

Campus-Wide Recycling...for Everyone!

Submitted by:

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(2) Project Abstract: Recycling on Campus with Participation of Students and Staff

This project will seek to actively engage students and staff in college-wide recycling on campus through increased awareness of, and involvement in, recycling their own papers, bottles, cans, and plastics. This is recycling at the grass-roots level and will attempt to help institutionalize large-scale on-campus recycling.

(3) Project Significance: Recycling is an integral part of sustainability. There is much more that can be done on campus to promote recycling.

(4) Project Plan

The project would be implemented for the duration of the Spring 2011 semester. Deborah Barrett will oversee it, and will solicit input and guidance from Paul Wolff, the BHCC Director of Sustainability, for the duration of the project. There are two components:

(a) Hiring two student coordinators.

- The students will be responsible for monitoring the recycling. They will inspect all recycling bins, including the two baskets placed in every classroom (black for trash, blue for recycle papers). If trash is placed into recycle bins, the students will take action to communicate the problem to the appropriate people.
- The coordinators will post signs at all appropriate locations.
- They will serve as liaisons to the Facilities Department.
- They will develop ways of communicating with students and staff to encourage recycling (flyers, skits, email to faculty and staff, etc.)

(b) Purchasing more recycling bins, including one for plastics (frozen food trays, etc.) and contracting with a recycle company that will handle these items. Large paper recycling bins should be placed next to every copy machine; in all large common areas such as lounges and lobbies; near all entrances into the building. Signs need to be posted near the bins. It would be best to have signs that include an explanation of what recycling accomplishes and why it is important.

(5) Enhancement of Student Outcomes

By building a college-wide commitment to recycling, the practice will become institutionalized. Students will be more actively recycling because the message will be everywhere on campus. Increased involvement translates into increased awareness and learning.

(6) Statement on Assessment Plan:

The success of the program will be evidenced by the increased recycling on campus, which is measurable.

Also, as part of their responsibilities, the students coordinators can be responsible for spot inspections throughout the semester, where they "audit" what is being thrown out in specific locations to provide more feedback on the effectiveness of the awareness campaign.

(7) The funding for one semester:

\$2700 for students' pay: Two students each hired for 10 hours per week at \$9.00 per hour for 15 weeks

\$300 for informational signs (bins will be provided by Facilities Department through other funding).

The signs are intended to (1) get people's attention, and (2) provide information about the purpose and value of recycling. **See photo for an example of creative and informative signs.**

We will most likely call upon our BHCC graphic arts students to design and make the signs.