The Sustainability Committee is pleased to announce winners of the second sustainability mini-grant competition. Four projects will be funded by mini-grants for the 2013-14 academic year:

**Community Engagement through Public Transportation.** This bus ridership pilot program will help to assess the effectiveness of a targeted incentive and the satisfaction of students and of three to five community partners with students’ riding Metro to service appointments. Entry by Dominique Brown, Service and Justice Coordinator, Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice. Total cost is $1,400.

The purpose of the project is to purchase a bundle of 10 Ride Metro passes for the Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice weekly service program. Our program works with many local community partners that are relatively accessible by public transportation. It is becoming increasingly difficult to arrange transportation to and from various service sites due to the limited number of student participants with vehicles. This funding would help increase Metro ridership and knowledge of public transportation among XU students, which serves several key premises of the Campus Action Plan.

**Curricular and Co-curricular Collaboration for Sustainability.** This project provides multiple pathways for faculty to creatively and thoughtfully construct syllabi for the fall 2013 semester in collaboration with one another and to design and implement co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. The goals are to enhance students’ learning and engage the broader community on sustainability concerns and questions. Entry by Gillian Ahlgren, Professor, Theology Dept. Total cost is $2,000.

This project involves a collaborative group of faculty teaching themed courses in sustainability to meet, share their course objectives and proposed syllabi, and plan co-curricular events of mutual interest to their students and to the wider Xavier community (and beyond). Co-curricular events may include (but are not limited to): a film series with panel discussion afterward, field trip, experiential learning opportunities, and retreats. Interested faculty will meet for a reflective and interactive day of activities early in the summer of 2013, when they will share their plans and goals for fall 2013 courses with one another and create co-curricular learning opportunities together, sharing resources to mutually enhance one another’s courses and the overall student learning experience.

The first funded activity is a faculty planning workshop to be held the afternoon of Monday, May 6, 2013. Contact ahlgren@xavier.edu for more information.

**Outreach Plan for Sanctity of Sanctuary: Paul Strauss and the Equinox Farm.** This project elevates the public’s perception of Xavier University’s programs, with outreach for a specific product (a documentary film) to local, national, and international sustainability-related conferences and film festivals. Entry by Blis DeVault, Assistant Professor, Communication Arts. Total cost is $5,000.
One of the stated goals of the Campus Sustainability Plan is to have Xavier be known nationally and international for sustainability. A Xavier University Professor, screening the film nationally and internationally in Sustainability and Agriculture conferences and Environmental Film Festivals, enhances the sustainability majors program and advances university prestige. …This documentary… has become a call to action on a global level, asking for energy awareness and conservation and spreading the green spark of sustainability… how energy extraction, strip mining, mountain top removal, and, most recently, fracking have devastated the land in Ohio and West Virginia. The story speaks to the use of fossil fuels in creating climate change both nationally and internationally, and asks for each and every one of us to become part of the energy solution.

From DeVault: *The higher the film profile, the more impact it makes, not only in effecting change, but in highlighting Xavier University as a supporter of the environment and sustainability.*

**Sustainability Gallery.** This art installation will tell multi-layered stories of sustainability, showing the heroism of local leaders in images and words. Entry by Kathleen Smythe, Professor and Senior Administrative Fellow for Sustainability and Environmental Imagination, History Dept. Total cost is $5,000.

The goal of the Sustainability Gallery is to do four things: 1) to highlight for our University community local heroes who have pursued sustainability vocationally or avocationally; 2) to connect our students to these heroes by learning about their life stories through image and words in a gallery exhibit and for one selected student a year-long mentoring process; 3) to educate our students about the transdisciplinary and often somewhat circuitous nature of sustainability vocational and avocational work, and, 4) to broaden exposure to sustainability ideas and issues on campus through two attractive gallery spaces in high traffic areas.

From Smythe: *(Students) are seeking, among other things, heroes, people who have dedicated their lives to causes larger than themselves, causes that require working across sectors of society (or across disciplines), and thinking beyond the life of an individual.*

**Congratulations to the winners and to all participants!**

**Next Round of Competition and Project Ideas**
The next sustainability mini-grant competition will be held in Fall 2013. Grant applications are available on /green website, and will be due October 1, 2013. The Fall round of Sustainability Min Grant Projects can be started in Spring or Summer 2014, and have one year for completion.

Ideas for projects can be found in the Campus Sustainability Plan, or read the university goals and objectives to develop your own project ideas: [http://www.xavier.edu/green/The-Plan.cfm](http://www.xavier.edu/green/The-Plan.cfm).