

January 31, 2011

RE: Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System
College of Lake County Innovation Credit 3

To whom it may concern:

The "CLC Student Bodies" project combines the college's commitments to sustainability, diversity, student engagement and creative expression into one exciting innovation. In fall 2010, forty used mannequins were donated to the College of Lake County by the Banana Republic™ clothing store in Gurnee, Illinois. The mannequins took on new life as art media much in the same spirit as Chicago's "Cows on Parade".

The CLC Student Bodies project was organized by the Alpha Alpha Pi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the international honor society for two-year college students (www.ptk.org). Art Department Chair and Instructor Bob Lossmann, who is also the faculty advisor to PTK, collected design proposals from student groups around the college. Lossmann worked with his PTK co-adviser, Cindy Sarkady, Assistant Director of Student Life, to rally the students' support of the project.

The project was designed to showcase multicultural clubs, diversity and sustainable art. Each design reflected the themes of multiculturalism, diversity and sustainability through the lens of the sponsoring group. Phi Theta Kappa's design included a toga, olive leaves and the interlocking Olympic rings. The Asian Student Alliance's design sported a "Together We Stand" motto amid a sash of world flags, all in black and white to de-emphasize color differences among people. Other groups participating included the Art Department, Black Student Union, Latino Alliance, Multicultural Student Center, Psychology Club, International Club, NAACP, Pride Alliance, the Sustainability Center and World Politics Organization.

Most of the students participating were traditional-age students. But for 80-year-old Chuck McCann, a continuing education student, the project was a chance to display his lifelong passion for environmental sustainability. Representing the CLC Art department, McCann's solo effort featured an Illinois marsh, with critters ranging from a great blue heron to a largemouth bass. The mannequin will be on permanent display in the College of Lake County Sustainability Center.

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All art materials used for the project followed the theme of repurposing items that might otherwise be considered trash. All paint comprised of donated “leftovers” from Sherwin Williams™ and Chroma Acrylics™ along with reused brushes from the Art Department.

The transformation of thirteen of the mannequins culminated in a December 7, 2010 exhibit, “CLC Student Bodies on Parade,” held at the Grayslake campus. Several will eventually be auctioned off to raise funds for college scholarships through the CLC Foundation. The mannequins not used for public art were donated to the college’s theatre department costume shop, bookstores, and art classes.

Sincerely,



Robert Lossmann
Art Department Chair
Communication Arts



Cindy Sarkady
Assistant Director
Student Life



Daria Constantinescu
Vice President of Leadership
Phi Theta Kappa

Photographs of the participating students and their mannequins are available on the CLC Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1930975#!/album.php?aid=254543&id=104526893894>

The CLC Student Bodies project also received attention in our local press. Full stories are available at:

<http://triblocal.com/grayslake/2010/12/07/college-of-lake-county-gives-life-to-old-mannequins/>