

EPA Sustainability Grants Awarded

Student teams from the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, and the University of Missouri are among the 38 university student teams to receive Phase I grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) program to pursue projects to develop new, sustainable products and strategies.

Each of the three successful student team grantees from EPA Region 7 for 2015-2016 will receive \$15,000 for their proposals:

- The team from the **University of Kansas**, Lawrence, Kan., will focus on "Harvesting the Otherwise Wasted Heat of LED Lights in Green Buildings."
- The team from **Kansas State University**, Manhattan, Kan., will focus on "Net Zero Energy Air Filtration: Innovative Filter Media Applications for Improved Indoor Air Quality and Energy Efficiency."
- The team from the **University of Missouri**, Columbia, Mo., will focus on "Water Quality Monitoring at Hydraulic Fracturing Sites Using Molecularly Imprinted Porous Hydrogels."

"This year's P3 teams have created innovative research projects that tackle some of our most pressing environmental and public health challenges," said Dr. Thomas A. Burke, EPA's Science Advisor and Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Research and Development. "These students have the opportunity to bring their exciting new ideas for innovation in sustainability to life, by expanding their learning experience beyond the classroom."

Funding for the P3 competition is divided into two phases. Teams selected for Phase I awards receive grants of up to \$15,000 to fund the development of their projects, which are then showcased at the National Sustainable Design Expo in the spring. Following the Expo, P3 teams compete for Phase II awards of up to \$75,000 to further develop their designs and potentially bring them to the marketplace.