

Colgate University
Office of Sustainability
Hamilton, NY

Friday, February 26, 2016

To whom it may concern:

As institutions of higher education begin to transition their sustainability programs from those consisting of one-off programs and projects to those reflecting an integration of sustainability on campus, it is critical to develop programs that better attract the attention of the student population and encourage them to make everyday decisions through the lens of sustainability.

With just three years to go before its carbon neutrality date, Colgate University and the students within the Office of Sustainability have worked to develop one such novel program that aims to bring more students into the mindset of what it means to be a sustainable member of the student body.

The Green Certification Program is facilitated through an online interface, making it accessible to any students that wish to participate as well as those who are compelled to do so through their campus involvements. Additionally, the program is managed by Office of Sustainability interns, furthering the mission of peer-to-peer sustainability education.

This program was developed by the Office of Sustainability summer interns during the summer of 2014 and has already found great success on campus. The Colgate Student Government Association recently passed a bylaw that requires that all senators of SGA become “Green Certified,” ensuring that all decisions made by student leaders on campus are made through the lens of sustainability.

By ensuring that all future student leaders also participate in the program, it allows Colgate to ensure that sustainability is greatly integrated into extracurricular education, leading to greater instances of behavior change greater enabling Colgate to achieve carbon neutrality.

Sincerely,



Stephen Dickinson
Program Coordinator
Office of Sustainability
sdickinson@Colgate.edu
315.228.6360