

UIS Green Projects Application

Full Project Proposal- Step 2

To complete your Full Project Proposal, **download this word document and type all answers** to the questions below. Save your completed word document along with any supporting documentation (excel spreadsheet of budgeted itemized items, letters of support, and so on) as new files. Supporting files in Word (.docx) format should be attached to the end of this application in order to create only one Word document. Supporting files in all other formats (pdf, excel, PP) may be submitted as separate documents.

Once completed and saved to your device, return to the Green Projects website at <http://www.uis.edu/greenprojects/get-involved/>

Click the hyperlink titled, **“Submit your completed UIS Green Project Proposal”**
This can be found under **Step 2** of the “Submit a Green Project Proposal” section.

You will be redirected to an external WebQ. Upload your completed application along with any supporting documentation by the deadline found in the **“Timeline”** section of the Green Projects website.

NOTE: Please do not submit this application unless you have been formally invited to do so by the UIS Green Fee Committee.

If you have any questions regarding the application or submission process, please contact us at greenprojects@uis.edu.

Project Name: Lighting Track Upgrade for UIS Visual Arts Gallery

Contact Information:

Project Team

<i>Name</i>	<i>UIS Student/Faculty/Staff & Department (or Office)</i>	<i>UIS Email</i>	<i>Phone #</i>
Allison Lacher	Director – Visual Arts Gallery	alach3@uis.edu	217-206-7469
Brytton Bjorngaard	Director – Visual Arts	bbjor2@uis.edu	217-206-7547
Bella Szabo	Gallery Manager – Visual Arts Gallery	iszab2@uis.edu	217-206-6506

Organization/Affiliation: UIS Visual Arts Gallery

Project Information:

Provide a brief description of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes:

The UIS Visual Arts Gallery, housed in the Health and Sciences Building, currently operates an outdated track lighting system that has remained unchanged for over 20 years - since the gallery's inception at this location. Our project aims to implement an eco-friendly upgrade by overhauling this antiquated system, focusing on the installation of fixtures conducive to extended LED bulb use, transitioning from a two-circuit to a more efficient single-circuit track, and incorporating dimming capabilities.

Presently, the gallery's lighting system relies on halogen bulbs, notorious for their excessive energy consumption and heat generation, unlike contemporary LED alternatives. These halogen bulbs not only consume excessive energy but also suffer from rapid burnout, resulting in increased waste within a few short weeks. Additionally, their color distortion as they deteriorate casts an undesirable yellow hue on exhibited artwork, and frequent bulb replacement strains our already limited budget. Many of our light fixtures have broken throughout their prolonged use and sections of the track no longer work.

Our proposed solutions encompass a comprehensive replacement strategy, involving the installation of 55 new dimmable light fixtures/heads, incorporating 50 LED bulbs with a 25° flood angle and 5 LED bulbs with a 40° flood angle, alongside the installation of four 8' tracks and five 12' tracks for optimal gallery coverage. The transition from halogen to LED technology promises a *significant reduction* in energy consumption and heat production, while the incorporation of new dimming capabilities will offer precise control over light intensity.

To optimize gallery space, we intend to relocate light switches from an art-display wall to an unused wall near the entrance, which affords exhibiting artists a more expansive and uninterrupted space to display their creations. Anticipated outcomes include the creation of a more professional exhibition environment suitable for students, faculty, and visiting artists, aligned with UIS's sustainability objectives. The implementation of energy-efficient LED technology is poised to drastically reduce electricity consumption and maintenance costs, contributing to sustainability goals while enhancing budget efficiency. Additionally, the upgraded system promises superior lighting conditions, eliminating color distortion and ensuring the faithful display of artists' work.

This comprehensive implementation plan addresses critical energy deficiencies in the current lighting system, aiming to establish a sustainable, technologically advanced, and artistically accommodating environment within the UIS Visual Arts Gallery.

How will this project improve sustainability at UIS?

The proposed upgrade to the UIS Visual Arts Gallery lighting system stands as an essential initiative in advancing sustainability within our university community. By transitioning from the outdated halogen-based lighting to energy-efficient LED technology, this project aligns closely with UIS's commitment to environmental stewardship. The switch to LED bulbs significantly reduces energy consumption, marking a substantial decrease in the university's carbon footprint. This shift not only curtails electricity usage but also minimizes heat production, mitigating environmental impact. The incorporation of dimming capabilities allows for precise control over light intensity, optimizing energy usage further. The resulting reduction in both energy consumption and maintenance needs positions the gallery as an example of sustainable practices on campus.

This upgrade not only fosters a culture of sustainability but also serves as an educational cornerstone, demonstrating to students, faculty, and visitors the tangible benefits of implementing eco-conscious technologies. Overall, this project serves as a beacon of sustainability, highlighting UIS's commitment to environmental responsibility and setting an example for future initiatives aimed at enhancing our campus's ecological footprint.

Please indicate how this project will involve or impact students. What role will students play in the project?

As an educational space that fosters interdisciplinary connections through object-based learning, the gallery serves as a learning lab for students' creative expression and professional development. A well-equipped facility is paramount in leveraging this space effectively for educational purposes.

Student artists exhibit their work in the gallery, and for many students, showcasing their pieces in a professional setting marks their inaugural entrance into the art world. The updated lighting system will provide these emerging artists with an optimal environment to display *and document* their work professionally, nurturing their artistic growth and preparing them for future careers. At times, the gallery serves as a classroom where students learn crucial skills in exhibition layout, design, installation, and, notably, exhibition lighting. The new lighting system offers an opportunity for students to engage with contemporary lighting technology and learn about the significance of sustainable practices in art presentation.

The gallery's function as a space for ambitious and socially conscious exhibitions is integral to inspiring students and fostering experiential encounters with artworks. The improved lighting will enhance these encounters, allowing students to engage more deeply with the exhibited works and facilitating a greater appreciation for art's nuances and impact. By integrating the new eco-friendly lighting system, students will not only benefit from a more professional setting to exhibit their work but will also gain essential insights into sustainability practices within the arts. This project serves as an educational tool, empowering students with practical knowledge and an understanding of the intersection between art, technology, and sustainability, preparing them to be conscientious contributors to their future professions and communities.

Where will the project be located? Do you need special permissions to enact the project at this site? If so, please explain and attach a letter of support to your application. If you are not sure, let us know! We can help.

This project will take place at the UIS Visual Arts Gallery in the Health and Sciences Building, room 201. This project has the support of CLASS Dean Miriam Wallace, Superintendent of Construction John Grice, and Visual Arts faculty. While special permissions are not required, a letter of support from Dean Wallace is included in this submission.

***The committee inquired about the possibility of a future gallery move from HSB to PAC. This is an initiative that was identified in the UIS 2020 Master Plan, but the project has seen no traction beyond ideation due to an absence of funding. There is no plan in place for the move to happen. That said, if the gallery does move at some point in the future, we can confirm that the lighting system *can* be moved and reinstalled at a new location – either as a lighting system in a new PAC gallery location or as a replacement for similarly outdated and inefficient track lights that are installed in the student Access Gallery in VPA. In the event of a gallery

move, this new lighting system will continue to serve students and the campus community and facilitate sustainability on campus for many years to come.

Other than the project team, who will hold stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments indirectly or directly affected by this project. This includes any funding entities (immediate, future, ongoing, etc.) and any entities that will be benefiting from this project. Communication with affected departments is encouraged ahead of time. List the names of who you spoke with and their comments.

The following stakeholder groups are invested in the sustainability aspects of the project and the impact the new eco-friendly lighting will bring to the exhibition space and educational settings. Effective collaboration and communication with these stakeholders highlight the project's significance, not only in advancing sustainability goals within the university and the broader community but also in revolutionizing the Visual Arts Gallery into a more professional and conducive environment for exhibitions and as a better teaching space. The upgraded lighting system stands as a testament to fostering eco-conscious practices while enhancing the gallery's functionality, offering an optimal setting for students' creative expression and interdisciplinary learning.

Environmental Advocates and Sustainability Groups: Advocacy organizations Sustainable Springfield and the Midwestern Energy Efficiency Alliance have expressed their support for this project through written letters of endorsement. These organizations are dedicated to environmental conservation and sustainability initiatives. The transition to LED lighting strongly resonates with their goals of minimizing carbon emissions, conserving energy, and advocating for eco-friendly practices. Their endorsement reflects the project's significant contribution to fostering a more sustainable campus environment, highlighting the adoption of energy-efficient technology as a pivotal step in advancing environmentally conscious practices.

Artists: Artists, whether affiliated with the university or part of the broader artistic community, have a direct stake in the upgraded lighting system. A well-lit gallery, with energy efficient lights that cast a consistent hue, significantly impacts how their artwork is showcased and perceived. A professional and visually appealing exhibition environment enhances the presentation of their work, potentially increasing its market value and furthering their artistic careers.

Visual Arts Faculty: Faculty members within Visual Arts have a substantial interest in the lighting upgrade. It directly affects their teaching environment, impacting their ability to educate and mentor students effectively. The improved, sustainable facilities offer better opportunities for instruction, practical demonstrations, and hands-on learning experiences in exhibition design and lighting techniques.

Students: Students involved in the arts, whether as creators, exhibitors, or learners, benefit directly from the project. A sustainable, consistent, and effective lighting system provides a professional setting to exhibit their work, aiding in their educational and professional development. It offers them practical experiences in exhibition design, installation, and handling contemporary lighting technology, preparing them for future careers in the arts.

Campus Community: The upgraded gallery extends its influence beyond the campus, enriching the local Springfield community. It becomes a cultural destination, offering engaging exhibitions and events, thereby contributing to the city's cultural landscape. A vibrant art scene benefits the city, attracting visitors, supporting local artists, and contributing to Springfield's identity as a creative hub.

Greater Community of Springfield: The upgraded gallery extends its influence beyond the campus, enriching the local Springfield community. It becomes a cultural destination, offering engaging exhibitions and events, thereby contributing to the city's cultural landscape. A vibrant art scene benefits the city, attracting visitors, supporting local artists, and contributing to Springfield's identity as a creative hub.

Grant Funders and Donors: Entities providing financial support through grants or donations have a vested interest in the successful implementation of the project. They are invested in promoting cultural initiatives, fostering artistic growth, and advancing sustainability. The project's success reflects positively on their contributions and aligns with their goals of supporting educational and artistic endeavors.

Community and Non-Profit Partners: Springfield Art Association, ACRE, and Terrain Exhibitions: Collaborations with local art associations and community organizations strengthen ties between the university and the broader artistic community. These partnerships promote shared goals of artistic enrichment, community engagement, and cultural exchange. They benefit from an upgraded and sustainable gallery space that enhances collaborative projects, exhibitions, and educational outreach programs.

Have you applied for funding from the Student Green Fee previously? If so, for what project?

No.

Scope, Schedule, and Budget verification:

Do you have a plan for project implementation? Describe the key steps of the project.

The UIS electricians collaborated closely with the Visual Arts Gallery staff to assess the project requirements. After conducting a comprehensive site visit, including measurements and research, they provided an estimate encompassing labor and necessary project materials. To initiate the project, a work order will be submitted, prompting facilities to procure the required materials. Collaboratively, we will coordinate a suitable timeframe for the project's execution. Once materials are acquired and project dates are finalized, the installation process will commence, estimated to be completed within approximately one week.

List all budget items for which funding will be required. Include the cost for each item requested. Please be as detailed as possible, to the best of your ability. If you know where you would like to purchase materials from, please list the contact information of the retailer(s) below, along with the URL addresses to each item you will be requiring. If you need suggestions for how and where to purchase materials, please contact the Student Sustainability Projects Coordinators by email.

An estimate for the project, as provided by UIS Facilities, is included in this submission - but below is a more comprehensive breakdown of material costs along with a full budget picture:

PROJECT BUDGET

Project Materials:

- 50 heads with LED bulbs (25° flood)
- 5 heads with LED bulbs (40° flood)
- dimmable
- single circuit
- replaced the existing tracks with five 8' tracks and three 12' tracks and add an extra 8'-10' track in the center
- extend the track near the entrance to be the full width of the space and scoot it in a few inches to bypass the sprinkler
- light switch panel/dimmers to be moved to a different wall
- Each switch controls one track
- Drywall
- Paint
- Hardware

Materials total: \$2,535

Labor:

- Electricians (44 hours)
- Carpenters (6 hours)
- Painters (18 hours)

Labor total: \$3,680

Construction contingency (10%): \$621.50

Project Management margin: \$290.55

PROJECT TOTAL: \$6,692.05

*** The committee inquired about the possibility of cost-sharing the project expenses with the Gallery. While a full cost-share isn't feasible, we've successfully secured \$500 from CLASS to support this initiative. Additionally, the gallery is committed to contributing \$500, resulting in a combined total of \$1,000 in support of the project.

Will this project require ongoing funding? Do you have a plan for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs?

The only ongoing funding required for this project will be replacements for efficient LED light bulbs, which will be covered within the gallery's annual budget.

Every project must be publicized! Where would you like to see information about this project reported?

We aim to publicize information about this project across various platforms to maximize its visibility and impact. Specifically, we plan to feature details about the project on the following platforms:

The UIS Visual Arts Gallery homepage: The project goals, updates and progress will be highlighted on the Visual Arts Gallery's homepage, ensuring that the university community and visitors are informed about the developments.

The Visual Arts area homepage: Information regarding the project will also be featured prominently on the Visual Arts area homepage, ensuring that students, faculty, and staff within the department are aware of the initiative.

Sustainable Springfield website: Sustainable Springfield has expressed interest in visiting and promoting the project on their website, demonstrating their support for sustainable initiatives within the local community.

Midwestern Energy Efficiency Alliance: Similarly, the Midwestern Energy Efficiency Alliance has indicated their willingness to feature the project on their website, showcasing their support for energy-efficient technology adoption.

Press Release distribution: A press release detailing the project's objectives, significance, and contributions to sustainability will be distributed to relevant media outlets. This dissemination aims to generate broader awareness and recognition for the project's endeavors within and beyond the university community.

This response highlights the intention to disseminate project information across multiple online platforms and through press releases, leveraging partnerships with Sustainable Springfield and the Midwestern Energy Efficiency Alliance for wider visibility.

Thank you for your consideration!

Please see the following pages for a project cost estimate as provided by UIS Facilities, and for letters of support.

University Of Illinois Springfield

Facilities and Services Project Worksheet

23_06_02

Project Name: UIS Gallery Lighting Upgrade

Project Number: TBD

Building or Location: HSB

Requester: Isabella Szabo

Project Manager: John Grice

Scope of Work:

Remove existing track lighting, install new lighting reviewed with Matt D. in slightly different configuration. Patch and paint.

Financials

CFOP:

Materials Brief Description:

Lighting, drywall materials and paint

Contractors Brief Description:

Vendors Brief Description:

Schedule Estimated Start:

Estimated Completion:

Jul-Aug

W.O. #	Facilities & Services Trade	Hours	Labor Costs (\$)	Material Costs (\$)	Sub Totals
	Carpenters	6	360	75	\$435.00
	Painters	18	900	160	\$1,060.00
	Electricians	44	2420	2300	\$4,720.00
	Sheetmetal/HVAC		0	0	\$0.00
	Plumber		0	0	\$0.00
	Moving Crew		0	0	\$0.00
	Station Engineers		0	0	\$0.00
	Grounds		0	0	\$0.00
	Laborers		0	0	\$0.00
	Contractor		0	0	\$0.00
	Contractor		0	0	\$0.00
	Construction Contingency			10%	\$621.50
	Project Management			Margin	\$290.55
					\$6,692.05

This number is just an estimate for Departmental Budgeting Purposes. If the project commences, customer unit will only be charged actual costs for construction/renovation completion which may be higher or lower than the estimated amount. The contingency amount should cover most circumstances; however, customer directed changes enacted during construction can greatly effect final invoicing.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

Requester Approver Name (Printed)



20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1301
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312.587.8390 [Main Line](tel:312.587.8390)

312.587.8391 [Fax](tel:312.587.8391)

www.mwalliance.org

November 15, 2023

To whom it may concern:

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) is pleased to support the University of Illinois – Springfield Visual Arts Gallery’s application to upgrade to a more energy efficient lighting system. We were thrilled to hear about their plan to replace their old halogen lighting system with a more cost-effective, energy efficient LED lighting system to better highlight the works of art on display in their gallery.

MEEA is a collaborative network, promoting energy efficiency to optimize energy generation, reduce consumption, create jobs and decrease carbon emissions in all Midwest communities. At MEEA, we leverage our expertise to be the Midwest’s leading resource for our members, allies, policymakers and the broader sector to promote energy efficiency as the essential pathway to achieve a clean, affordable, equitable and sustainable future. We see energy efficiency as the least cost foundation of the clean energy economy, creating immediate energy savings, providing career pathways, reducing emissions, improving new and existing buildings and boosting Midwest business and industries.

Over the last decade, the U.S. lighting market has undergone several regulatory and technological changes. The rapid evolution of solid-state lighting (SSL), such as light-emitting diode (LED) lighting, is the most significant technological advancement that the lighting industry has experienced in generations. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the adoption of solid-state lighting technologies has the potential to cut projected electricity consumption 46 percent annually by 2030. New lighting technology, most likely introduced since the Gallery’s current system was installed, has the potential to cut energy costs, allowing for a quick return on investment.

MEEA is confident that upgrading UIS’ Visual Art Gallery’s lighting system will pay for itself through energy and operational savings for many years to come. We are pleased to support their proposal.

Sincerely,

Paige Knutsen
Executive Director
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance



Sustainable Springfield, Inc.

A Sustainable Environment Information Network
1244 N Bengel, Springfield, IL 62702
www.sustainablespringfield.org

November 10, 2023

Allison Lacher, Director
UIS Visual Arts Gallery
One University Plaza
Springfield IL 62703

Dear Allison,

We recently learned that you are a finalist for internal "Green Project" funding that will support sustainability projects on the UIS campus, and that you intend to use the grant, if awarded, to replace old halogen track lighting with a new LED lighting system.

We applaud your efforts! The old halogen lighting we had available in the past was a tremendous energy drain, being very inefficient by today's standards. In most places, incandescent and halogen lighting are no longer being produced for this reason.

The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by Governor Pritzker in 2021 includes provisions to phase out carbon emissions from the energy sector in an effort to reach the goal of no carbon pollution from electricity generation by 2045. Part of helping the state of Illinois reach this goal is the reduction of energy use to create a more sustainable future.

We understand that the UIS Visual Arts Gallery has resided in its current location since 1992 and that the track lighting system is currently the same one that was installed at that time. These old systems are quite inefficient, and the new LED bulbs in current systems today use 75% less energy than those old halogen bulbs.

Sustainable Springfield Inc. (SSI) is an environmental grass roots organization that promotes and inspires sustainable solutions by our local governments, the business community, and Springfield area citizens through education, networking, and collaboration. We have worked with the university in the past in its efforts to become more sustainable and eco-friendly and applaud the UIS Visual Arts Gallery in its goal to transition to LED's that use less energy, emit little to no heat and diminish your impact on the power grid.

Sustainability yours,

Harv Koplo
Sustainable Springfield, Inc.

November 16, 2023

Dear Green Project Review Committee:

As the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois – Springfield, I write with fully support for the UIS Visual Arts Gallery’s application for funding to support replacing their lights with updated and energy efficient LED lighting. When I arrived early this academic year, one of the first visits I made was to the Visual Arts Gallery, at their invitation. This is an active teaching gallery, that hosts nationally-recognized artists with a focus on contemporary and rising artists, which is an important enrichment to our campus and local community. The gallery space is compact and inviting, and I’ve now seen two shows (sculpture, 2D mixed media) and one presentation (animation filmmaking) in the space. All were impressive—well-curated, carefully presented, and inviting to a wide audience of faculty, staff, students, community members.

As they note in their proposal, the current lighting system is very energy-inefficient as well as significantly heat-producing and even dangerous (as a heated halogen system). This is an old system that should really be replaced; replacing the lighting with current LED lighting will make the gallery much more effective in its mission as well as more “green”—signaling the intersection of artistic, educational, and environmental considerations in a public-facing space. In sign of my support, I’m offering \$500 from my quite limited budget to support this project.

I have tremendous faith in the Director of the Gallery, Allison Lacher, and our Gallery Manager, Bella Szabo—both of whom balance vision with hard work to keep our gallery vibrant and engaged with campus and local community. I strongly support their application and know they will follow through to a successful installation if they should be awarded the grant.

Regards,



Miriam L. Wallace
Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences