

Truman State Government  
End-Of-the-Year Report  
Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee

I'll say: whenever I was voted in as ESFAC chair earlier this year, with no prior experience on the committee, I was not quite sure what our slate would end up looking like. How do you organize effective, succinct meetings? How do you get the word out to the right people and organizations so quality proposals are submitted? How do you get all of this done in only a few months?! Well, I still don't have the answers to all of these questions, but I can report that this year's ESFAC committee not only did our job, but we performed it incredibly well.

Beginning this year, our committee had over 70,000 dollars in our reserves, from previous years interrupted by the pandemic and also due to rollover from years where not enough proposals were suggested and/or approved. In regards to the 2022 committee though, we certainly did not have the problem of too little proposals. Receiving twenty-four submissions from our collection form in total, it was in fact the responsibility of our committee to decide what proposals warranted support from the ESFAC fee the most.

I recommend to future ESFAC committees to vote on their judging criteria by the same ones that we used, which included "environmental benefit, visibility, cost effectiveness, image, feasibility, student impact, time sensitivity, and opinion." From previous rubrics, we included a weighted score column based on the opinion section, but as chairman I made the executive decision to only use the regular score. The weighted score did not make a difference with most of the proposals, and was more work than what it was worth.

As far as other learning experiences and recommendations from this year's committee go, one of the most helpful additions to our collection form was a question asking: "who would be the point of contact for allocating these funds?" While this process is not perfect whenever the person who submitted the proposal does not reach out to the person of contact they cite, for the most part it has helped us facilitate and decide what proposals would most feasibly be achieved if we allocated money for them. Furthermore, advertising on Truman Today and online was the only advertisement we did, and yet we received more proposals than ever before in ESFAC history. Still, if we had more time I would've liked to put up posters. This is something I would like to see done next year.

Overall, being the chairman of ESFAC this academic year has been a valuable, enriching experience and I am so glad that we were able to fund so many wonderful projects. From finishing funding for the long-term solar project at the farm, to exciting new ventures like the UN Sustainable Goals class and the Climate Inventory; from providing other amenities at the university farm like a pond, bee houses, and new light fixtures, to allocating funds for projects on campus like communiversity garden amenities and recycling bins in dorms and buildings; this year's ESFAC has a lot of work to be proud of. I am very happy to report it has been a great semester for the Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee.

All the best,  
Drew Arends  
ESFAC Chairman  
ECO Treasurer  
Sustainability Office Project Coordinator