

Call for Proposals:

Solutions for Sustainability – \$1,500 Grant for a Student Research Project

Media outlets and research articles often report on the setbacks, delays, and ignorance in addressing the urgent problems of sustainability, including violence, diseases, environmental degradation, economic collapse, and social injustices. What is needed instead is research that provides viable solutions to these problems. This novel type of research needs to be carried out in collaboration with stakeholders critical to implementing the solutions. Solution research for sustainability can make important contributions to innovating societies around the world.

We look for proposals outlining research projects that result in a viable solution to a sustainability problem in Kentucky. Such projects could be as diverse as fostering public health, or efficient resource use, or social cohesion. We explicitly call for *student team* projects (teams of undergraduate and/or graduate students). The project requirements are detailed below.

The proposed research project **must**:

1. Address a sustainability problem that manifests in Kentucky
2. Develop an *evidence-based* solution to this problem that can be implemented in Kentucky
3. Be carried out in collaboration with stakeholders critical to the implementation
4. Be carried out by a group of students (more than 2 students)
5. Communicate the results in a format accessible to the public (brochure or webpage)
6. Be completed within about 6 months (December 1, 2013 – May 15, 2014)

The project proposals must explicitly address each of the six points mentioned above.

Emphasis should be put on *items 2 and 3*. The proposal should include a timeline and a detailed budget. The grant money must *not* be spent on salaries or infrastructure; it is reserved for stakeholder engagements (food, workshop material, etc.), research material, layout, and print.

The proposals must *not* exceed: **1,500 words** (plus timeline and budget)

The deadline for submitting your proposal is: **October 31, 2013 (11.59pm)**

Proposals that exceed the word limit, or get submitted after the deadline will **not** be considered.

Please send your proposal to: rebecca.mcculley@uky.edu

The grant is sponsored by Dr. Arnim Wiek from the School of Sustainability at Arizona State University. Dr. Wiek will be reviewing and selecting the winning proposal in consultation with Dr. Rebecca McCulley from the Department of Plant & Soil Sciences at the University of Kentucky. **The winning proposal will be announced on November 15, 2013.**