

2011-2012 Grant Proposals

Susan Mooney & Bridget Meigs
Department Environmental Studies
Pedagogy Travel Grant

The Farm at Stonehill: Community and Campus Connections

Presented by Bryana Killion '13, Bridget Meigs & Susan Mooney at the Campus Sustainability Consortium Conference: Climate, Community & Culture. Syracuse University, April 2-4, 2012.

The Farm grows produce for a nearby urban food desert in Brockton, MA. We teach a three-course learning community rooted in this effort, leading sophomore non-majors to a deeper understanding of food security and food justice. Courses in science and in ethics are linked via work with community partners in that food desert. The Farm has enhanced collaboration from many offices across campus, and opened doors for progress in other areas of campus sustainability and future interdisciplinary studies. We will share initial data on student learning and community impact. We offer a model for sustainable agriculture on campus in service of the broader community, and a model for fostering and assessing interdisciplinary student learning on complex social challenges. Lastly, we will provide a model for encouraging and assessing student civic engagement in environmental and social justice work.

At this presentation we are offering what we currently offer to our colleagues here at Stonehill - one way to advance key learning goals like interdisciplinary thinking and civic engagement. In addition, by including a student on our presentation team, we are contributing to her professional development and future success. We will continue to speak of our work in various forums at Stonehill, and beyond.

We also plan to submit this work to a SoTL journal (Mooney will be analyzing the data we are gathering this year during her sabbatical next fall, and writing that paper.)

Budget

\$305.10 - 2 nights hotel (shared room)

\$350 - \$175x2 faculty conference registration (student regis supported, we hope, by Dean Almeida)

\$272 - ZipCar rental

\$ 21.52 - tolls

\$ 50.00 - faculty meals (student meals supported, we hope, by Dean Almeida)

TOTAL : \$998.62