



Vice President for Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities
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STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM

Part I- General Information:

Name of Student Organization	Phi Tau Sigma
Contact/Responsible Person	Renata C. Vieira Carneiro
Contact Office Held/Title	President
Contact Email Address	rcvc@vt.edu
Contact Telephone Number	(540)449-5533

Part II- Project Cost Information

Estimated Cost of this Proposal See III.C. below

Estimated Savings - See III.D. below

Net Cost of this Proposal =

Part III- Supporting Information

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

The water bubbler units in the Food Science building are currently unusable and are locked out due to health and safety concerns with the spread of disease. The University is required to provide potable drinking water due to OSHA regulation 1910.141b. With the water bubblers locked out, this means that cases of water are provided as there is not a way to refill water bottles for people to bring their own reusable water bottles.

The current water bubblers have needed serious repairs in recent years and during the last maintenance we were told they were at the end of their life as parts for these specific units are becoming unavailable.

Providing the water refill stations will provide a water source for people to use to refill their reusable bottles and containers. This will decrease the need of bringing in water bottles each day by both students and staff in the building.

One refill station will be on the first floor near the main entrance and the University classroom FST 27. This is the primary/higher need request. The other refill station is on the second floor, next to FST classroom 132. This unit is used by both the FST and ASPC departments, with being a need for the VT Meat processing center that requires water provided for their students and workers who deal with extreme temperature circumstances while on the job in the building. Various other student organizations use both the first floor and second floor classroom for events and speaker series, and require drinking water for those events.

See attached photos on pages 3 and 4 regarding placement of the current inactive water bubblers, and where the proposed bottle refill stations can be placed.

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

By providing water refill stations, this will decrease a need for single use plastics which will help Virginia Tech in their pursuit to be a leader in campus sustainability (Action 1) and to minimize waste (Action 8). This project and grant proposal will benefit and involve students, faculty, and staff in maintaining an updated energy efficient addition to the building (Action items 9 and 10).

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

A single bottle filling station from Elkay is currently listed between \$1,600-\$2,000. Previous proposals have listed \$5,000 for two water filling stations per the advice of facility coordinators.

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.

Because the current water bubblers are locked out due to health concerns over the spread of disease, there is not access for people to bring their own reusable water bottles to fill and the University is required to provide potable water. Cases of water bottles are being used in the building because of the locked out water bubblers. A case of 40 Water bottles = \$4. One case per week = \$208 per year.

E. Is this funding request for a One-Time need or an Ongoing need (please check one)?

One-time

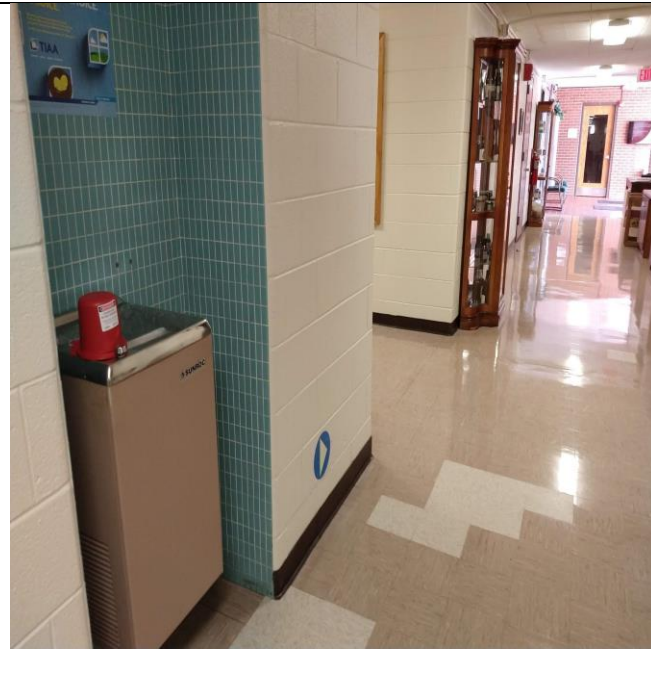
Ongoing

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

No.

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM
(Continued)**

Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers	
<p><i>Renata Carneiro</i> Renata C. Vieira Carneiro President of Phi Tau Sigma – VT Chapter</p> <p>Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)</p>	<p>12/04/2020</p> <p>Date</p>
<p>Jim McDaniel</p> <p>Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official)</p>	<p>12/4/20</p> <p>Date</p>
<p>Denny Cochrane</p> <p>Reviewed By (Name of Office of Sustainability Representative)</p>	<p>12/4/20</p> <p>Date</p>



Highest Priority:

First floor FST inactive water bubbler. University classroom FST 27 is on the left at the end of the hallway. The right side of the picture are the main offices and the main entrance to the building.



Second floor FST inactive water bubbler located across from Sensory kitchen that is used by student organizations and undergraduate courses. Classroom FST 132 is pictured at the end of the hall.