Clusters

12-15-2017

Campus as a Living-Learning Laboratory: Engaging Students to Communicate Sustainability at Merrill Place

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PSU Integrated Cluster (IC) Project Funding Process & Proposal Form

Project Proposal Submittal Process: All IC projects requesting funding will require the completion and submittal of three (3) forms:

☒ **Project Proposal Form – project scope & outcomes** (*included in this document*)

☒ **Project Guidelines Form – reflective document outlining desirable IC project attributes**

☒ **Project Budget Form – Excel spreadsheet to facilitate budget planning**

Instructions for Submitting Project Proposals:

- ✓ Download the 3 forms to your computer
- ✓ Complete the forms and save them; including the title of your project in the file name
- ✓ Forward the 3 files via email to the IC Project Manager, Ross Humer rhumer@plymouth.edu
- ✓ Project Proposal will be logged & forwarded to the appropriate IC Guide Team

If not reviewed in advance of the submission, it is important to discuss the Project with the IC Guides to review, refine, and rework (if necessary) to obtain funding approval.

Project Funding Review Process: All proposed projects will be reviewed by the Cluster Guide team. Depending on the level of funding amounts being requested, the proposal request will follow the process outlined as follows:

- **Level 1:** Any project with a proposed budget of less than or equal to $1,000 can be approved by the Cluster without additional review
- **Level 2**: Any project with a proposed budget of $1,000 but less than $5,000 can be approved by the IC Project Review Team, which is made up of representatives from each of the 7 Clusters (*see release time exception directly below*)
- **Level 3**: Any project with a proposed budget of $5,000 or greater **or** requires faculty release time, must be first endorsed by the IC Project Review Team and submitted to the Academic Deans for review and approval

The project funding approvals are limited to one academic year; projects which require additional funding in subsequent years will need to be resubmitted annually for review and approval.

Deliverables: At the conclusion of the academic year, a deliverable to the Integrated Cluster Proposal Review Team and Academic Deans is required in order for the project director/coordinator, artist, or author and collaborator(s) to be eligible for future funding. This reporting requirement may be met by numerous means which will be identified as this process matures. It is anticipated that awardees will present their works before a wide public gathering to be scheduled during the upcoming Academic Year.

Instructions for the PSU Integrated Cluster Project Proposal Form: Please complete all of the elements of the following form in the spaces provided before saving and then submitting the document.

PSU Integrated Cluster Project Proposal Form

Title: **Campus as a Living-Learning Laboratory: Engaging Students to Communicate Sustainability at Merrill Place**

Project Leadership: (Identify Project Director/Manager or Co-Manager/s **Brian Eisenhauer**

Project Description: The Merrill Place Residence Hall being constructed at PSU has high sustainability standards and is on-track to be built to LEED (Leadership in Environmental Engineering and Design) Gold level standards, which means the building adheres to the standards of the US Green Building Council's criteria for what makes a building sustainable. Presenting information about the building's sustainability features to users of it can influence their own behavior in the building and beyond, highlights the progressive work of PSU and Perkins and Will, and demonstrates PSU's commitment to sustainability and to engaging students in cluster based work to tell our story. To meet these needs the project brings students in multiple classes together with PSU Office of Environmental Sustainability staff, Residential Life staff, faculty from multiple departments, and members of the Perkins and Will design team to collaborate through a series of class assignments to produce signage for the building. Students in two sections of the fall '16 *Issues in Sustainability* class had several visits with OES and Perkins and Will staff to identify the most salient features of the building to highlight in the signage. The Merrill Place Design Team made of PSU staff and members of the Perkins and Will firm determined the final deliverables for the building produced from the student work. A graphic design class will use the information produced by the classes in collaboration with the building design team and others involved in the work to produce final designs for the signage. The final products are seven (7) signs: One for the lobby describing the project as a whole, and signs for floors 2-7 that each highlight a different sustainability feature of the building.

Project Goals and Outcomes:

Project Goals – Briefly identify and describe the objectives of this project

- Engage students in interdisciplinary experiential learning projects with an applied outcome
- Model partner engagement and client relationships to students through the work
- Teach basic principles of sustainability in buildings

- Teach the importance of communicating sustainability and best principles for doing so
- Provide graphic design students with a "real-world" collaborative application of their skills
- Provide important information to residents of and visitors to Merrill Place that can affect the behavior of people in the building and publicly demonstrate PSU's and Perkins and Will's commitment to sustainability and to engaging students in cluster based projects

Student Learning Outcomes – Outline the expected student learning outcomes
- Knowledge of the basic principles of sustainability
- Ability to apply basic sustainability principles in basic building and design questions
- Familiarity with criteria on how to evaluate the sustainability of planning and design choices
- Recognition of the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in sustainability and design
- Insight into collaboration and project management skills driven by a professional collaborative setting
- Appreciation for the cluster concept and the applicability of interdisciplinary work to address "real-world" challenges

Project Synopsis (objectives & outcomes): 30 word maximum; capture the project objectives and most significant outcomes for the project. This synopsis should be written for potential use in our internal communications and external Marketing/PR activities.

Project Synopsis (objectives & outcomes): The project engages students from multiple classes with architects, Residence Life, faculty from multiple departments, and PSU sustainability staff to produce signage about the sustainability features of Merrill Place.

Project Documents/Pictures/Videos On-line Archive: post the link to on-line project resources captured in this project, especially, pictures, videos, "Quotable Quotes" and other project documents.

Project Documents/Pictures/Videos On-line Archive: We look forward to capturing these moments, and already have some pictures from the class.

Rationale and Impact:

Considering the questions below, please write your project rationale and impact statement.

Include how this project will further the Mission and Vision of PSU with respect to 1) fostering collaboration across disciplines; 2) addressing a relevant societal issue, and 3) establishing relationships with community partners, external institutions, companies, non-profits, schools, government agencies, etc. and 4). Making an impact

How does this proposed project advance the Integrated Cluster mission and vision? How does this project facilitate high impact teaching and learning, cross disciplinary collaboration, student engagement and partnership involvement, and real world problem exploration? What are the anticipated impacts of this project?

Is this project an extension of work already in progress, or an entirely new endeavor? Does it integrate with areas that team leaders are already teaching or is it an opportunity to delve into unfamiliar content or a bit of both?

Project Rationale and Impact Statement: Creating a more sustainable future is one of the most important issues of the 21st century, and the knowledge and practices involved in addressing these issues draw from many academic disciplines. In recognition of the importance of this challenge and the role of higher education in creating change, Plymouth State University has made public commitments to work with students and our community to be a leader in the pursuit of sustainability. The project proposed brings students in multiple classes together with PSU Office of Environmental Sustainability staff, Residential Life staff, faculty from multiple departments, and members of the Perkins and Will design team to collaborate through a series of class assignments to produce signage about the sustainability features of the new Merrill Place residence hall. The final products are a large display about the building's sustainability features in the lobby, and signs on each floor highlighting a different specific sustainability feature of the building. The project is already underway in existing classes in different departments, and integrates on and off campus partners. Presenting information about the building's sustainability features: can influence the behavior of residents and users in the building and beyond, highlights the progressive work of PSU and Perkins and Will, and demonstrates PSU's commitment to sustainability and to engaging students in cluster based work. This story of collaboration is an example of how class activities use our campus as a "living learning laboratory" for high impact teaching and learning. The elements of interdisciplinary collaboration, student engagement and partnership involvement, and real world problem exploration can be shared with the campus community and beyond.

Project Team

PSU Project Participants (essential core team participants including faculty and staff)

Name	Position/ Title	Project Role	Discipline/ Specialty	Email
Brian Eisenhauer	Director, Office of Environmental Sustainability; Professor of Sociology	Coordinator and Instructor	Sustainability / Social Science	bweisenhauer@plymouth.edu
Mary Ann McGarry	ESP faculty member	Instructor of two sections of Issues in Sustainability that were engaged in learning about, designing, and recommending signage to be placed in the new building.	Science and environmental education	mmcgarry@plymouth.edu
Pam Anneser	Associate Professor, Art	Design Advisor	Graphic Design	ppanneser@plymouth.edu

Non-PSU Project Participants (stakeholders; partners; academic institution; etc.)

Name	Organization	Project Role	Discipline/ Specialty	Email
Yanel de Angel	Perkins and Will	Liaison with Merrill Place Design Team	Building Design	Yanel.deAngel@perkinswill.com

Student Participant Profile (Identify the student population/s to be engaged in the project. Identify if this has been or is planned to be incorporated into curricula)

Class/ Student Organization/ Individuals	Role in Project	Academic Level (Undergraduate or Graduate)	Academic Discipline	Total Student Population
Two classes of approximately 20 students each enrolled in the course "Issues in Sustainability"	Each class engaged with the Director of the Office of Sustainability and one class engaged with Residential Life Staff and the other with a representative from Perkins and Will	All participants in the classes were undergraduate students.	The Issues in Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course with students from all majors. The course fulfills the self and society general education requirement.	43
PSU Student Design Company	Design needs, Signage	Undergraduate	Graphic Design	6-10

IRB (Institutional Review Board) Compliance

IRB Compliance: http://www.plymouth.edu/office/institutional-review-board/

☒ This project DOES NOT require IRB compliance
☐ This project DOES require IRB compliance (*complete below*)

IRB Approval Status: Select an Option

IRB Approval Date: Click here to enter a date.

Any funding approvals of IRB-required projects are contingent on obtaining IRB approval.

Project Management: Timeline and Milestones

Identify the timeline for the project including start, completion, and major project milestones. A closing report will be required as a part of the project funding process.

Project Start Date: 6/1/2016

Project Complete Date: 5/15/2017

Project Milestone	Milestone Description	Target Completion Date
Two sections of Issues in Sustainability classes engaged with partners to learn about sustainable features and then developed recommendations for sustainable messages.	**Each class produced a final product outlining recommendations and all students were asked to share reflections about the meaning and value of being engaged in the applied service project.**	**All materials from the two fall '16 classes were forwarded to the Director of the office of Sustainability at the beginning of February '17.**
Coordination with PSU Merrill Place Team and Perkins and Will Design Team	**Final Products for Building Determined**	**3/1/2017**
Draft Designs	**Draft designs for the signage is created by students and reviewed by stakeholders**	**4/15/2017**
Final Designs	**Final signage designs created by students and approved by stakeholders**	**5/7/2017**
Signage in Building and Class evaluates impact	**Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 classes evaluate the effects of the signage**	**5/1/2018**

Please identify any pre-project education or training for students, faculty, and staff that would be helpful for your project team to have in advance to begin work on a strong footing (e.g., skill training,

concepts), and identify any training and education that you are willing to help provide during the preparatory period for the project team before team work formally begins.

Student Education/ Training Requirements: Addressed as part of the project, thanks.