



New Jersey Higher Education Partnership For Sustainability
Sharp Sustainability Education Center
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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to highly recommend Princeton University's "Campus as a Lab" innovation fund for faculty research in sustainability, energy and the environment to the STARS review committee. Launched in 2014, the campus as a lab approach represents a way to broaden the applications of the University's dual missions of education and research. Undergraduate students are also given the opportunity to get out of the classroom, engage in hands-on work, and contribute to advanced research. By serving as a demonstration of sustainable systems, Princeton strives to ensure that all students can meaningfully employ the principles of sustainability in any future endeavor.

Faculty from all four divisions may propose up to two research projects, one for undergraduate student research and another for graduate student or postdoctoral research. One-year projects involving undergraduate students can receive up to \$15,000 for research. Expenditures can include summer stipends, research-related travel by undergraduate students, capital equipment and laboratory supplies. One-year projects for graduate students or postdoctoral researchers can receive up to \$75,000 for research. Expenditures can include graduate student stipend and tuition, post-doctoral salary and benefits, research-related travel by graduate students or postdocs, capital equipment, and laboratory supplies.

Proposals will be evaluated by a faculty committee of Princeton peers knowledgeable in the discipline being explored on the basis of quality and originality.

Through the first three awarded projects, researchers will:

- Place temperature and humidity sensors around campus, using low-cost, off-the-shelf electronics — Daniel Steingart, assistant professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering and the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment;
- Develop a comprehensive watershed modeling system and an integrated monitoring system for the campus water and energy cycles — James Smith, the William and Edna Macaleer Professor of Engineering and Applied Science; Mary Lynn Baeck, hydrometeorology programmer in civil and environmental engineering; and Eileen Zerba, senior lecturer in ecology and evolutionary biology; and

- Model the air flow in large indoor air spaces, such as the Frick Chemistry Laboratory, and monitor the energy efficiency of Princeton's buildings from the air — Forrest Meggers, assistant professor of architecture and the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment.

These new projects have been awarded funds in fall of 2014 through the Office of the Dean for Research in partnership with the Facilities Organization, the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment, the Princeton Environmental Institute, the High Meadows Foundation Sustainability Fund administered by the Office of Sustainability, and the Office of the Dean of the College.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this innovative program of which I praise with highest regard. Please feel free to contact me regarding this submission.

Sincerely,

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