

# GREEN ACTION FUND

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YEAR END REPORT  
2022 - 2023





## Overview

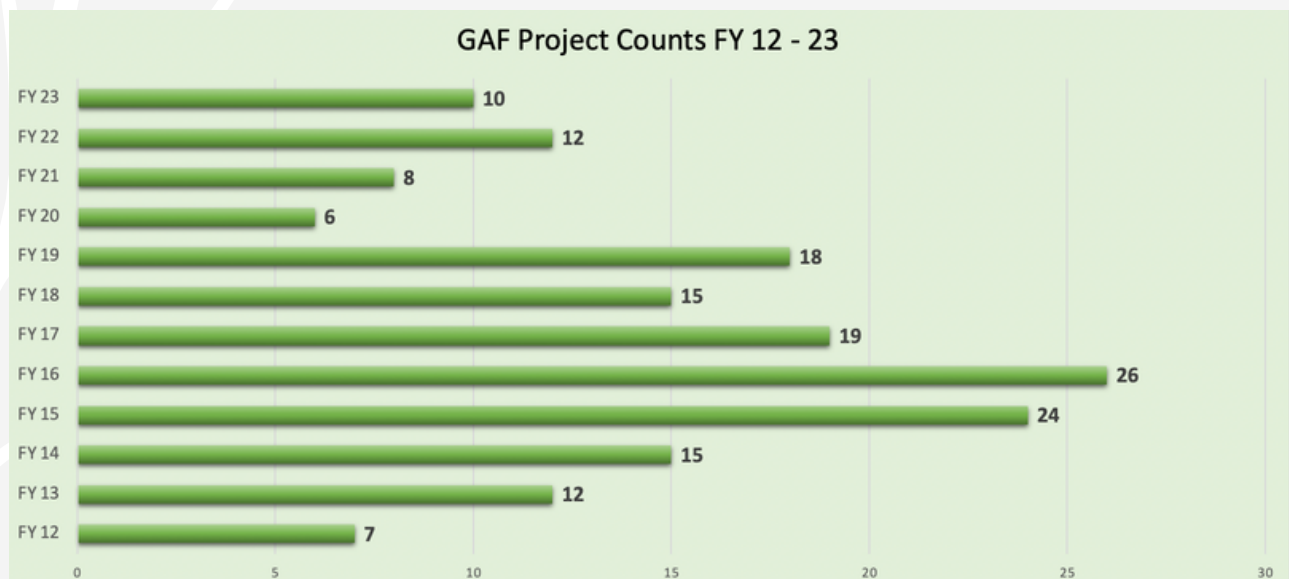
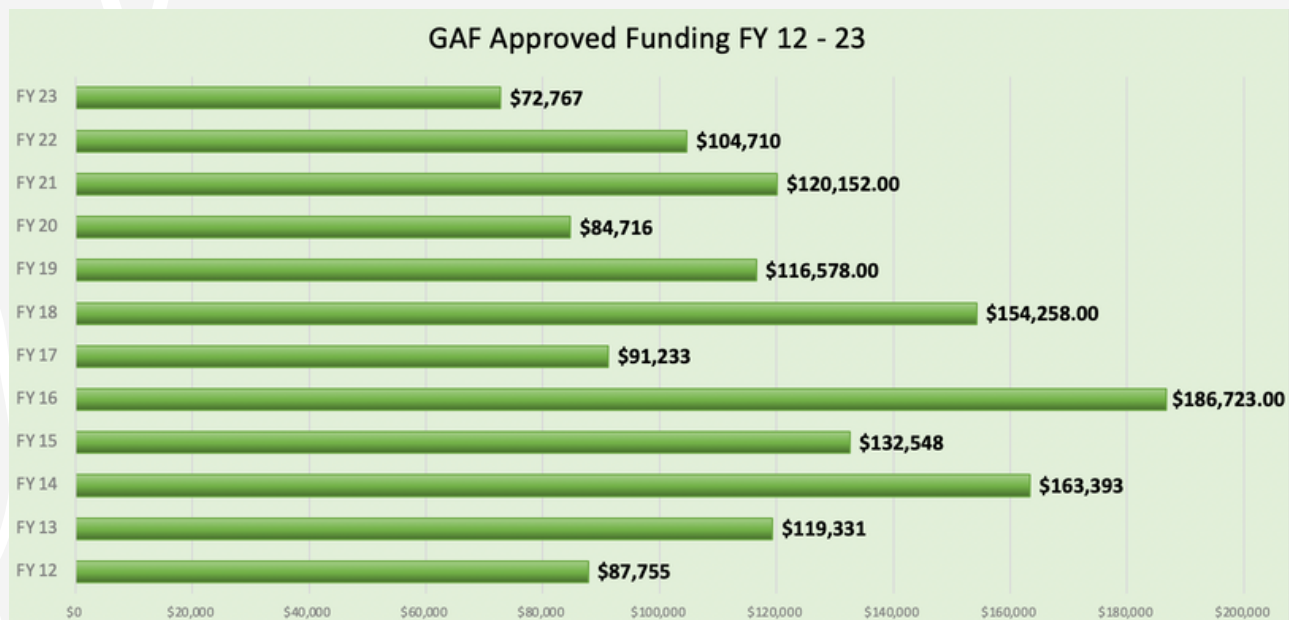
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The primary objective of the Green Action Fund (GAF) is to minimize UCCS's ecological impact and foster a sustainable environment by supporting a variety of student-led projects.

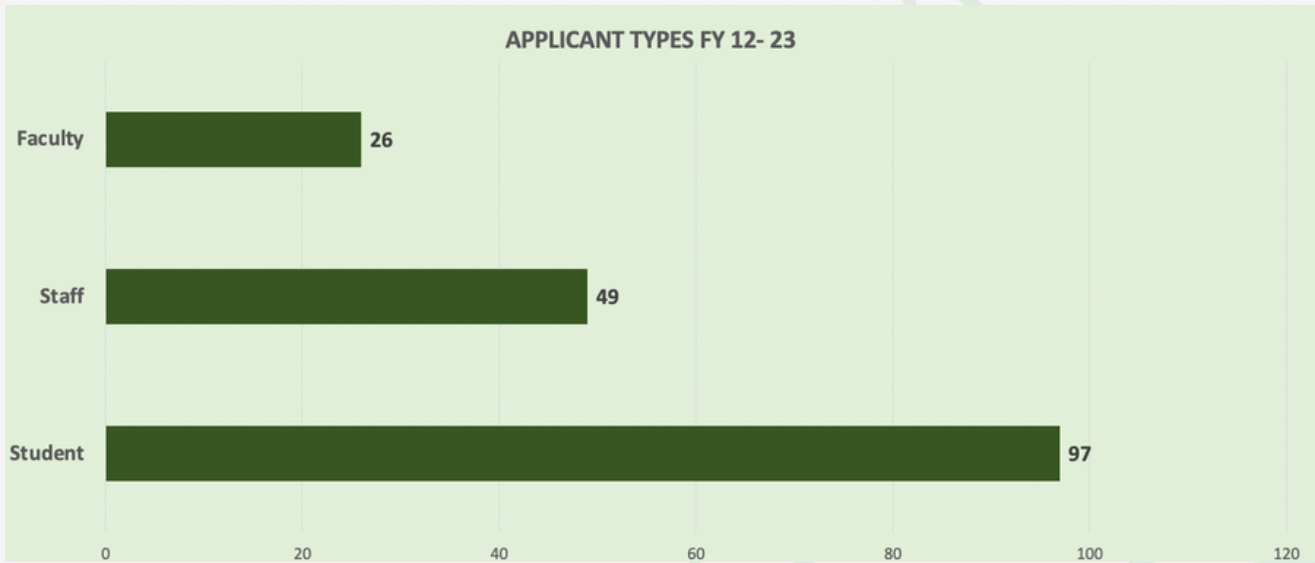
GAF is sustained by a \$5-per-semester fee paid by students and overseen by a committee comprising student members, a faculty representative, a staff representative, and a student employee. Starting from Spring 2012, GAF has allocated funds to a wide range of sustainability-focused projects. Since its inception, the committee has successfully funded 172 projects throughout the UCCS campus, spanning various operational units, academic departments, disciplines, as well as clubs and organizations. This collective effort has resulted in an impressive investment of over \$1.5 million into sustainability initiatives on campus. Proposals for these projects have originated from undergraduate and graduate students, staff members, and faculty teams who actively address environmental and sustainability challenges identified in the UCCS Sustainability Strategic Plan. By supporting these initiatives, GAF aims to enhance the university's commitment to sustainability and contribute to the realization of its strategic sustainability goals.

# Funding Overview

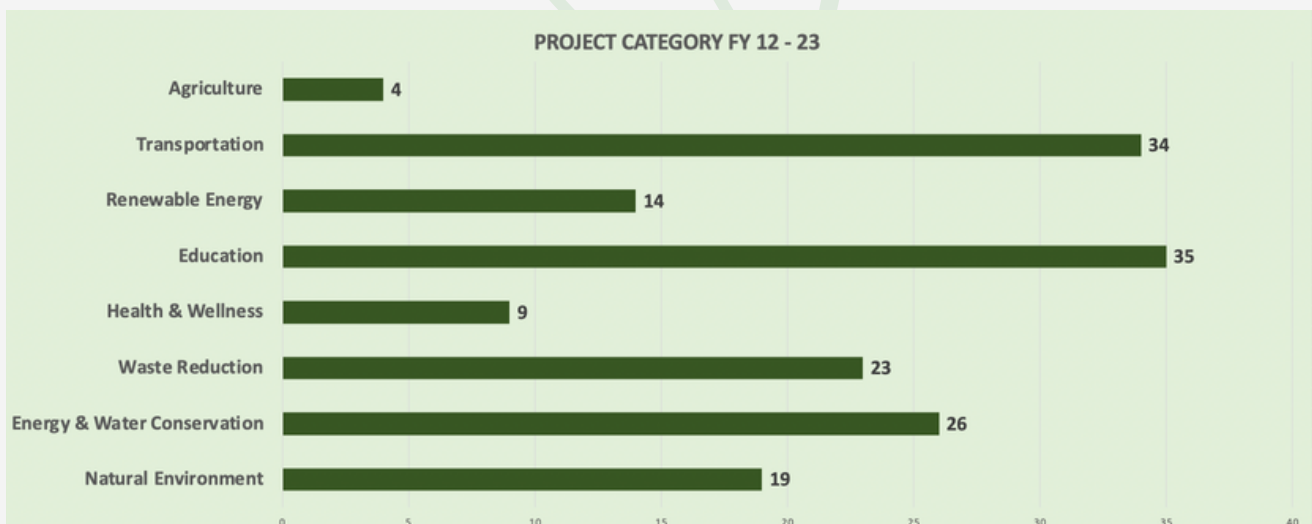
Since 2012, the Green Action Fund has made a significant contribution of \$1.5 million towards various sustainability initiatives throughout the campus. This funding has been utilized to support a total of 172 sustainability projects proposed by students, faculty, and staff. The following breakdown provides the total awarded funds and the number of projects funded per fiscal year from 2012 to 2023.



# Project Funding Sources



Throughout its history, the GAF has consistently supported a wide array of sustainability projects put forth by students, faculty, and staff members. Among the projects funded, the majority have been proposed by students, totaling 97 student projects. Additionally, 49 projects have been initiated by faculty, while 26 projects have come from staff members. When categorizing the funded projects, education, transportation, and resource conservation have emerged as the top project types that have consistently received GAF funding over the years. In the most recent fiscal year, FY 23, GAF continued its commitment to supporting sustainability initiatives by funding a total of 10 projects. Among these, 6 projects were proposed by students, 3 by faculty, and 1 by staff. Notably, a significant portion of the funded projects for FY 23 were centered around education, including research endeavors, conferences, and on-campus events. This distribution of funding across different project types and involvement from students, faculty, and staff underscores the broad scope and inclusive nature of GAF's support for sustainability initiatives.

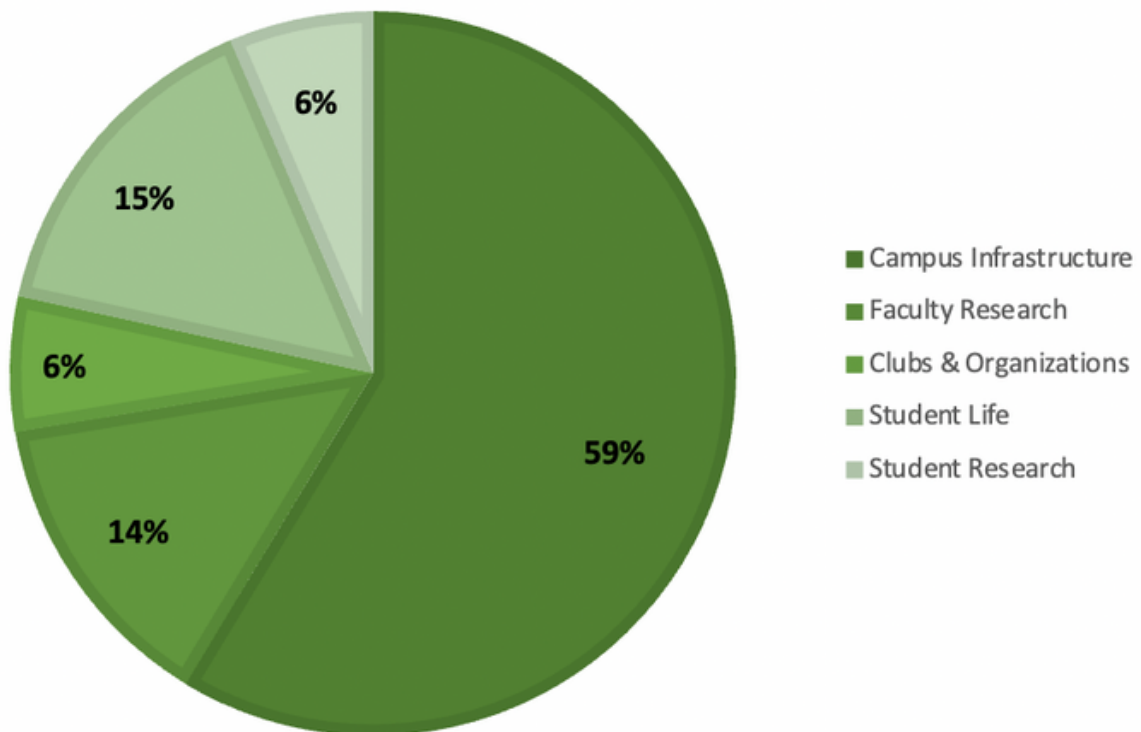


# Fiscal Year Funding

The Green Action Fee receives approximately \$118,000 in annual funding, which is based on student enrollment for the academic year. During the fiscal year, GAF approved funding for a total of ten projects, allocating \$53,213 to five projects in Fall 2022 and \$19,554 to five projects in Spring 2023. The total funding disbursed for the fiscal year amounted to \$72,767. A breakdown of the GAF funds awarded to different areas of campus, represented as percentages of the total amount, is as follows:

Campus infrastructure projects received 59% of the awarded funds. These projects included initiatives such as the roof shingles at the Sustainability Demonstration House and The Farm, as well as the relocation of the Ozone Garden to the Osborne building. Faculty and student research across various departments, including Political Science, Geography and Environmental Studies, and Mechanical Engineering, received 20% of the awarded funding. The remaining percentage of awarded funds was allocated to student life and organizations. Beneficiaries included GeoClub, SEAS, UCCSLead, and Clyde's Cupboard.

**APPROVED PROJECT FUNDING FY 23**



# Committee Member Involvement

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GAF, being a student-led and student-run committee, has experienced growth in its membership with the addition of 6 new members during the past academic year, totaling 9 student members. The committee is expanding its capacity and potential to make a positive impact in sustainability at UCCS. This growth in membership signifies an increasing interest and engagement among students in GAF's mission and objectives. It also reflects the committee's ability to attract and inspire students who are passionate about the goals and values of GAF. The diverse backgrounds and experiences of new members has enriched the committee's discussions, decision-making processes, and overall effectiveness. With a larger team, GAF was able to reevaluate its strategies, structures, and goals to ensure smooth coordination and effective utilization of the expanded membership. This involved identifying new leadership roles, establishing subcommittees, and fostering a collaborative environment that allows everyone to contribute their skills and ideas. The growth of GAF has presented new opportunities to increase outreach and impact within the student body and the broader community. The committee has leveraged its expanded membership to organize more events, workshops, and rolling-deadlines, reaching a wider audience and furthering its mission.

**Thank you for leaving your legacy on the UCCS campus. GAF appreciates you. May you continue to find a need and fill it, while leaving each place you venture better than you found it.**

**"The experience that I have acquired through this leadership project has given me hope and confidence that we can make positive changes, that we can face the seemingly insurmountable and overcome, and that the world can become the place that we dream it to be - if we act and believe."**

**Nathanael John Mooberry**

