

# IF2- Investment Fund for the Future - Entry #177 2018-2019

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY

**Title:** Preserving the Past for a Sustainable Future: The Hartwell Hall/Alumni House Art Furniture Initiative

**Project Lead Name:** Jason Dauehnauer

**Project Lead eMail Address:** jdauenha@brockport.edu

**Project Lead Department:** Social Work

**Project Lead School/Division:** School of Education, Health, & Human Services

**Total Amount Requested:** \$34,700.00

**Name of Sponsor 1:** Michael Andriatch

**Name of Sponsor 2:** Thomas Hernandez

**Name of sponsor 3:** Jose Maliekal

## A. PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION & IMPACT

A-1. Description of the Initiative.

This initiative seeks funding to harvest several hardwood trees from the Hartwell Hall/Alumni House grounds that were removed this past fall to make room for a patio area. The College's Art Placement Committee (APC) would like to have the trees milled into lumber for the creation of artistic benches and related furniture/sculpture to be placed throughout campus buildings/grounds. These 100+ year-old trees are historically significant given their age and location. The College has an opportunity to preserve these natural landmarks and beautify campus buildings for generations to come. The repurposing of these trees into art furniture will further enhance the 'quality of place' within campus buildings, while also demonstrating the College's ongoing commitment toward building a sustainable campus environment.

This proposal seeks to build upon the successful model used to create a series of artistic benches for the Liberal Arts Building from trees that were removed for the creation of the building. In brief, this process included the preparation of the trees (e.g., cutting, milling, kiln drying lumber, etc.) and the distribution of a request for proposals sent to 30+ artists. The Committee approved the commission of eight benches, a small table, and a lectern from the selected artists, at a total cost of \$42,000 with funding from the construction budget furniture allocation. These artistic creations are currently located in LAB and have generated much positive feedback, while contributing to the aesthetics of this beautiful building.

In addition to the creation of furniture, a cross cut of the elm tree, at over 3 feet in diameter and estimated to be 125+ years old, will be displayed in a campus building with high foot traffic. Select 'rings' of the tree will be identified according to significant historical events (e.g., Normal School Era, construction of Hartwell Hall, etc.). This display would help inform the campus community of our long and continuing heritage as an educational institution. This current proposal is further strengthened by

its cross-divisional nature—the Alumni Association has paid for the initial cutting of the trees and is willing to donate the wood for further processing; and the APC, comprised of faculty and staff from various departments, schools, and divisions, is willing to fulfill the goals of this proposed initiative as part of its existing obligations. Further, the Department of History has committed the resources of a student intern to assist with the project and Roosevelt Mareus, Executive Director of REOC has pledged support for placement of a future bench at this location.

A-2. Impact Statement: What change will this project deliver in the short term? What are the expected longer-term impacts?

Short-term changes:

1. Preparation of trees to be milled into lumber for furniture.
2. Creation of artistic furniture sourced from historically significant trees located on the grounds of Hartwell Hall/Alumni House.
3. Creation of ‘cross cut’ display identifying historical dates for the College.

Longer-term impacts:

1. Placement of this furniture in a number of campus buildings will improve ‘quality of place.’
2. Demonstration of the College’s commitment to environmental sustainability.
3. Ongoing recognition and education of the College’s history through artistic expression.

## B. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

B-1. Outline the ways in which the proposed investment will contribute to the College Strategic Plan Goals, and if appropriate, their Measures of Success.

This proposal contributes to the College’s Strategic Plan Goal #3: To be a sustainable institution for the 21st century. As described in the narrative of this goal, “Environmental sustainability requires a focus on the health and safety of the environment of our campuses as well as the quality of place and accessibility.” This is further refined in the College’s Environmental Sustainability Policy which indicates the following guiding principle: “Pursue practices and procedures that minimize the adverse impact on the environment by conserving nonrenewable resources and supporting their sustained use; minimize the use of toxic substances and generation of waste materials; and reuse or recycle those wastes that cannot be avoided.”

By choosing to repurpose existing material (e.g., trees) to create artistic furniture, the College is demonstrating its commitment to environmental sustainability. The resulting furniture will also contribute to quality of place and serve as a long-term visual example of the College’s commitment to conservation and support of the arts.

This project further relates to two measures of success related to Goal #3:

Measure 1: We will achieve and then maintain a higher Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) level.

<https://stars.aashe.org/pages/about/stars-overview.html>

According to the STARS checklist 2.1, this proposed project potentially relates to the following indicators: <https://stars.aashe.org/pages/about/technical-manual.html>

A. EN 10 Community Partnerships: Institution has one or more formal community partnership(s) with school districts, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, NGOs, businesses and/or other external entities, to work together to advance sustainability.

Project connection: Partnering with area businesses to prepare trees for usage and partnerships with artists to create furniture.

B. OP 19 Waste Minimization and Diversion: Institution has data on the weight of materials recycled, composted, donated/re-sold, and disposed in a landfill or incinerator; and numbers of campus users.

Project connection: Weight of lumber milled from the trees could be significant if this type of 'waste' qualifies. If these trees were not repurposed, they likely would have been cut into firewood and burned which would lead to the emission greenhouse gases.

C. PA 3 Participatory Governance: Institution has adopted 1) a framework for engaging internal stakeholders (i.e. students, staff, faculty) in governance; and/or 2) a framework for engaging external stakeholders (i.e. local community members) in the institution's governance, strategy and operations.

Project connection: The College's Investment Fund proposal process and this specific proposal is an example of how internal stakeholders play a role in governance related to sustainability.

Measure 2: We will enact a new budget model that incentivizes innovation and strategic priorities.

Should this project be selected for funding, it represents a clear connection toward allocating resources for innovative and strategic priorities related to sustainability.

## C. SUSTAINABILITY

C-1. How will this initiative become self-sustaining beyond the initial funding period?  
As a one-time only budget request, once the trees are milled and the art furniture created, this project will be complete, yet the impact is long-standing.

## D. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

D-1. Identify the specific activities to be funded from the Investment Fund. Provide an estimated timeline for implementation and for activities anticipated to be ongoing.  
The specific activities to be funded include:

1. Transportation of hardwood trees to area milling facility
2. Milling of several hardwood trees include sections of lumber including a single 'cross cut' of an elm tree.
3. Kiln-drying of lumber milled from trees to make it ready for furniture making.
4. Transportation of lumber from milling facility to storage in the Brockport area.

5. Payment of artists to create furniture.
6. Creation of educational plaques for each piece created (e.g., artist name, wood species/historical significance).

## **E. CONSULTATION**

E-1. For requests involving technology. Has the Chief Information Officer (Bob Cushman or his designee) reviewed this proposal and verified potential costs as it relates to technology: Not Applicable

E-2. For requests involving facilities. Has the Director of Facilities & Planning (John Osowski or his designee) reviewed this proposal and verified potential costs as it relates to facilities: Not Applicable

E-3. The Project Lead has confirmed other required resources with the appropriate supervisor:

## **F. BUDGET & OTHER FUNDING SOURCES**

F-1. Itemized Budget (Excel format ONLY): [On file]

F-2. Total Amount Requested: \$34,700.00

F-3. This proposal includes: Cost sharing.

F-4. Other funding sources\* for this proposal? Not applicable.

F-5. Is the success of the project contingent on receipt of funds from any additional funding source(s)?

As noted on the budget spreadsheet, the Alumni Association is willing to front \$6500 to transport the trees to the milling facility by mid-February. This will help clear the grounds and promote the preparation of materials needed for the creation of artis

## **G. ASSESSMENT PLAN**

G-1. How will you assess/measure the effectiveness of this initiative? Provide anticipated outcomes and specific measurements for success.

Measures of success will include the following:

1. Preparation of raw materials (e.g., lumber) needed for artists.
2. Art Placement Committee's completion of commission process (e.g., creating an RFP, reviewing/approving proposed works by interested artists, etc).
3. Completion/placement of artistic works in campus/REOC buildings.
4. Completion/placement of elm tree 'cross cut' with historical indicators.
5. Promotion of artistic works through various campus and local media outlets.

## H. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

H-1. Please provide any additional information to assist in the review of the proposal, including why the initiative cannot be funded from divisional resources.

Please see attached letters of support for this project:

1. Roosevelt Mareus, REOC
2. Joe Torre, Department of History

Upload up to three supplemental files here (not required): [On file]

**Signature of Project Lead:** [on file]

**Project Lead Email:** jdauenha@brockport.edu

***Signatures of sponsors are on file in the Administration and Finance Division.***