

# SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES BY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FUNDING PROPOSAL

## Part I - General Information

<b>Name of Student Organization</b>	COMMS Intern team OofS 2016-2017
<b>Contact/Responsible Person</b>	Caroline Firer, Ellen Huber, Anna Davis
<b>Contact Office Head/Title</b>	Anthony Purcell, Dining Services
<b>Contact Email Address</b>	purcella@vt.edu
<b>Contact Telephone Number</b>	

## Part II - Project Cost Information

Estimate Cost of this Proposal	\$4,800	See Part III.C
Estimated Savings –	TBD	See Part III.D
<b>Net Cost of this Proposal</b>	<b>\$4,880</b>	

## Part III - Supporting Information

A. Please describe your sustainability initiative and attach supporting documentation.

The goal of this RFP is to start two new reusable container initiatives. The first is to install reusable single entree containers in Owens, Hokie Grill (for salad bar) and West End. We propose to have the containers implemented first in West End Market, where the original reusable containers were tested. Then make adjustments when needed. The estimated cost would be for the initial 500 for testing in West End. If single entrée containers prove to be successful in saving the university money and achieving the goals of the VT Climate Action Commitment and Sustainability Plan, offer single entree containers in Owens and Hokie Grill and propose an additional 500 to start for each. The second initiative is for soup/noodle containers in West End Market and potential Au Bon Pain located in Squires Student Center. We propose to have the containers Beta Tested first in West End Market, where the original reusable containers were tested. Then make adjustments when needed and observe how both workers and consumers react to having a new reusable container. We propose 1000 containers for this test.

**This RFP suggests collaboration with Virginia Tech Dining Services, OZZI and OZZI machines on campus, and Whirley Drink Works. The Student Government Association could also act as a reference for they are familiar with the whirley to-go containers that are in place now.**

**We predict since the single entree containers are similar in size, no additional procedures are needed for return and cleaning processes.**

B. How does this initiative help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment and Sustainability Plan?

Policy Point #8

“Minimize waste and achieve a 50% recycle rate by 2020”

This RFP addresses this goal by helping to reduce the university’s carbon footprint and help reduce waste from landfills.

C. What is the cost of your proposal? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your cost estimate.

The estimated cost for 500 single entrée containers is \$1,800. The cost for 1000 soup/noodle containers is \$2,590. Shipping cost is \$490. This brings the total cost estimate to \$4,880.

D. Will your proposal produce cost savings for the University? If so, how much? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your savings estimate.

Our request would help the university cut down on disposable waste and spending as well as waste collection.

E. Is this funding request an Ongoing or One-Time change **(please check one)**?

**One-time**       **Ongoing**

Once purchasing the a set amount for both Owens and Hokie Grill, there would be no replacement costs which differs from the non-reusable to-go containers in place now.

F. Is funding available for this request from another source? If yes, describe the funding (source, amount, etc.)

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY  
*An equal opportunity, affirmative action institution*

## SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES BY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FUNDING PROPOSAL

### Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers

Caroline Firer	Dec. 1 2016
Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)	Date
Anthony Purcell	Dec. 1 2016
Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official)	Date
Denny Cochrane, Sustainability Program Manager	Dec. 1 2016
Reviewed By (Name of Office of Sustainability Representative)	Date