

SIU Sustainability Council 'Green Fund' Project
Final Report

Name:

Department:

Contact information:

Faculty advisor:

Project title: Growing LOGIC: Creating Long-Term, Sustainable Organic
and Permaculture Gardens for the SIUC Community

Project I.D. #: ID number 41210 Spring 2012

Award date: April 2012 (3 year project)

Completion date: August 2015

Funds used: \$ 80,554

Funds Awarded: \$ 88,054

Brief write up of project/project experience:

This project built on previous successes to enhance the initial sustainability projects of LOGIC (Local Organic Gardening Initiative of Carbondale) at the Sustainability Center (vermicomposting site)[See attached Photos]. Please note that LOGIC is now called the: Local Gardening Initiative of Carbondale, as we cannot use the term "organic" without being USDA Certified. This three year Green Fund project funded a Graduate Assistant (GA) for LOGIC, a water catchment system on the West roof of the Vermicenter Building, deer fencing, and reconstruction of deteriorating raised beds, and essential gardening equipment / supplies. New initiatives that were accomplished through this Green Fund award include: 1) LOGIC on-campus Farmer's Market (Farm Stand each Wednesday throughout the growing season in Faner Breezeway), 2) participation of LOGIC in the Carbondale Community Farmers Market at the High School, 3) a new campus CSA (Community Supported Agriculture Program), 4) Fall Festival in 2014 and 2015 that attracted visitors from campus and the community, 5) numerous school fieldtrips to visit LOGIC, and 6) integration of LOGIC with the SIU Sustainable Farm. Through this Green Fund award, LOGIC is continuing to succeed and attract student participation from across campus. These initiatives must continue to be an important part of sustainability at SIU.

Best things learned/produced from project:

We have built a community of diverse students from various majors around campus. This is an excellent showcase for sustainability: personal commitment to growing food, learning about natural agroecosystems, and connecting with new friends. [See clips of Facebook and Twitter pages, attached].

How do you define sustainability?

The three pillars of sustainability are all important for LOGIC: Social, Ecological, and Economic factors. Students build strong social connections with peers at the garden; they learn about the agroecology of the garden; and they understand the economic demands of gardening/farming through the Farm Stand sales and marketing.

Has this changed over the course of your project? If so, how?

The economic aspects are becoming more important through the participation of LOGIC in the Farm Stand and Farmers' Markets.

What do you see as the next step for the project?

We hope LOGIC will be a showcase for sustainability at SIU for many years into the future. Please note that we published two articles which describe campus food gardens and sustainability in higher education. The first is a case study of LOGIC and its development in sustainability initiatives on campus. The second is a national overview of the relationship between sustainability and campus food gardens.

Duram, L.A. and L. Williams. 2015. Growing a student organic garden within the context of university sustainability initiatives. *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education* 16 (1): 3-15.

Duram, L.A., and S. Klein. 2016. University Food Gardens: A Unifying Place for Higher Education Sustainability. *International Journal of Innovation and Sustainable Development* 9(3/4): 282-302.

Other Information:

*Informative brief video about LOGIC: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtVhfRuoxSk>

*Webpage: www.LOGIC.siu.edu

*Facebook: LOGIC SIU Student Garden

*Twitter: @LogicSIU

*See attached images



Active Facebook presence.



Twitter feed for LOGIC.



Fun in the Field Friday,
August 2015. The new raised
beds.



Fall is here! Kale and spinach are coming in!



Carbondale Community High School Fieldtrip to LOGIC



Carbondale Community Farmers' Market



Harvesting Carrots from the Hoophouse



Weeding in the Hoophouse,



Working in the Hoophouse



Harvesting the front beds



Sorting Carrots



Planting Garlic