

Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee:

End of the Year Report

This academic year has presented challenges to the efforts of many groups, and the Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee was no exception to this trend. Procedures to appoint new members and accept proposals from the Truman community were both delayed, and visibility of the committee's work may have been reduced, given that asynchronous and online classes have been an option to many. In spite of this, the committee received nearly twenty proposals from students and faculty. A select few of these proposals were able to receive funding. Factors that kept the committee from funding the majority of proposals included COVID-related concerns, restraints for implementation, lack of depth, and low accountability for fund use. The committee should consider addressing these sorts of issues when requesting for proposals.

Most of the projects that the committee has funded this year are small yet easily accomplishable. The committee also allocated a significant portion of funding to the farm solar project and anticipates that funding for this project will be completed sooner than originally thought, given dropping prices in solar equipment. The amount of funds rolling over next year is atypical because of COVID-related restraints, but there is great potential for putting these funds toward larger projects that are well planned, highly visible, and important to long-term sustainability. The committee looks forward to building on this year's experiences to achieve projects that promote sustainability and sense of community on Truman's campus. We ask that you continue to support the efforts of this committee, as it is an important avenue for creating community-based progress towards sustainability at Truman.