revamping the UMD Sustainability Studies minor course offerings. Surveys will be conducted to gather information related to tailoring the minor to student needs. The ultimate goal of this proposal is to put together a report, using the amalgamation of gathered research and survey results; said report will then be used to make recommendations for updating the Sustainability Studies minor.

Submitted by: Joanna Goger, Sustainability Studies Minor, ENSP faculty

Updating the Sustainability Studies Minor Curriculum

- **Primary Goal**: The Sustainability Studies Minor has not been updated since its launch in 2012. Need to produce a comprehensive report with research findings and actionable recommendations for curriculum enhancements.
- **Expected Impact**:
  - Improved student preparedness for sustainability careers.
  - Better alignment of the curriculum with employer needs and sustainability education trends.
  - Contribution to UMD's leadership in sustainability education.
- **Proposed Activities:** Research on Peer Programs, Surveys and Stakeholder Engagement, Literature Review, Report Development, Implementation Suggestions
- **Metrics for Success:**
  - Number of peer programs analyzed.
  - Number and quality of survey responses from students, alumni, and employers.
  - Depth of literature reviewed on sustainability education.
  - Completion and impact of the final report, including its adoption and influence on curriculum changes.
- **Relevance to UMD Goals**: Aligns with UMD’s strategic priorities in sustainability, cross-departmental collaboration, and academic innovation.

Updating the Sustainability Studies Minor Curriculum

RA stipend - spring 2025	$17/hr, 10hr/wk, 14wks	$2,380.00
RA stipend - summer 2025	$17/hr, 10hr/wk, 12wks	$2,040.00
RA stipend - fall 2025	$17/hr, 10hr/wk, 14wks	$2,380.00
Compensation for Survey Participants		$1,500.00
FY25 Request		$8,300.00
FY26 Request		–
FY27 Request		–
Total Request		$8,300.00

Unpaid Sustainability Scholarship

Total Requested	$150,000	SFRC Recommended	$150,000
FY25 Requested	$50,000	SFRC Recommended	$50,000
FY26 Requested	$50,000	SFRC Recommended	$50,000
FY27 Requested	$50,000	SFRC Recommended	$50,000

Purpose: To provide financial support for students undertaking unpaid or low-paying sustainability internships, fostering equity, professional growth, and advocacy for sustainability careers.

Summary: The proposal seeks $150,000 over three years to offer stipends for students in sustainability-related internships. By addressing financial barriers, this program enables students to pursue meaningful opportunities in nonprofit and government sectors without financial constraints. It builds on a successful pilot program from FY23-24 and includes plans to expand eligibility, increase award amounts, and improve outreach.

Submitted by: Ian Gould, SGA Sustainability Co-Director, on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA)

Unpaid Sustainability Scholarship

- **Primary Goal**: Reduce barriers to accessing sustainability internships, particularly in nonprofit and government sectors, by offering financial scholarships.
- **Need**:
  - Unpaid internships are prevalent in sustainability fields, making them inaccessible to financially constrained students.
  - Supporting such internships aligns with UMD's commitment to sustainability, diversity, and inclusion.
  - Encourages students to pursue internships based on passion and career goals, not financial necessity.
- **Eligibility**:
  - Internships must align with sustainability goals (e.g., environmental justice, conservation).
  - Applicants must articulate career relevance and supervisor approval.
  - No academic GPA requirements to ensure inclusivity.
- **Broader Impacts**:
  - Cultivates the next generation of sustainability leaders.
  - Long-term contributions to environmental advocacy and sustainable practices.
- **Metrics for Success**:
  - Number of applicants, awards granted, and total funds disbursed.
  - Participant feedback and internship outcomes.
  - Alumni tracking to measure career impact in sustainability fields.

Unpaid Sustainability Scholarship

Fall and Spring	420-530 total hours	$1,250	Maximum of 15 awards
	318-419 total hours	$1,000	
	216-317 total hours	$750	
	113-215 total hours	$500	
Summer	420-530 total hours	$1,750	No limit on awards
	318-419 total hours	$1,500	
	216-317 total hours	$1,250	
	113-215 total hours	$1,000	
FY25 Request		$50,000	
FY26 Request		$50,000	
FY27 Request		$50,000	
Total Request		$150,000	

Monitoring Effects of Campus Creek Restoration on Water Quality Phase 2

Total Requested	$42,000.00	SFRC Recommended	$42,000.00
FY25 Requested	$14,000.00	SFRC Recommended	$14,000.00
FY26 Requested	$14,000.00	SFRC Recommended	$14,000.00
FY27 Requested	$14,000.00	SFRC Recommended	$14,000.00

Purpose: To monitor and evaluate the environmental impacts of the Phase 2 Campus Creek stream restoration project, providing valuable data on water quality and creating educational opportunities for UMD students.

Summary: The proposal seeks $42,000 over three years to continue water quality monitoring and analysis for the Campus Creek restoration. The project will involve UMD undergraduate and graduate students in hands-on research, leveraging new monitoring technologies to document pollutant reductions and restoration outcomes. This work builds on the successful Phase 1 restoration and contributes to UMD's sustainability goals by informing future restoration practices.

Submitted by: Dr. Sujay Kaushal, Department of Geology and Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center.

Monitoring Effects of Campus Creek Restoration on Water Quality Phase 2

- **Primary Goal:** To quantify the water quality benefits and tradeoffs of stream restoration and train students in field research and data analysis.
- **Expected Impact**:
  - Improved understanding of water quality changes across urban and restored sections of Campus Creek.
  - Creation of educational and professional development opportunities for UMD students.
  - Contribution to UMD's sustainability initiatives and regulatory compliance.
- **Need:** Phase 2 restoration offers a unique opportunity to capture pre- and post-restoration data, building on limited Phase 1 insights. Without funding, critical monitoring and analysis may not occur, missing valuable opportunities to assess restoration impacts and inform future projects.
- **Proposed Activities:**
  - Conduct high-frequency water quality monitoring using advanced sensors.
  - Train students in sampling techniques, lab analysis, and big data analytics.
  - Develop research reports, senior theses, and conference presentations based on findings.
- **Relevance to UMD Goals:** Advances UMD's sustainability goals through better water management, student research, and regulatory support, strengthening its environmental leadership.

Monitoring Effects of Campus Creek Restoration on Water Quality Phase 2

Budget for 1 year	
Stream Sampling	$4,500
Lab Water Quality Analyses	$7,000
High-Frequency Sensor Analyses in Stream	$2,500
FY25 Request	$14,000
FY26 Request	$14,000
FY27 Request	$14,000
Total Request	$42,000

Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership

Total Requested	$496,563.06	SFRC Recommended	$496,563.06
FY25 Requested	$150,443.32	SFRC Recommended	$150,443.32
FY26 Requested	$156,441.05	SFRC Recommended	$156,441.05
FY27 Requested	$162,678.69	SFRC Recommended	$162,678.69

Purpose: To maintain and expand the Office of Sustainability's programs by funding student interns and Associates to enhance sustainability outreach, education, and communication across the UMD campus.

Summary: The proposal seeks $469,563.06 over three years to support two Associates and multiple student interns in leading sustainability initiatives, such as the Green Terp and Green Chapter programs, Climate Literacy projects, and peer-to-peer education. These positions will also enable the development of new programs like the Sustainability Literacy Assessment and enhance engagement with UMD's sustainability goals.

Submitted by: Scott Lupin, Director, UMD Office of Sustainability

Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership

- **Primary Goal:** To sustain and grow the Office of Sustainability's outreach and education programs, providing professional development opportunities for students and recent graduates while fostering a culture of sustainability at UMD.
- **Expected Impact:**
  - Improved sustainability literacy and engagement among students, staff, and faculty.
  - Increased opportunities for professional development and leadership for interns and Associates.
  - Enhanced outreach and peer education programs, expanding UMD's sustainability efforts.
- **Eligibility:** The program supports undergraduate student interns and recent graduates (Associates), with a focus on sustainability education, outreach, and program development.
- **Proposed Activities:**
  - Maintain key programs like Green Terp and Green Chapter.
  - Develop new initiatives, including the Sustainability Literacy Assessment and enhanced climate education outreach.
  - Expand peer-to-peer education and community engagement events.
- **Need:** Due to budget constraints, the Office of Sustainability cannot fully fund the required positions to maintain its programs. This grant will ensure long-term planning, program continuity, and the ability to meet the growing demand for sustainability initiatives at UMD.

Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership

- **Proposed Undergraduate Intern Positions:**
  - **Communications Intern:** needed to enhance the Office of Sustainability's digital presence and promote campus sustainability efforts.
  - **Green Chapter Intern:** critical role in running, maintaining, and improving the Green Chapter program and incorporating sustainability into all facets of Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL).
  - **Outreach and Events Intern:** help create fun activities and demonstrations to encourage students to participate in sustainability. In addition, the intern will support attending large campus events (such as EarthFest and UMD Farmers Market) and identify new opportunities to partner with student organizations and campus departments.
  - **Staff Engagement Intern:** will play a pivotal role in marketing, promoting, and tracking engagement with the Sustainability Badge as well as ideate, organize, and facilitate engagement activities such as campus events, presentations, and webinars.
  - **Climate Education Intern:** support the Sustainability Manager in creating educational content and communications that enhance climate literacy and promote the university's climate commitments.
- **Proposed Associate Positions:**
  - **Outreach and Communications Associate**: will support in managing and implementing outreach and communications programs that engage students, faculty, and staff.
  - **Sustainability Associate:** will have broad responsibilities that support in maintaining its current programs including outreach and education programs; development of a sustainability literacy assessment for students; benchmarking OS programs against other colleges and universities to ensure our programs are best in class; making class presentations; and responding to student, faculty and staff inquiries.

Sustaining Student Engagement, Education, and Environmental Leadership

	FY25	FY26	FY27
Intern	$12,979.20	$13,498.37	$14,038.30
Associate 1	$29,012.50	$30,173.00	$31,379.92
Associate 2	$21,759.38	$22,629.75	$23,534.94
Fringe Benefits	$11,220.58	$11,669.41	$12,136.18
Non-Labor Training	$500	$500	$500
FY25 Request			$150,443.32
FY26 Request			$156,441.05
FY27 Request			$162,678.69
Total Request			$469,563.06

Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Summer 2025 Internships

Total Requested	**$74,788.90**	**SFRC Recommended**	**$59,831.12**
Contingencies of Award	Will fund 8 out of the 10 proposed internship positions.		

Purpose: To provide paid summer internships at the UMD Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, enabling students to gain practical experience, support campus sustainability efforts, and enhance their professional skills.

Summary: The proposal requests $74,788.90 to fund ten interns for the summer of 2025. Interns will engage in activities such as maintaining the tree canopy, managing conservation landscapes, growing food for the Campus Pantry, and creating educational materials. Additional funding will cover professional development opportunities like attending the American University Green Professionals Field Day.

Submitted by: Meg Smolinski, Outreach Coordinator, UMD Arboretum & Botanical Gardens.

Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Summer 2025 Internships

- **Primary Goal:** To expand student involvement in sustainability initiatives through meaningful paid internships, fostering professional development and environmental stewardship.
- **Expected Impact:**
  - Increased contributions to campus sustainability, including enhanced tree inventory and food donations to the Campus Pantry.
  - Development of professional and leadership skills in students, preparing them for the workforce.
  - Strengthened connections among students, staff, and sustainability resources at UMD.
- **Need:** Currently, the Arboretum lacks dedicated funding to offer paid internships, which creates a barrier for many students. Paid opportunities allow more students, especially those with financial constraints, to gain valuable experience while contributing to UMD's sustainability goals.
- **Proposed Positions:**
  - Tree Inventory Intern: work to correct and update data in our tree inventory
  - Campus Food Gardens Intern: work with the Community Learning Garden
  - Conservation Landscape Intern: work with campus horticulturists
- **Metrics for Success:** Student/Supervisor Evaluations
- **Broader Impacts**: Builds a pipeline of sustainability professionals with hands-on experience, contributes to UMD's carbon neutrality, supports food security - donations to the Campus Pantry

Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Summer 2025 Internships

Hourly Pay	$53,760
Block Meal Plan (50) for Lunch	$4200
Admission to American University Green Professionals Field Day	$960
Uniforms	$311.20
Tools	$599.92
FY25 Request	$59,831.13
FY26 Request	-
FY27 Request	-
Total Request	$59,831.13