

## Udall Sample B

3. Describe non-course-related research experience, if applicable. Indicate which areas of the environment, tribal public policy or health care your research affects, and the ways in which the experience will assist you in achieving your goals as stated in section B, #2.

Sustainability Council has taught me how to conduct effective and productive research while composing a presentation. I researched prospective assessors when Willamette needed an environmental assessment of energy use on campus. This involved meeting with potential companies and compiling information to report back to the council. I have developed communication skills necessary to convince companies that they should function in more sustainable ways.

4. Describe a leadership experience in which you made a difference on campus or in your community.

As part of the Energy Conservation Committee, a sub-group of Willamette's Sustainability Council, I am involved in various projects to increase the conservation of energy on campus and encouraging students to "reduce, reuse, recycle." Every year Willamette welcomes about 200 Japanese Exchange students from Tokyo International University who stay for about a year and are immersed in American culture. It is always a little tricky when they first arrive, as they do not usually speak perfect English and there are many cultural differences. To make this integration easier, I headed a group to make a video explaining where to recycle, reminding them to turn lights off, and stressing the importance of bringing a mug to the Bistro (Willamette's student-run coffee shop) to reduce waste. The video can be used yearly to help encourage students to conserve resources on campus. The video is shown at orientation and provides for some comic relief in their long first week.

As third floor representative for my hall, I implemented gift packages to welcome these students in my own dormitory. I acquired recycling bins to carry welcome gifts. The project was funded through my dorm's hall council to create a strong community between current residents and the new Japanese exchange students. As I understand it, Japan is very good about conserving resources as a lifestyle. The point of the video and the recycling bins was to show how it is done here and explain the culture of recycling and conservation in the United States and at Willamette University.

5. Describe a specific activity or experience that has been important in clarifying or strengthening your commitment to the environment, Native American health care, or tribal public policy.

When I heard Mike McCloskey, former president of the Sierra Club, was coming to speak at Willamette, I was very excited to see what he had to say. He shared some funny stories of his lobbying days and explained problems he had encountered. The most riveting part of his speech was when he spoke of the environmental movement today. He suggested the environmental movement had taken a wrong turn. Environmentalism is widely regarded as extremist and no longer receives the attention it did during the 1970's and 1980's. Clinton's legislation on roadless areas was important, but was removed by President George W. Bush upon his arrival in office. Many people asked questions like, "What are we doing wrong?" or, "How can

we put environmentalism back on the right track?"

He spoke of the lack of focus on a single issue today, the absence of funding for so many issues, lack of press, bad relationships between environmentalists and legislators, a focus on partisan boundaries, and useless lobbying tactics. Long-time Sierra Club members at the lecture had plenty to say about the issues McCloskey raised, but I felt it was my first real exposure to this stand on environmentalism. I had never fully processed why attention from environmental issues has shifted so drastically in the last two decades.

I was enlightened and motivated. I now understood the steps that needed to be taken to pass environmental legislation and, related to my own goals, to increase relationships between businesses and the environment. The environmental movement needs to become more mainstream again and, when possible, create economically suiting situations for all parties involved. Public education on environmental issues is also imperative to induce change. McCloskey's speech gave me hope for the future. I want to contribute to the resurrection of the environmental movement, and I believe we can use the tools of the past to help us in the future.

6. Describe briefly any public service or community activities associated with your interests in the environment, Native American health care, or tribal public policy in which you regularly participate. Explain the duration, degree, and significance of your involvement.

Sustainability Council began last year when Willamette University's president, M. Lee Pelton passionately endorsed a proposal to fund this organization. The council consists of staff, faculty, administration, and students from Willamette's College of Liberal Arts, Business School, and Law School. My position is CLA student representative. In the year the council has existed, we have made leaps of progress in making Willamette University a sustainable campus. Our mission has involved the four E's of sustainability: Education, Environment, Equity, and Economy.

The Council is dedicated to promoting sustainability on campus and community involvement. We have sponsored community lecture series, and have been involved with encouraging widespread use of public transportation in the Salem community. My most recent project with the Council was a presentation for the Willamette Board of Trustees. Two professors and three students explained the purpose of Sustainability Council to the Board, focusing on the significance of the council to the University. The presentation included Willamette's four "E's" of sustainability: economics, education, environment, and equity. We interlaced these concepts to show how sustainability contributes to fiscal responsibility, educational relevance, strong community relations, and enacts the institution's motto, "Not unto ourselves alone are we born."

Dedication to institutional sustainability has come from this hands on personal experience.

7. What additional information (not already addressed in the application) do you wish to share with the Udall Scholarship review committee?

Learning about the natural world is important in my life, and I feel it is equally important to integrate this education into the lives of younger generations. Through a campus program called Saturday Explorer, I teach science courses to TAG (talented and gifted) students in upper elementary and middle school. This year I am teaching a geology course titled "Earthquakes, Volcanoes, and Plate Tectonics." Furthering these students' interests in science allows me to share knowledge with a younger

generation of informed citizens. Teaching has given me the opportunity to learn so much from these creative young people. It has also taught me patience and understanding as I work through obstacles. Each child learns differently and it is important to give each of them the attention needed to grasp the concepts, many of which are college level. These are truly intelligent, motivated students who want to learn. It is significant to give them a chance to learn on a college campus in small, specialized classes.

**E. Essay (please attach)**

In 800 words or less, discuss a significant public speech, legislative act, or public policy statement by Congressman Udall and its impact on your field of study, interests, and career goals. Your essay must be typed in 12 point font, signed and dated.

**F. Letters or Recommendation (please submit with the rest of the application)**

The nominee should secure letters of recommendation from a current or recent faculty member who can discuss the nominee's potential; a current or recent faculty member in the nominee's field of study; and another individual who can attest to the nominee's capabilities. One of these letters may be from the Udall faculty representative.