

TGIF
Toro Green Initiative Fund
Report
2021-22

Toro Green Initiative Fund Report 2021-22

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Based on the success of the 2018-2019 Toro Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) initially funded by President Parham to spur student leadership around sustainability projects on campus, the CSUDH Office of Sustainability began offering a permanent, annual \$5,000 renewing fund to support TGIF.

Ten students submitted project ideas to TGIF in the 2021-22 academic year, seven of which were awarded and implemented during the 2022 spring semester.

Reusable Utensils for Dining

Student Applicant: Chloe Chavez | Amount Awarded: \$1,000

This project proposed piloting reusable utensils in the Loker Student Union food court. Based on the conditions at the time, the team agreed with Dining to procure an according amount of reusable utensil sets for giveaways to help promote reusable cutlery use by students.



Toro Fresh: One of the many eateries in the Loker Student Union

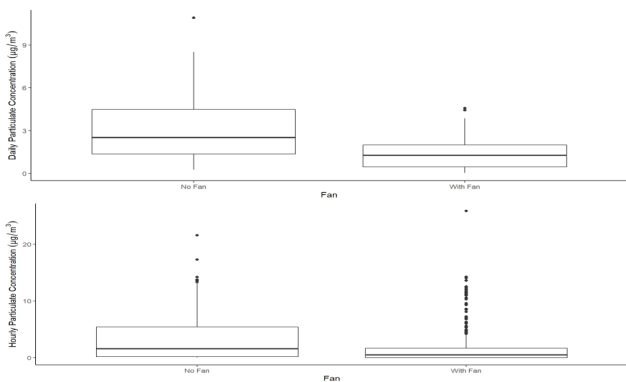
Sustainability Research Projects

Indoor Air Quality- Project Materials

**Student Applicant: Armando Garcia & Kimberly Campos
Amount Awarded: \$65**

The purpose of this research project was to see if a low-cost air purifier can help reduce air pollution in a classroom setting. The TGIF funds covered the cost of materials (\$65) needed to assemble the prototype filter. A PurpleAir monitor (which measures PM2.5) was installed in classroom LIB 1114 on March 3, 2022 with the low-cost air purifier to measure the everyday levels of PM2.5. It was left to record data up until April 9 when the low-cost purifier was installed.

The PurpleAir monitor and the low-cost purifier were left in the classroom until May 13. A boxplot was created for both hourly and daily averages to compare the mean of the data collection with and without the low-cost air purifier. The preliminary analysis shows that there is a distinctive difference in means between the two.



Boxplot data of indoor air quality research project funded by the TGIF 2021-22 round.

Increase EV Chargers

Student Applicant: Raymond Nunez | Amount Awarded: \$0

This application focused on the lack of available electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure on campus, and proposed funding to increase the number of available EV charging spots. Based on existing efforts by Facilities Services, Parking, and upper administration, this was already a priority issue for the campus. Instead, this student was tasked with supporting critical assessment research to pave the way for future EV infrastructure planning. This included comparisons of existing EV charging styles, rate structures, head models, point-of-sale providers, etc. to help inform planning for CSUDH's future EV charging projects. The student's findings were submitted to the Office of Sustainability in May 2021.



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Bicycle Rack- Welch Hall

Student Applicant: Liz Hernandez | **Amount Awarded:** \$450

This application proposed a general increase in the amount of green infrastructure on campus. Based on further discussion with the awarded student, they opted to apply the TGIF award towards a new bicycle rack on campus. This was placed at the base of the Welch Hall stairs, a high-demand area, outside the Claudia Hampton Lecture hall in spring semester 2021.



New bicycle rack at Welch Hall

Zero Waste Deskside Inserts



Student Applicant: Angelo DeGuzman | **Amount Awarded:** \$2,500

In order to support the campus zero waste program, this student proposed providing deskside recycling bins and inserts to assist campus staff with correctly sorting their trash (i.e. providing recycling options beyond just a landfill bin). The awarded funds supported the purchase of 100 deskside recycling bins, 50 landfill inserts (to convert existing bins into recycling bins instead), and 400 incentive prizes for taking the accompanying pledge committing the user to sorting their waste correctly. The bins and pledges were distributed at the spring Earth Day festival and weekly Farmers Market tabling events hosted by the Office of Sustainability.

Aquaponics System (Farm)

Student Applicant: Jeffrey Herschler | **Amount Awarded:** \$1,000

This application offered to purchase and install a small aquaponics system at the Campus Urban Farm to further its demonstration growing technology displays and increase productivity. The awarded funds supported the purchase of materials, enabling the student to set up and install the aquaponics system. As of fall 2022, the system is currently supporting a crop of lettuce which has successfully yielded harvests to feed in-need students via the campus food pantry areas.



Aquaponics system at the CSUDH Campus Urban Farm

Toro Trade Up Program

Student Applicant: Dyani Andrews | **Amount Awarded:** \$0

This proposal did not request any funds, but instead recommended reaching out to Professor David Ochi to connect with his existing Toro Trade Up Program project. This project experimented with engaging users in making mutually beneficial free trades with other users to continually “upgrade” the item by exchanging free items for better ones. Based on a meeting with Dr. Ochi, this initiative will be integrated with the Office of Sustainability’s existing zero waste efforts where possible.