

**Office of Residence Life**

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Dear SEAHO Awards Selection Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to enthusiastically nominate Mr. Shane Tedder for The James C. Grimm SEAHO Outstanding New Professional Award. Shane is currently in his third year as a professional in the Office of Residence Life serving as the department’s full-time Sustainability Coordinator. Shane also previously served our office as a graduate student in the role of Recycling Coordinator. Because I have had the pleasure to supervise Shane, I can speak directly to his worthiness of this special honor.

Shane’s position as Sustainability Coordinator requires many hats, and it’s difficult in one letter to explain the great impact that Shane’s work has had on our campus community. He coordinates all aspects of the residence hall recycling program, supervises a large student staff as well as student assistant coordinators, provides quality educational programs regarding sustainable practices for campus (including the major Earth Days in the Bluegrass program series), manages the Wildcat Wheels Bicycle Library Program, and is currently piloting 2 new programs this year (8% Energy Reduction in the Halls and the Eco-Rep Peer Education program). Shane also serves on the President’s University Sustainability Task Force and as UK representative on the steering committee for the Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community.

Although Shane is only in his third year of full time employment, he has already established an extensive network of social capital both on and off campus, not to mention across the country. This is evidenced by the number, expanse, and quality of major programs that Shane has implemented, the number of leadership positions for which he is sought after by both on and off campus groups, and the continued growth and success of his internal operations/programs/initiatives. Shane seems to take on every new opportunity for growth regardless of potential challenge and like a jewel maker, he addresses every facet until he's turned it into success. Shane has an enthusiasm and passion for his work that is both impactful and contagious.

In the residence halls, Shane has worked closely with hall staff and building operators to keep track of his staff’s progress and has been timely in addressing any concerns. His efforts have helped to build an outstanding cardboard drive program during our move-in days and keep overflow issues at a minimum throughout the year. Shane demonstrates great skill in the art of delegation with his assistant coordinators, particularly with programming. He's able to utilize staff strengths to provide maximize outreach yet he stays very involved and connected with what and how things are presented. Shane's direction of the Recycling Program is directly relational to the program's success and growth. He possesses so many excellent qualities that lend to his success.

One of Shane’s most notable accomplishments which I wish to highlight is his creation of the Wildcat Wheels Bicycle Library which launched in 2005 with 20 donated/discarded bikes refurbished by Shane himself. Shane built this free bike-loan program from the ground up, and his efforts are providing free, clean transportation for the UK community while keeping these bikes out of landfills. In the relatively short time since Shane began work on the project, the bike fleet has grown exponentially and the program has seen incredible success. So much, in fact, that Wildcat Wheels was recently highlighted in a feature article about sustainable campuses in the New York Times. Shane also is responsible for opening the Wildcat Wheels Bike Shop, a volunteer-staffed repair shop where members of the UK community can bring their bicycles and do their own repairs and maintenance. Over the past few years, he has been able to galvanize broad- based support for sustainable transportation initiatives on our campus and in the community. If there is something happening involving the promotion of the bike as a viable means of getting around, you can be sure Shane is intimately involved.

As evidence of the respect that Shane is garnering in his position, he was sought out by KSU this year as a consultant for starting their own campus recycling program. Even with the strides he has made, Shane never settles and has continued to expand the reach of collections by establishing campus-wide glass collection. Future goals for Shane in this area include coordinating a comprehensive system for recycling in the greek houses, finalizing the purchase of a pedal powered pickup, completing the coordinator's manual, and assisting with UK's pilot participation in AASHE’s Sustainability & Tracking Rating System (STARS) program (for which Shane initiated the application.)

Overall, Shane's performance is exemplary, and his dedication to advancing the goals and objectives of his position are commendable. He is a doer, an innovator, an educator, and a visionary force for sustainability on campus and in the community at large.

In closing, I would just like to say that Shane is, above all else, a really nice guy. He has a genuine and affable personality that enables him to work effectively with many different types of people. He has become a good friend, and like many others, his enthusiasm has been an inspiration to me. I cannot think of anyone who would be more deserving of this recognition.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Wilton

Assistant Director, Staff and Student Development